

# Aggieland to charge standardized rates for all student groups

By LEE ROY LESCHPER JR.  
Battalion Staff

For the first time, student organizations not officially recognized by Texas A&M University can buy space in A&M's "Aggieland" yearbook on an equal basis with recognized organizations.

A&M's Student Publications Board decided last night to allow unrecognized organizations, made up primarily of fraternities and sororities, to buy space in the 1977 yearbook at the same rate charged recognized organizations.

In the past, unrecognized organizations either were excluded from the book or were charged a standard advertising rate, twice the rate charged recognized organizations. When allowed to buy advertising space, the unrecognized organiza-

tions were placed in the index section of the book, away from other student groups.

The board made the decision after Board Chairman Bob Rogers said the book would no longer carry advertising. The advertising, he said, would cost more to publish than the revenue it would bring in. Without advertising in the yearbook, the board had to decide either to exclude unrecognized organizations entirely or put them on an equal basis with recognized groups, Rogers said.

University recognition is an official stamp-of-approval that the A&M Student Organizations Board grants to student groups which have met certain criteria the organizations board sets. Fraternities and

sororities have been the most notable groups refused recognition.

Dr. Gary Halter, the publications board member who recommended that recognized and unrecognized organizations be treated equally in the book, said leaving the unrecognized groups out of the book excluded many students who have every right to be there.

"We're penalizing some organizations for not being recognized by the University," he said. "They're a part of student life. If we sell space to some organizations, we should to all. Whether a student is part of a recognized or an unrecognized organization, he still helps pay for the book when he buys one."

Student Publications Director Gael L. Cooper said the fee that or-

ganizations pay for space in the yearbook covers about one-sixth of the cost for that space.

Much of the revenue to cover costs for the yearbook comes from sales to members of the organizations appearing in it, Cooper said.

Aggieland Editor Gary Baldasari will decide exactly how and where the unrecognized groups will appear in the book, whether in a subdivision of the book's organizations section or as a separate section, Rogers said.

The board also decided to make the 1977-78 A&M campus directory a check-off item to be added to fees for fall 1977. Students can decide whether to buy the directory during pre-registration for the fall 1977 semester.

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## Football ticket prices to rise; student price may reach \$4

By GLENNA WHITLEY  
Students will pay more for football tickets this fall, a Texas A&M athletic department official said last week.

The Southwest Conference (SWC) at a meeting of the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) in an effort to increase the minimum ticket price of sideline seats (general admission) to \$7 to \$8, said Wally Groff, assistant athletic director of business affairs. The chair ticket price will increase from \$8

to \$10. Groff said the SWC increased ticket prices because rising costs of travel, scholarships, salaries and utilities.

Student ticket prices had been allowed to increase from \$2.75 to \$3.50 before the Jan. 10-13 SWC meeting, Groff said.

That increase was planned as part of a year-long program to increase student ticket prices and reduce student service fees to the athletic department. With the 10 percent price increase, student prices may reach \$4.

In 1975 the Student Senate and the Athletic Council agreed that students would pay \$2.75 for a ticket and the athletic department would receive \$120,000 from student services.

In 1976 students paid \$2.75 and \$100,000 in student service fees went to athletics.

The original plan was to go to half-price tickets the third year, which was then \$3.50, and withdraw completely from student service fees, Groff said.

"Now we don't know what it's going to be. Half-price now is \$4," he said.

Groff said A&M had a choice: cut part of the \$2.5 million athletic program or raise ticket prices. The athletic department was in favor of the increase as long as the conference was in favor of it, he said.

"We have pretty much met the maximum income we can derive from football without raising ticket prices," Groff said.

He said 90 per cent of athletic funds come from football.

Approximately 20,000 students bought season tickets last fall and Groff said sales will probably increase this fall.

Groff predicted that only people with season tickets will be able to attend conference games like Houston, Texas and Arkansas next fall.

"We're one of the few athletic programs in the country that has been in the black the last few years. We are proud of that," he said.

Athletic department profits were \$52,195.66 in 1975-76. Groff estimated that the department will net \$47,000 this academic year.

Profits go into the athletic reserve ac-

count and are used to invest in capital equipment.

The money will also be used if A&M has a bad year in football.

"We had a 10 and 2 season and if we don't have a winning season we will lose money," Groff said.

Eliminating student service fees for athletics could affect other sports events. He said basketball could cost \$1 a game and baseball 50 cents per game based on the current general admission prices.

