

campus

Classifieds

Fire alarm system installed in dorms

By ANGELIQUE COPELAND
Battalion Reporter

An early warning fire detection and alarm system has been installed in all the Texas A&M University dormitories as part of a project that will eventually include 84 buildings on campus. The device, called the Hawkeye Reporting System, has been installed in 51 buildings to date at a cost of \$700,000. It cost \$290,000 to equip the dorms with the system. The project is scheduled to be completed by December, said Harry Stiteler, safety coordinator of the department of facilities at Texas A&M. Ron Sasse, associate director of student affairs, said the system has been needed for a long time and will require the cooperation of the students to succeed. Tampering with fire detection or alarm systems is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by fine not to exceed \$2,000 and or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed one year. It could also result in expulsion from the University. Stiteler said normal smoking will not trigger the alarm, but concentrated smoking directly under the sensor device could. Spraying water on a detector head or spreading excessive dust from sawing and construction in the dorm rooms could also set off an alarm. Sasse said one of the biggest problems that will have to be overcome is the attitude of many students that the alarm system is not needed in the brick and concrete dorms. The danger, he said, is not from fire itself, but from the toxic gases that are released by almost everything in the room that burns. Polyurethane coverings on furniture can give off poisons that could overcome the students and keep them from evacuating from the building in case of a fire. There have been no serious injuries or damages in the 65 dorm fires reported on the campus since 1973, Stiteler said.

Increase called 'modest'

Bryan trustees raise taxes

By LOUIE ARTHUR
Battalion Staff

The Bryan School Board of Trustees voted Monday to raise the property tax rate to \$1.36 per \$100 valuation, the first tax increase in three years. Board President Travis B. Bryan Jr. described the 3 1/2 cent increase as "very modest." "Two years ago we dropped it (the tax rate)," Bryan said, "and we haven't gotten back up to that point yet. We're proud of that." The tax rate, based on an assessed property value that is 80 percent of the market value, has dropped a total of 15 cents in the past two years. The board also passed a resolution to express its opposition to the location of a bar, the Four Seasons Barn, to be opened at 1808 Barak Lane near Bryan High School. Listed in the resolution were the board's reasons for opposition, among them: 1) board policies prohibit alcoholic beverages on school properties, 2) approximately 7 percent of the

Bryan High School student body is of legal drinking age, 3) many extra-curricular events take place on the Bryan High School campus during the evening hours and on weekends and 4) alcoholic beverages made more readily available to young people directly across from the high school could interfere with the learning and discipline process. The Bryan Independent School District has been awarded two grants by the Texas Education Agency: a \$62,500 grant for a gifted/talented student program and a \$14,851 grant for a career education program. The first grant is a part of the \$1.8 million appropriated by the Texas Legislature for expansion of outstanding gifted education programs in school districts throughout the state. The grant received by BISD was one of the largest awarded. The grant will be used to hire three teachers for the 180 gifted students in kindergarten through fourth grade and to provide instructional materials and supervisory assistance for kindergarten through

twelfth grade. There are approximately 450 gifted students in grades 5-12. The career education grant will be used in coordination with the existing career awareness programs in the district, with special emphasis in grades 11 and 12. The board also heard that the district enrollment figure of 9,190 is up a little from last year, with most of the gain in the high school. An average classroom size is 25 students, but Superintendent Wesley K. Summers pointed out this means some classes have a larger enrollment. "Our priority in grades 1-4 is to keep the classes small, especially in the first grade," Summers said.

OFFICIAL NOTICE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS... certain information has been made public... Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974... Student name, address, telephone listing... Texas A&M University Student Records Policy August, 1978... Edw. H. Cooper, Dean Admissions and Records Texas A&M University

Table with 3 columns: Position, Name, Type of Records. Lists various university departments and their corresponding record types.

Student Access to Education Records... All students (and former students) of Texas A&M University have the right of access to the education records for the purpose of review... Release of "Student Directory Information" information on students, such as date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended...

A&M joins Park Service to create new research unit

The Texas A&M University System and the National Parks Service will together create a special Cooperative Park Studies Unit in College Station, Rep. Phil Gramm, D-College Station, announced Friday. Gramm said the unit will focus on ecological and environmental management of recreational areas in the National Parks System. Dr. Leslie Beid, head of A&M's Department of Recreation and Parks, and David Turello, senior planner with the park service, have been designated as co-directors. "This agreement provides the cooperating agencies a mechanism to use the expertise of both organizations to the best advantage," said Reid. "I believe Texas A&M's strong programs in outdoor recreation planning led to the development of a national scope of concern for this park's service-university field unit."

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Teachers end 3-week strike

United Press International OKLAHOMA CITY — Striking public schoolteachers voted Sunday night to return to the classrooms and end their three-week-old walkout. "I'm not declaring victory yet," School Board President Paul English said, however, when informed of the vote. "We'll just have to sit back and watch." "Naturally we will welcome the teachers back," English said. English said he was not sure what effect the vote would have on a district court hearing scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Monday on a permanent injunction barring the board from recognizing or negotiating with the American Federation of Teachers.

See what's in Focus in Thursday's Battalion. HATE DOING LAUNDRY? Let Frannie's do it for you Aunt Frannies Laundromat Holleman at Anderson 693-6587

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