

Judicial Authority proposes proper use of appliances

By GALE KAUFFMAN

A subcommittee of the Residence Hall Judicial Authority voted last night to allow the use of electric percolators and popcorn poppers in university dormitories. The proposal states that only water may be heated in the percolators and that popcorn poppers may only be used for making popcorn. The subcommittee was established Jan. 29, to solve the problem of students cooking in their dorm rooms. Ron Blatchley, Associate Director of Student Affairs, established the volunteer committee to determine what constitutes cooking and to set a penalty for the violation of the rule. In an interview yesterday, Charles Powell, Director of Student Affairs, said that a meeting was called on Jan. 9, to discuss the cooking problem.

Powell said that this meeting was to remind Resident Advisors to "maintain the regulations that should have been enforced to begin with." To insure the maintenance of the regulations, the use of popcorn poppers in dorm rooms was banned. Powell gave four reasons for the restrictions on dorm cooking: sanitation, grease, the increasing problem of roaches and rats and a state regulation requiring vent hoods in multiple dwellings where cooking is done. Cooking also causes overloading of electrical systems and creates fire hazards, Powell said. Powell said that he had received no pressure from Food Services concerning the cooking problem. He said that he did not know what reactions, if any, they had to the increasing number of students who were cooking in their rooms instead of eating in the University cafeterias.

Powell said that if the Residence Hall Judicial Authority and the Residence Hall Association could come up with an alternative plan that would be acceptable and that worked, it would be fine. If it doesn't work, "I'll have to step back in and say no popcorn," he added. Powell said, "This should never have been allowed to begin. Some of my people fell down on their jobs. We're just trying to enforce the rules that have been there all along." Chronic violators of the ruling may be removed from the dorms, Powell said. "Either obey the rules or you don't live in the halls—it's just that simple," he added. The subcommittee proposes that

intense advertising throughout the dorms be conducted to inform all residents of the situation. They said it should be made clear that electric percolators are for heating water and that popcorn poppers are for popping corn. The subcommittee determined that penalties for violations will be administered by the respective judicial boards. The confiscation of property for a specified time was the recommended penalty. Repeated offenders may be referred to the Area Coordinators. Providing its acceptance by the Residence Hall Association, the proposal should be submitted to Powell Friday.

B-CS reps to meet over utility contract

The mayors and city managers of College Station and Bryan will meet tomorrow to discuss the continuing utility rate controversy.

This will be the first in a series of meetings between representatives of the two cities to try to reach an agreement on a new utility contract.

This was the only information released by College Station officials following a closed city council meeting yesterday.

Several councilmen said strategy was the focus of the hour-long meeting. They declined to make any further comment.

(College Station purchases about 25 per cent of Bryan's electricity and water.)

College Station rejected Bryan's contract offer last week and gave Bryan officials until February 12 to come up with a new contract offer.

Bryan has asked for 30 days in which to negotiate a new contract.

College Station officials have threatened to go to another power source (Gulf States Utilities) if Bryan does not come up with competitive rates and terms. The Gulf States rates are 40 per cent lower than the proposed Bryan rates, according to a College Station Utility Rate Advisory Committee report.

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THE TAMU ISSHINRYU KARATE CLUB
will meet at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 256 of G. Rollie White.

Nagle congestion discussed by panel

Three recommendations to ease traffic congestion on Nagle Street caused by construction were discussed at the meeting of the University Traffic Panel yesterday.

The recommendations proposed the south section of Nagle be changed into a one way street from Lamar to Lubbock. The north section from Lamar to the library would remain two way. It was also proposed that parking be restricted on part of Nagle north of Lamar. This would eliminate 10 to 15 random parking spaces and allow enough room for two lanes of traffic on Nagle by the construction area.

The third recommendation was for a stop sign to be placed on Nagle at the Lamar intersection to control southbound traffic.

The Traffic Panel also discussed the report of the Motor Vehicle Regulations Subcommittee. The report recommended changes be made in the Texas A&M Motor Vehicle Regulations for next year.

These changes include the abolishment of the perimeter parking option and the return of faculty parking area 52 to golf course parking. These changes will be voted on at the next meeting of the Traffic Panel.

— Elaine Merrifield

Internationals struggle with language

Texas slang is a problem

Having to learn Texas slang is one of the biggest problems a student from another country faces at Texas A&M, say several students from Venezuela and Spain.

