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## AGGIE GOODBULL

# A Ring For The Aggie Network

The Association of Former Students unveiled a 12-foot replica of the Aggie Ring during Ring Day festivities Sept. 18 at the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center. Thousands of students, family members and friends joined in the celebration of this important milestone.

### The Haynes Ring Replica

Made of bronze and weighing 6,500 pounds, the mammoth Aggie Ring anchors the Haynes Ring Plaza, which, with its core value walls, provides a place of reflection and inspiration for Aggies and visitors to Texas A&M University. Bearing the class year 1946 on its crest, the replica and the Haynes Ring Plaza are named in honor of Reta and the late Harold J. Haynes '46, lead donors to the soon-to-be-completed \$17 million enhancement of the Alumni Center designed to tell the story of Texas A&M and Texas Aggies in interesting and engaging ways. The Ring, as well as the entire enhancement project, was funded entirely by private donations.

### Other Enhancements

In March 2008, The Association began construction on the \$17 million enhancement of the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center to improve the efficiency of office space, expand and upgrade meeting capabilities, and



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BOTH PHOTOS ON RIGHT BY MICHAEL SMITH



Opposite: The Ring replica and the Williams Alumni Center at night.

Top: The installation of the replica on Sept. 15.

Bottom: Thousands were on hand for the unveiling on Sept. 18.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE JETER '06

## Renewing Our Promise

The Association thanked our donors, celebrated 130 years of service and support to Texas A&M and formally rededicated the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center Oct. 29-31.



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE BY MICHAEL SMITH

tell the story of Texas A&M and Texas Aggies throughout the facility. The project was funded by the generous gifts of 83 individual donors and will be fully complete in the fall of 2009.

In addition to the Haynes Ring Plaza, enhancements include the installation of the 49-panel Huddleston Video Wall, named in honor and recognition of the generous gift of Flora and Billy Pete Huddleston '56, in Flores Hall, which is

named in recognition of the generosity of Gina and Bill Flores '76. The second floor Neely Mezzanine, named in recognition of the generous gift of Tricia and Chaz Neely '62, includes the following exhibits:

- **Spirit:** Places visitors at such Aggies events as Midnight Yell Practice.
- **Legacy:** Displays Aggie Rings dating back to 1891, intertwined with

historical events.

- **Traditions:** Immerses visitors in such Aggie traditions as Midnight Yell or Silver Taps.
- **Muster:** Showcases the 1946 Corregidor Muster.
- **Memories:** Records Aggies' recollections of their time at A&M or what the Aggie Spirit means to them.
- **Network:** Showcases videos of Aggies making a difference around the globe.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL SMITH



PHOTO BY KYLENE HELDUSER '11



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Opposite page, clockwise from top: The unveiling, the Aggie Muster exhibit and the Legacy exhibit of Aggie Rings.

This page: the Traditions exhibit (top left) and a collection of Ring Day smiles.



# AGGIE PHOTOESSAY

## Aggie Game Day At The Williams Alumni Center

Don't have a ticket? Or just want a reprieve from the heat? Then come to the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center on game day for a taste of Aggie hospitality and interactive history and to view the live feed from Kyle Field before, during and after the game on Aggie Network TV, shown on The Association's 49-panel Huddleston Video Wall.

Each game day Saturday, the Alumni Center opens no later than 9 a.m. and remains open until one hour after the conclusion of the game. Aggies and fans of the visiting team can view the recently installed 12-foot bronze replica of the Aggie Ring in the Haynes Ring Plaza or watch other games in progress on drop-down screens throughout the facility. Association staff will be on hand to assist with Annual Fund donations, Ring orders and repairs, or any other Association business. Alpha Phi Omega will operate their Ticketmart out of the Alumni Center on game days, beginning three hours before kickoff. Reasonably priced food and beverages will be available for purchase, beginning about four hours prior to kickoff.

"We invite everyone—whether you're dropping in to meet up with a buddy, or planning to stay through the game—to stop by and see us this fall," said Association Vice President Marty Holmes '87. "Once Aggies stop in to see us, we believe they'll make our facility, exhibits and activities a regular stop on their game day itinerary," Holmes said.

For more about the historical exhibits recently installed in the Alumni Center, see Pages 42-45.



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