"We have not established any prices for the new baseball field. There will have to be some adjustments," Groff said. The new baseball field is being built at the old rodeo arena site on the west campus.

Scott Gregson, student government vice-president for finance, said he favors continuing to set aside student service fees for athletics.

"I feel that this gives us more input in the athletic program," Gregson said. He explained that it would also be cheaper for those who attended many football and basketball games.

"Without student services a coupon book will cost \$20, plus \$12 for 12 basketball games. With student services the coupon book will be \$17.50 and basketball games will be free.

The student service fee was \$19 last semester. This supported student programs that could not pay for themselves,

such as Town Hall, Intramurals, Student Government and MSC programs.

Gregson said \$60,000-\$80,000 would be taken from student services for athletics if tickets are \$3.50 a game.

The amount taken out of each person's student service fee would be about \$3.50.

The Athletic Council Finance Committee, made up of Groff, Student Body President Fred McClure, and Accounting Department Chairman Dr. Larry Pointer submitted a budget to the Student Finance Committee last Friday. Informal hearings on the budget will begin tomorrow.

After approval by the Finance Committee, the budget will be considered by the Student Senate. President Jack Williams or Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs Clyde Freeman will be asked to sign it and send it to the Board of Regents for final approval.

"In order to continue the program, the students are going to have to pay an equitable share, and I think the students agreed or they wouldn't have gone to this user fee program in the first place," Groff said.

A user fee is one that is paid by the person that goes to the game.

Gregson said the feeling toward the total user fee may have changed substantially in the Student Senate since the plan was first introduced.

## A&M conserves fuel during shortage

By KIM TYSON

Times may be hard up north, but because of measures taken by Texas A&M University, students here will not be greatly affected by an energy shortage, Gerald Scott, control systems manager of the Physical Plant.

By May, A&M will have installed a \$1 million computerized system to help conserve the energy being used in many of the buildings on campus, Scott said.

"We're hoping to reduce our energy consumption by 10 per cent," he estimated, saying that within three years, A&M's savings will pay for the system.

By monitoring the input to buildings, he can identify those buildings which are using too much energy. Then he can take measures to correct them," he said.

The system will monitor air-

conditioning and heating and can be adjusted to take the uses of the building and the people who will occupy it into account. A building not used for experiments could be shut down at 9 p.m. after being cleaned.

The system covers 44 of approximately 100 campus buildings, Scott said, including the Memorial Student Center, Zachry Engineering Center, Harrington Educa-

tion Center and the Krueger-Dunn-Mosher-Aston dorm complex.

A month ago A&M was curtailed 100 per cent on natural gas, Scott said, but few people realized this.

"There was no interruption in any of our services," he said, adding that during normal operation A&M depends totally on natural gas for its power.

While Bryan and College Station closed

their schools, A&M turned to its own fuel supply to cover the imbalance.

"We just switched to oil but they (Bryan-College Station) didn't have the facilities to do this," he said.

In 1973, after undergoing months of 75-100 per cent cutbacks, A&M added a 2 million gallon tank reserve in fuel oil. Scott explained that previously the University was forced to rely on outside fuel sources when cut back. A&M now has the capacity to survive from two to three months of complete curtailment. However, he added that a total cutoff rarely occurs except for a few hours.

Scott said A&M also has adapted some of its buildings to conserve energy.

To help reduce energy waste, foam was used to insulate the roofs of older buildings. The white spray foam, placed on the roofs of Sbis, Duncan Hall and some of the Corps dorms, improves the roofs' insulating efficiency.

Lighting has also been adjusted to reduce wasted energy.

"Where we can, we have removed fixtures in the area without affecting the overall lighting levels," Scott said.

Office buildings with excessive lighting had bulbs removed and sockets coded to keep them from being replaced.

The University hopes to use the energy only in the places that need it, Scott said.

Three Texas A&M University students are fighting their own battle against the energy crisis.

Mosher Hall residents Lynn Harper, Linda Scott and Patty Mechelay have placed signs in the dorm urging others to turn down their thermostats to 65 degrees and to turn off unused lights.

"We're trying to conserve energy by turning off the lights in the study carrels and encouraging everyone to turn off their lights when they're not using them," said Harper, a resident advisor.

She said that in her hometown Ocala, Fla., the weather is affecting the crops and livestock, and there are children who haven't been in school because there isn't any gas.

### Three students fight to save fuel

Mechelay, a sophomore, said they've had a good response overall, but they had difficulty getting some people to cooperate.

