

meet me at midnight

Students celebrate the opening of Aggie Park with Yell Practice

Story by John Chapa

After two years of construction, Aggie Park is complete and ready to serve Texas A&M current and former students.

Aggie Park is the newest addition to A&M's campus. The \$36 million dollar project, funded entirely by generous donations, includes features such as Wi-Fi, an outdoor amphitheater, water features, modern public restrooms and space for tailgating, recreation and entertainment.

On Sept. 2, the night before A&M's first home football game this season, Robert Earl Keen performed a free concert to kick off the park's opening. A lightning delay didn't stop the attendees from enjoying the show — Animal science junior Carlie Rogers said it was delightful to watch Robert Earl Keen on his last concert tour.

"It's heartwarming how Robert Earl Keen is an Aggie and decided to put on a show for his fellow Aggies," Rogers said. "It means that we are

more than a bunch of students. We are a family and we give back to the greatest university there is."

Rogers said she felt there were going to be many more special moments made at Aggie Park.

"I think [Aggie Park] is another thing about our university that makes us so special and full of tradition," Rogers said. "I believe that there will be many memories made, and the park goes to show how the alumni center cares about its students and how alumni love A&M."

On Saturday, Sept 3, the new park hosted tailgaters for the first Aggie football game of the season. The park offered free reserved tailgating space and paid reserved tailgating space. Tailgaters obtained the free spots through a virtual rush reservation process, unlike the land rush process that still occurs at other tailgating spots, like Reed Arena.

Senior Yell Leaders Nathan Drain, Zac Cross, and Kipp Knecht watch as junior Yell Leaders Thomas Greve and Trevor Yelton do push-ups to start Midnight Yell. Photo by Megan Williams



Holding a microphone, singer Rober Earl Keen speaks to the crowd of fans at Midnight Yell Practice after his final concert tour show in the new Aggie Park. Photo by Megan Williams



Cadets participate in traditions at Yell Practice on Friday Sept. 2, 2022 in Kyle Field after the opening concert at Aggie Park with Robert Earl Keen. The following day the football team would go on to beat Sam Houston State University 31-0. Photos by Megan Williams

