

the state

### Amtrak suit set for today

United Press International  
WICHITA, Kan. — U.S. District Court Judge Frank Theis will hear arguments today in a suit filed by the state of Kansas to block the cutoff of Amtrak's Lone Star Line, scheduled for Oct. 1.

Kansas Attorney General Robert Stephan filed suit in federal court Aug. 31, seeking a temporary injunction against Amtrak before the Lone Star — which operates between Chicago and Houston — is eliminated.

The suit claims that Amtrak violated governmental rules by failing to conduct hearings in Kansas before deciding to discontinue train serv-

ice. Stephan is seeking the injunction to preserve existing service.

Amtrak service will continue in Missouri between St. Louis and Kansas City for another year because the Missouri Legislature decided to appropriate \$300,000 to keep it in operation under a cost-sharing arrangement with the federal government.

But Kansas cannot take advantage of such a plan with the federal government, state officials have said, because it would apparently be unconstitutional.

Stephan's suit is similar to actions filed in Texas, Oklahoma and California.

### Oil threat over for Padre Island?

United Press International  
CORPUS CHRISTI — There were indications today the threat of more oil from the Campeche Bay blowout had ended for Padre Island, the 120-mile-long resort beach which was polluted by tons of crude oil and tarballs in August.

"It's been slow the past 10 days," said Jerry Hill, a spokesman for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"We haven't seen any oil. There are a few small tarballs scattered on the beach. Crews go out maybe once every two or three days and clean them up. Somebody said the beaches are cleaner than they usually are."

A NOAA aircraft flew along the coast south of Tampico, Mexico, on Tuesday and spotted no concentrations of oil in the area, Hill said,

and planned Wednesday to fly from Corpus Christi to Brownsville looking for any signs of the slick.

At its height, the slick containing thick patches of petroleum-water emulsion known as mousse stretched 600 miles from the blown-out Ixtoc I well to north of Corpus Christi, threatening to enter ecologically sensitive bays on the South Texas Coast during August.

But around Sept. 1, a seasonal shifting of currents from north to south began and the slick, fed by more than 2 million barrels of oil since the well blew out on June 3, began receding farther south.

"Since Sept. 21, the only oil sighted offshore by reconnaissance flights has been in the Bay of Campeche southeast of Tampico," said Coast Guard spokesman Richard Griggs.



Unlike last year, Texas A&M students have been able to live in the apartments in the Bryan-College Station area this year. About 200 students found construction on their apartments unfinished when the fall semester began in 1978, but no problems have arisen this year. Battalion photo by Sam Stone.



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### More apartments are vacant this fall

By ELLEN EIDELBACH  
Battalion Reporter

Although most apartment complexes in Bryan-College Station have a 90 to 100 percent occupancy rate, there is still housing for those who need it, Dena Todd, off-campus adviser said Friday.

One reason for the improved housing situation this year is that many apartments were preleased.

"Half of the apartments were preleased by May for this fall," said Kathy Evans, a leasing agent for A&M Apartment Placement Service.

Apartment hunting is busy from April to July, she said, only one or two people come daily to look for apartments.

"Basically, right now, there are mostly unfurnished one-bedroom apartments available," she said.

Apartment vacancies which have not been filled may have some in October. Managers of The Oaks Willow Oaks apartments say they will have vacancies around the middle of October.

Another reason for the housing success is that no complexes were finished late this year.

"A lot of the people looking for apartments are those moving off campus or changing roommates," Todd said.

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