"It's hard to stir people up because it's old news," Mechelay explained.

Harper said she hopes A&M will pursue its own energy campaign but admitted she has doubts.

"After seeing a picture of a bumper sticker in The Battalion, 'Drive 90, Freeze a Yankee,' I think people are kind of isolationists. They might not want the gas to go out of Texas," she explained.

She added, "I just know if it were a reverse situation I would want them to conserve energy for me, so that I could be warm."

— Kim Tyson

## Tennis courts ready in spring

By MYRA KYLE

Texas A&M varsity tennis players and students enrolling in tennis classes next spring will be playing on new courts, according to Richard Barker, men's varsity tennis coach.

Eight varsity courts and 14 practice courts for tennis classes have been under construction since Jan. 1 and are expected to be completed Jan. 1, 1978.

The new courts are being built because ground below the tennis courts is shifting, causing the courts to crack and become uneven," said Phil Haas Jr., architect for Texas A&M.

The varsity courts will be concrete with asphalt and color topping. The professional topping is an acrylic which seals the courts and makes them uniform.

The practice courts for the tennis classes will be the same except they will have the layer of asphalt which the varsity courts have. The concrete courts withstand wear and tear longer," Haas

said. The courts will be built on the south end of the courts with coaches' stands, shower, storage facilities and office space.

The complex will also occupy one of the natural fields east of the football practice field.

There will be lighting on the practice courts, but not on the varsity courts," Barker said. "Because right now we are playing matches at night.

The total cost of the tennis complex, including the 14 new practice courts, is expected to be \$710,000. The cost of the varsity courts alone is projected at \$22,000.



A piece of cake

Gavin Parrish eats a piece of cake as brother Marc watches. Marc and Gavin were attending Teacher Appreciation night at College Hills Elementary last night with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Parrish. Marc is a first grader at College Hills.

Battalion photo by Tracie Nordheim



Race is run, music's sung in 'Fables'

Horace Hare (Steve Kersh) wakes up to find that he has lost the race to Thaddius T. Tortoise. Horace, in the Aggie Players' rock musical "Aesop's Fables," took a nap because he was so far ahead of the tortoise. The Sheep Sisters, mistaking Horace for a wolf, locked him in a prop box. This and other Fables are acted out by the Aggie Players at the Rudder Center Forum, Feb. 14-19. Tickets are on sale at the Rudder Center Box Office.

Photo by Bernard Gor

## SCONA panel ends months of work for 22nd conference

By MARY HARDIN

The 22nd Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) begins tomorrow at Texas A&M University.

For the delegates from all over the United States, Canada and Mexico, it will be the beginning of four days of debate and discussion.

For the 62 A&M students on the SCONA committee, it will be the end of 10 months of planning and hard work.

Planning for the conference began in March 1976, when the members started organizing a new topic.

"Our topic, 'The Expression of Individuality in American Society,' was chosen in late April," Van Steed, chairman of SCONA, said. "This began the basic planning operational activities for SCONA 22."

SCONA members raise the entire amount of money needed to operate the conference. This year they have raised more than \$27,000 from old and new sponsors.

The major step in financing the conference is the summer fund drive in the major cities around Texas.

"The summer fund drive gives SCONA members the opportunity to meet with top executives of major corporations and foundations," Steed explained. They also gain valuable experience and insight into the business world."

Steed said the fund drive is a good indication of a student's dedication to SCONA.

Students who attend summer school at A&M correspond with prospective speakers and continue research on the conference topic.

With the opening of classes in the fall, planning of details begins. It involves everything from planning menus to inviting speakers and delegates.

The committee system of SCONA keeps the work evenly divided. Four major committees, each with a chairman and vice-chairman, cover operations, planning, finance and communications. Each committee has specific duties and responsibilities assigned to make the conference run smoothly.

Arranging accommodations and transportation for delegates and speakers,

planning meals, advertising and many other tasks are important to the organization of the conference.

Although the work is hard and time consuming, the members of SCONA feel the rewards are worth it, Steed said.

"The members of SCONA take much pride in presenting the conference in the educational advancement of the people of Texas and the United States," he said.

### Weather

Mostly cloudy and mild today, with a high in the upper 50s expected this afternoon. The low this morning was in the mid-40s and the low tomorrow morning should be in the mid-30s. Partly cloudy skies and mild temperatures tomorrow with a high in the low 60s.