

campus

# Reporter finds shuttle makes good on promises

By ANGELOPE COPELAND  
Battalion Reporter

After writing an article saying the new shuttle bus system ran every seven to 10 minutes and stopped at specified locations on campus, my editor decided it might be a good idea for me to take a bus and find out if the system was all I had said it was.

Being a devoted biker, I had never thought of the shuttle buses as more than large maroon and white obstacles that spewed passengers in my way. And while I had come close to running into one a few times, I had never ridden in one, and was a little nervous about my first trip.

I decided to set out from a centrally located building on the east side of campus and see if I could

make it to a fictitious class across the tracks.

I left from in front of Heldenfels Hall (SLAB, to some), headed toward the bus stop at the MSC, and almost panicked as I watched my bus pull away.

After considering racing it down to the stop near the Quack Shack, I decided to hold my position, semi-confident it would return like I had said it would in my article.

Sure enough, the bus returned eight minutes later and three other shuttle busers and I boarded. Once inside, I realized the buses weren't marked for north or south routes, and I had no idea where I was heading.

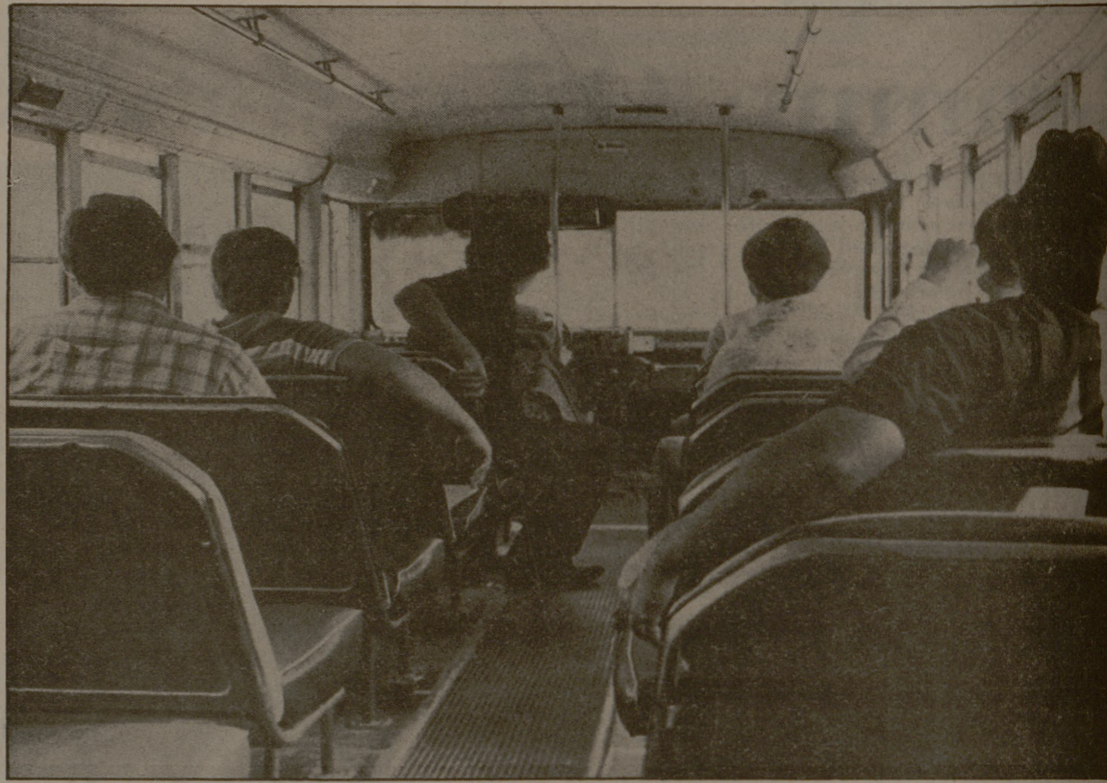
I found out later from the driver that signs had been posted on the buses, but an earlier passenger had accidentally torn this bus's sign down. This bus was on the north route, so I decided to settle back and enjoy the ride.

