

Students told flu spreading rapidly here

Influenza at Texas A&M University is nearing epidemic proportions.

The Student Health Center treated 480 students Monday, though not all had flu. "We're seeing 500 a day and seeing lots of flu," said Dr. Claude Goswick, center director.

Goswick said the center's in-

patient clinic was not full Wednesday. "We're managing to keep students on their feet, or at home," he said.

"This is a short-term disease, and won't have a heavy impact on class attendance. As many as 30 to 40 percent may be absent in a given class per day during the period, but it's a different set of students each day."

"About the only precautions a person can take is to keep distance from someone with obvious symptoms," Goswick said.

He added that students should not try to diagnose themselves, that confusion with pneumonia could result.

Recommended treatment for flu is bed rest, aspirin and plenty of fluids.

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Interested students should pick up application forms in Rm. 216 MSC (at the Secretaries' Desks) and sign up for an interview time.

Applications Open: Thurs. Jan. 26 8 a.m.
Applications Due: Tues. Feb. 7 5 p.m.
Interviews will be conducted from 6-9 p.m. on Wed. Feb. 8 and Thurs. Feb. 9 in the MSC Council Conference Rm. — 216 MSC.

MSC Travel Committee

Alcohol for cars

The 1 million automobiles that operate in and around the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil, do not run on pure gasoline but a mixture with 20 percent alcohol.

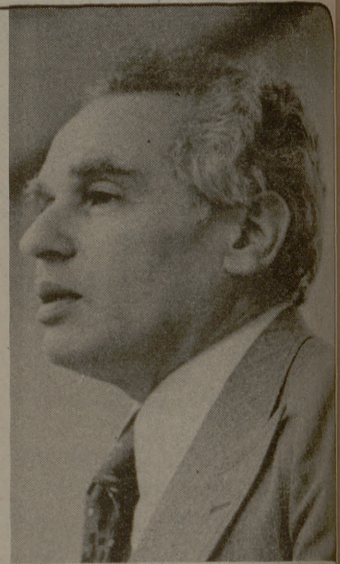
Prof. Jose Goldemberg, director of the Institute of Physics at Sao Paulo, told professors and students at Texas A&M University Wednesday that research has shown the mixture to be effective without engine modifications. He said Sao Paulo residents have used the fuel for six months with no adverse effects.

Goldemberg also said the government there helped fund research that converted 200 automobiles to run on a 100 percent alcohol fuel. The study is in progress.

Use of alcohol for fuel is not new in Brazil. Goldemberg said many persons were using the fuel 40 years ago — not to avoid oil imports but to save the ailing sugar cane industry.

Sugar prices were down so the industry had to supplement its income by producing alcohol from the cane. Later, sugar prices increased and alcohol production for fuel was stopped.

Today, sugar cane is again being utilized to produce alcohol for fuel. Gasoline in Brazil costs consumers \$2 per gallon while alcohol costs \$1.40 per gallon to produce, Goldemberg said. He added that if the oil prices continue to rise and quantities diminish, it will make alcohol a competitive commodity.



Professor Jose Goldemberg

New campus bus route popular

By TERESA ROACH

Imagine leaving C. Rollie White Coliseum and arriving at Zachry Engineering Center in seven minutes. That is what Richard Page does. He saves 10 minutes with the help of a new on campus shuttlebus system.

Page, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, takes the Green Route of the intra-campus shuttle bus system. The new system is also

free of charge.

The Green Route begins at the corner of Joe Rott Boulevard and Throckmorton Street and moves in a clockwise direction north to parking lot 50, west to the College of Veterinary Medicine and south to the new College of Agriculture buildings. It stops at parking lots 56 and 61 before returning to its stop near Rudder Tower.

The Red Route makes the same stops but moves in a counter-clockwise direction and does not stop at parking lot 50.

It takes about 20 to 30 minutes for each bus to make its route. The buses tend to be crowded in the mornings, but the number of student passengers tends to decrease in the afternoons. Shuttle bus officials have not commented on a number of students riding the buses.

"It's hard to find parking places on campus now," said Bill Anderson, a junior animal science major. "Last week I missed two classes because I couldn't find a parking place by the Agriculture building. Now with the shuttle bus system, I don't have to worry about parking."

Anderson said his only complaint is that the buses fail to post a schedule to indicate where the stop. A schedule would be helpful.

Gale Minzenmeyer, a senior floriculture major, said that last semester she "detested walking across the railroad tracks to horticulture lab."

"It's going to be much easier to get to class by riding the shuttle bus this semester," she said.

"The only thing I don't like about the shuttle bus is that it doesn't get close enough to the Entomology building."

"I'm a horticulture graduate student and I'm always having to pick up supplies across the railroad tracks," said Sylvia Meadows. "Besides, half of my department is over there."

The intra-campus shuttle system runs from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meadows said she wished the buses would run later, because many students have classes that end later than 5 p.m. Many of these students have to walk across Wellborn Road to get to the parked cars.

"The shuttle bus service is almost as good as driving a car," said Bill Boehm, a senior animal science major.

Besides being on time and saving students from the hassle of parking their cars, the buses keep out of the weather, said Lawrence Mikeska, a junior agriculture major.

"The shuttle system seems to be working out well," he said. "It's a great idea."

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