

# Advisor program expands activities

By BRIAN PEARSON  
Reporter

A program that helps new students adjust to life at Texas A&M has added three new activities this year: campus tours the night before summer conferences, movies at the Grove and "parents' socials," where peer advisors answer questions for parents.

The Peer Adviser Program is designed to answer the questions of new students during the summer orientation programs. Kathy Calzone, coordinator of the Peer Adviser Program, said the program has expanded to satisfy the needs of the increasing number of incoming students and is large compared to those at other universities.

"We are here to show the new students the ropes of the campus," Calzone said.

During the orientation programs, students are divided into groups of six to 10 and are taken for a tour around the campus by two peer advisers.

"Everyone knows what a freshman goes through and I like to help them make the transition from high school to college a smooth one," said peer advisor Leo Grumulaitis, a

sophomore electrical engineering major. "The most important issues for a peer advisor to convey to new students are the unique aspects of Texas A&M."

Grumulaitis, who has been a peer advisor for about a year, said he enjoys taking new students to the Academic Building.

"The Academic Building is the center of campus and is the location of my favorite tradition, Silver Taps," he said.

Calzone said the peer advisors answer questions about Texas A&M social life, but they do not provide academic counseling.

"As far as I know, other universities with similar programs lean more toward academics than our program," she said.

Applications for peer advisors are being accepted through April 12. To be an advisor, a student must have at least a 2.0 grade-point ratio, must be willing to volunteer time during the summer and be able to communicate well with people.

Students can fill out applications and sign up for an interview in 108 YMCA.

Calzone said the program takes all applicants who fit the criteria.

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"Testing, testing... Can anyone hear me?"

## Port's attorney may ask for new trial

# Admission of evidence questioned

Associated Press

NEW BRAUNFELS — David Port had been prepared a week for the worst — a long prison sentence for murdering a Houston mail carrier, defense attorney Jack Zimmermann said.

A state district court jury on Saturday sentenced the 18-year-old Houston resident to 75 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for the June 7 slaying of Debora Sue Schatz, 23.

The same jury had convicted him of murder the day before.

Port will have to serve at least 20 years before he will be considered for parole, prosecutors said.

Zimmermann said the turning point in the case was Judge I.D. McMaster's decision to allow a policewoman to testify Port confessed to the crime while she was driving him to police headquarters last June 8.

"Ever since the confession was ruled admissible, he (Port) was prepared for a verdict of guilty and life in prison," Zimmermann said Saturday after deputies had handcuffed Port and taken him to the Comal County Jail.

"Now you understand the gravity of the error that was made," he said.

Life was the maximum prison term the jury could have recommended.

Zimmermann indicated he would ask McMaster for a new trial, "but I don't think he's going to change his mind."

He characterized the judge's decision on the confession as a new interpretation of the law. "It's not the law in Texas and hasn't been for 100 years," Zimmerman said.

Jurors were asked to meet with Zimmermann after the trial. Most of the panel refused comment after they were dismissed, but the attorney

said they told him "the evidence with the confession was overwhelming."

"We have no quarrel with the guilty being found guilty," Zimmerman said. "What bothers me is that someone was convicted not in accordance with the law."

During the trial, policewoman Irma Sauseda testified Port told her he forced Schatz upstairs at his home at gunpoint.

Port said the letter carrier struggled with him, then fell, Sauseda testified. Port told her he then opened fire on the woman and later stuffed the body in the trunk of his car and drove to a bayou, where he dumped the body, the officer testified.

Police found the body in a field several miles from the spot Port designated.

Testimony indicated at least six shots were fired from the murder weapon, three of them hitting Schatz.

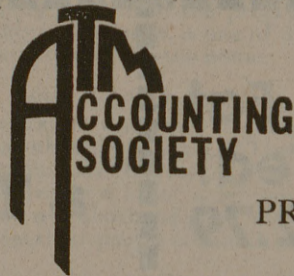
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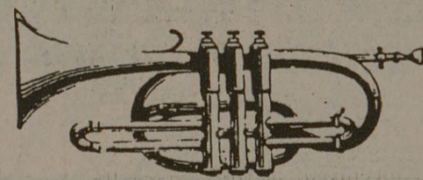
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