As we bounced along by the new modular dorms and out across Wellborn, I watched unfortunate pedestrians and bikers play dodge with the traffic in the afternoon heat.

When we arrived at the stop halfway out on Agronomy Road, four minutes had passed since I had left the MSC. Total elapsed time since I left the SLAB, 16 minutes. Not bad, and I even would have arrived at class cool and not wind-blown.

After everybody (all two of them) had gotten off, I asked the driver if it was always this crowded on the bus.

The driver, Roger Kellett, said peak traffic loads with about 40-50 passengers usually occurred on the hour and in the morning. When we pulled back up by the MSC, still on schedule, I decided that as an alternative to trudging across the tracks on foot and playing chicken in the traffic, you can't beat the shuttle bus system.



With the addition of a new route, the campus shuttlebus service is offering more students an efficient and economical method of transportation. Battalion photo by Sam Strider

PLITT Southern Theatre  
846-6714 & 846-1151  
UNIVERSITY SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER

**CINEMA I**  
**BREAKING AWAY**  
DAILY 5:45, 7:40, 9:40  
Ends Thurs.

**CINEMA II**  
**STUBBO**  
DAILY 5:55, 7:50, 9:50  
Ends Thurs.

PLITT Southern Theatre  
846-6714 & 846-1151  
UNIVERSITY SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER

**CINEMA I**  
**STARTS FRIDAY**  
A temptingly tasteful comedy for adults who can count.  
DUDLEY MOORE  
JULIE ANDREWS  
BO DEREK in

DAILY 5:25, 7:30, 9:45  
SAT. & SUN. 1:15  
ALSO 9's make you gasp...

**CINEMA II**  
**"10"**  
FRI-SAT REEFER MADNESS!  
MIDNITE Starts Friday

DAILY 5:35, 7:40, 9:55  
BETTER & MORE ENTERTAINING THAN "GRAFFITI I"

**THE ALL NEW AMERICAN GRAFFITI**

**SIE MEET THE PROFS**  
For students in the Management dept.  
Rm. 145 MSC  
7:30 Oct. 4

**MANOR EAST 3**  
Manor East Mall 823-8300

**ANIMAL HOUSE**  
7:25-9:40

**WHEN A STRANGER CALLS**  
7:30-9:45

**THE MUPPET MOVIE**  
7:20-9:35

**CAMPUS**  
Richard Pryor is Back!

**MANOR EAST 3**  
MANOR EAST MALL  
FRIDAY-SATURDAY MIDNIGHT  
ALL SEATS \$1.50  
PLENTY OF PARKING  
**MANOR EAST 1**

**"It may be the best movie of its kind ever made."**  
For undiluted pleasure and excitement, it is, I think, the American movie of the year...a new classic.  
—Pauline Kael, The New Yorker

From deep space...

**Invasion of the Body Snatchers**  
A Robert H. Solo Production of A Philip Kaufman Film  
"Invasion of the Body Snatchers"  
Donald Sutherland · Brooke Adams · Leonard Nimoy  
Jeff Goldblum · Veronica Cartwright · Screenplay by W.D. Richter,  
Based on the novel "The Body Snatchers" by Jack Finney

**DOLBY STEREO**

**HALLOWEEN**

**The Night He Came Home!**

MANOR EAST 2  
PANAVISION METROCOLOR A COMPTON INTERNATIONAL RELEASE  
R RESTRICTED

**DON'T WAIT FOR CINCO DE MAYO**  
to meet the Tecate Trio Bravo.  
An icy red can of Tecate Beer imported from Mexico, topped with lemon and salt. Bravo! Your big thirst has met its match.

**TECATE**

Cibco Importing Co., Inc.  
Dallas, Texas 75229.