During an interview Monday, the "international students," a term which they prefer to "foreign students," spoke on a wide range of topics, ranging from communications to how the average Spaniard prefers his chicken cooked.

Most foreign students already have some background in technical English when they arrive here and are able to understand lectures and classes fairly easily. They are, however, often at a loss as to what their fellow students from the United States are saying.

The informal language that we speak often bears little or no resemblance to the precise English that the student learned back home. The result is often isolation from North Americans.

Rafael Acosta, a graduate student studying Range Science and the President of the Venezuelan Student Association, said that poor communication is primarily responsible for the lack of understanding between the various nationalities at A&M.

Acosta said that when he and his wife, who is studying Agriculture Economics, came to College Station they faced a tremendous culture barrier. After learning colloquial English and figuring out peculiar "gringo" customs, they fared much better. They are happy here, he said.

Pedro Sanabria came to A&M to study computer science. He is from Madrid, which has a population of 3,000,000, and College Station is quite a change for him.

He said he doesn't understand the way Texans have fun. "Parties here are to get drunk, while they should be to enjoy people," he said. In Spain, he and his

friends would get together and dance, but to do that in the apartments here results in neighbors complaining and police dropping by to warn them of the noise.

"North Americans need to develop another, more critical mentality," Acosta said. When he first came here, he lived in the dorms and he said that people he met there trusted the system too much.

To improve the system, Acosta said people must learn to criticize. This is a static and conservative community and many residents want to preserve the status quo, he said. Criticism of the system is often construed as denunciation of the system.

Acosta said that in his opinion, criticism tends to improve things and therefore is a way of showing love for one's country.

One of Acosta's criticisms was directed at American journalism.

"Fifty per cent of the stuff in North American newspapers is garbage," he said. "The papers do not give enough coverage to international affairs." Acosta said that he has subscribed to a Houston newspaper for several years, and in that time has only seen two stories on Venezuela.

Before they came to the United States, the internationals were prepared for a Texas which doesn't exist. They expected to see Texas as it is presented in the movies. The trees and grass confused them. Texas, they thought, was a big cacti-covered desert studded with oil wells and populated by cowboys on horseback. They said they prefer the real thing.

— Richard Chamberlain

MEETINGS SCHEDULED



Charles Feinberg, visiting Centennial professor, will speak at 4 p.m. today in Evans Library 206.

Up with People will perform at 8 p.m. today in the Rudder Auditorium.

Cepheid Variable will present the movie "Fantastic Voyage" at 8 p.m. today in Rudder 601.

ACUI will hold a general session at 7 p.m. today in MSC 201.

S.W. Landscape Architecture Workshop will be held at 7 p.m. today in Rudder 301.

South Texas Tri-County HTC will meet today at 7 p.m. in Rudder 504.

SCONA will meet at 7 p.m. today in Rudder 510.

Arts and Crafts — Sand Terariums "A" will meet at 7 p.m. today in MSC 139.

OPA will meet today at 7 p.m. in Rudder 607.

Sailing Club will meet today at 8 p.m. in Rudder 302.

Mexican Student Association will meet today at 7:30 in Rudder 308.

English Society will meet today at 8 p.m. in Rudder 501.

Radio Committee will meet today at 7:30 p.m. in L&M MSC 216.

SCONA Host and Hostesses Committee will meet today at 8 p.m. in the MSC Conference Room.

Midland HTC will meet today at 8 p.m. in Rudder 502.

Abilene and Area HTC will meet today at 7:15 p.m. in the Board of

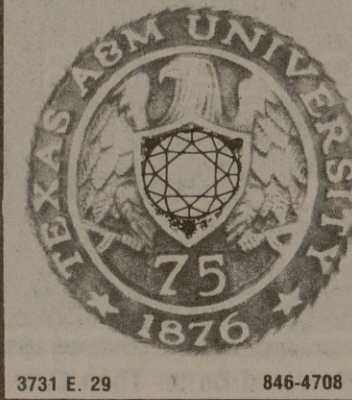
Regents Courtyard of the MSC. Aggie picture will be taken.

Orange County HTC will meet today at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Regents Courtyard of the MSC. Aggie picture will be taken.

TAMU Horesman's Association will meet today at 7 p.m. in AI Building 215.

Laredo HTC will meet today at 6 p.m. in the MSC Student Programs, Council Conference Room 216T.

B-CS Knife and Fork Club will meet for dinner today at 7:30 p.m. at Ramada Inn. Dr. No-Yong Park will be guest lecturer.



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