**MIDNIGHT MADNESS**  
All The Buttermilk Pancakes You Can Eat

**\$1.59** or **5 for \$1.09**  
WED. ONLY 10 P.M.-2 A.M.

**ihop**  
International House of Pancakes  
Welcome back to the Restaurant!  
103 COLLEGE

## Runners Aerobics track in need of repair

By KATHLEEN McELROY  
Battalion Reporter

The aerobics track is one of the most popular places on the A&M campus — it's scenic, convenient, and available to anyone any time. The \$30,000 track starts behind the Rudder parking lot and winds around the president's house and the Floral Test Garden.

However, the track is not without its faults, for it is in need of some repair. "We try to keep it as level and as smooth as we can," said James Welford, associate director of the Intramural Department, which manages the track. But Welford said the rains in the area lately have caused ruts and water spots on the surface.

Another problem is the Grounds Maintenance Department, which cares for the track, doesn't repair just one rut — it waits until there's a group of ruts before work is done on them.

The Intramural Department plans to solidify the surface which sometimes washes away in the heavy rains. The original track, laid in 1978, consists of chipped red bricks. The new surface will add some type of cementing agent to the red bricks.

Gene Rays, head of the Grounds Maintenance Department, has the materials for the surface, but he says his department can't do it now.

"We're going to do it as soon as we get some manpower," he said. "In the next month or so, we'll correct all the problems." He said the track will be laid in 15 to 20 days.

Even if the new surface eliminates

many of the holes around the course and prevents washouts, one problem will still exist — darkness.

The part of the course that runs parallel to Houston Street sidewalk is well lit because of streetlights. But when the course meanders around the gardens, there is no light. Therefore, it is very unsafe, Welford said.

"We have talked about getting it lit, but I don't have any status on that," Welford said. "We wouldn't want to recommend running there at night."

He said Kyle Field, which is sometimes available for running, is no safer.

"You can get in there, but it's darker in there," he said.

Dr. John Chevrette, who heads

the aerobics program in the physical education department, said the track is a blessing and said he would like to see more lights on the course.

"If it were lit at night," he continued, "usage at night would be increased."

Campus Police Chief Ben McDonald said there haven't been assault problems on the aerobics course because of a lack of lights.

"If we start having problems we'll have to light it," he said.

In spite of its faults, the track is heavily used. Chevrette estimates people run over 150,000 miles on it semester.

"When it's in good shape I think it's a good surface to jog on," he continued.

## A&M System enrollment surpasses 40,000 students

Enrollment at the four academic institutions within the Texas A&M University System has for the first time surpassed 40,000, announced Chancellor Frank W. B. Hubert.

Hubert said student registration at Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University and Texas A&M University at Galveston (formerly Moody College) totals 40,423 this fall, for an increase of 1,222 over the same period last year.

The Texas A&M University System ranked among the top 25 enrollment leaders in the nation in

1978, according to University of Cincinnati researchers who surveyed multi-campus systems.

Texas A&M accounted for the bulk of this year's increase with a gain of 1,076 students for a record 31,362.

Prairie View A&M University enrolled 5,047 students this fall, or 71 from last year, while Tarleton State University gained 80 students for a total of 3,404.

The enrollment at Texas A&M Galveston remained essentially level, 641 students this fall compared to 646 in 1978.

MSC TOWN HALL PRESENTS

**TILLIS**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12  
8:00 p.m. G. ROLLIE WHITE

TICKETS: \$3.50, \$4.25, \$4.75  
TICKETS & INFORMATION  
M.S.C. BOX OFFICE 845-2916

**7th ANNUAL**  
OCTOBER 7, 1979  
2:00 am

Registration: October 6, 11:00 pm, Hermann Park

**HOUSTON MOONLIGHT BICYCLE RAMBLE**

**ATTENTION**

MSC Town Hall  
Option Pass holders!

Priority period to purchase tickets for  
**Pablo Cruise**  
is  
**Oct. 1-5**  
Tickets not purchased at this time will be released for sale to the general public.