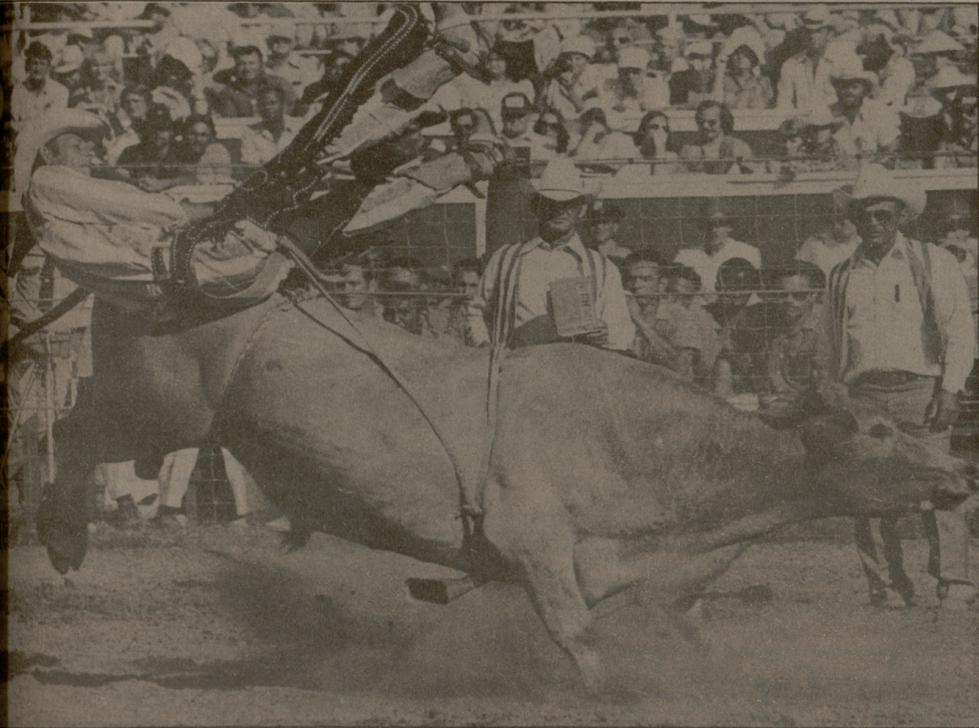


# THE BATTALION

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## Follow the bouncing cowboy

Convict cowboy Weldon Byrd somersaults off a bucking bull during the first performance of the Texas Prison Rodeo last weekend. Byrd was all-round champion of last year's "Wildest Rodeo Be-

hind Bars." The prison rodeo, held every weekend in October, will be featured in the Focus section of Thursday's Battalion.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

## Sea school name change forbidden by state office

By ANGIE JONES  
Battalion Reporter

State Attorney General Mark White has ruled the Texas A&M University Board of Regents cannot change the name of Moody College to Texas A&M University at Galveston.

Bob Heath, chairman of the Opinions Committee, explained that the Moody College name was established by statute and could only be changed by the Texas Legislature.

The Opinions Committee gives legal opinions to questions posed by state officials. In this case, the Attorney General asked for an opinion in response to a query by the Coordinating Board of Texas Colleges and Universities about the authority of the Board of Regents to change the name of Moody College.

"It (the opinion) did not specifically mention Texas A&M University, but it was one of the institutions affected," Heath said.

Dexey Luchoni, Moody College director of operations, said that although the institution is now going by the new name and has changed the letterheads on correspondence with other institutions, the attorney general's opinion really won't affect them. An interpretation of the opinion must first be made by the Board of Regents, he said. The regents have not met yet to discuss the attorney general's opinion.

The Moody College name change, along with eligibility of the institution to receive construction support from the Permanent University Fund, were included in Senate Joint Resolution 7, sponsored by Sen.

A.R. "Babe" Schwartz during the summer legislative session. After passage by the Senate, SJR-7 was modified in the House of Representatives and did not come back up for a vote.

Then it was thought the Board of Regents could authorize the name change as part of an administrative reorganization at the Moody campus.

"I included the name Texas A&M University at Galveston because there is no unit in the University of Texas System that is named 'blank college,' Schwartz said. "In the first place, it is a denial of the university status of those graduates."

Schwartz emphasized that students of Moody College receive their degrees from Texas A&M University and should be entitled to the same status as any other Texas A&M graduate.

## Student Services to sponsor program on alcohol abuse

By CAROL HANCOCK  
Battalion Reporter

A program to curb alcohol abuse by students is in the making at Texas A&M University.

Through residence halls and off-campus groups, Student Services administrators hope to educate students on alcohol and its effects. The program is part of a statewide

program recently launched by the United States Brewers Association.

Monica Christen, assistant area coordinator, said the program will take a teaching approach, not a prohibiting one.

"We want to stress that alcohol isn't bad but can damage the human body if it is abused," she said.

The extent of the program depends on funds available, Christen said. She and Dr. Maurice Dennis, an assistant industrial education professor, currently are working to obtain a grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA).

Christen said if they get the grant, the alcohol program could include films, speakers, workshops, posters, and pamphlets. If the grant is denied, the program will be more limited, she said.

Information is being compiled from other universities that have alcohol programs, Christen said. The Texas A&M program will be set up with this informa-

tion and results of a Texas A&M survey in mind, she said.

The grant proposal has to be turned in to the NIAAA by Nov. 1, Christen said. She said she hopes to have more definite plans for the program by January.

The statewide program is part of a national program to broaden alcohol awareness by the Association. The need for a program in colleges was shown in a Florida survey. The survey of nearly 300 colleges nationwide showed 81 percent of the students drink alcoholic beverages, the majority of whom drink moderately. Fraternity houses were shown to have the highest level of alcohol consumption.

Jess Yaryan, an Association consultant to Texas colleges, said many Texas schools either have or are interested in an alcohol program.

The Association will publish a quarterly paper to keep colleges informed and to give them new ideas, Yaryan said. The interaction between schools is important to the Association's national goal, he said.

## Number of hot checks on the increase

By FLOYD WILTZ  
Battalion Reporter

There are 173 students at Texas A&M University who are living on borrowed time, or more accurately, borrowed money. And their time, like their money, has almost run out.

Robert Smith, assistant director of Texas A&M University's fiscal department, said he has a list of 173 students who paid their tuition with hot checks and have not made good on them. Unless the tuition is paid soon, Smith warned, these students could find themselves dropped from the University's rolls by the end of October.

The number of hot checks written in Brazos County and at Texas A&M is on the increase. The tuition checks represent only about 2 or 3 percent of the total number of hot checks received by Texas A&M, Smith said. A query to local merchants showed that the number of hot checks they receive each month went up

in September, when students returned to town.

During the 1977-78 fiscal year there were 5,440 bad checks returned to Texas A&M. During 1978-79 fiscal year, 6,281 hot checks were returned, reflecting an increase of 15 percent.

When the University receives a returned check a written notice is sent to the student advising him to pay the debt within 15 days. If the check is not paid within that time, another notice is sent to the student. Smith said about 50 percent of the students pay the bad check — plus a \$15 penalty — after receiving the first notice, and another 25 percent pay after the second notice, Smith said.

A Texas A&M student or employee is put on the University's permanent bad check list after two hot checks are received. This prevents the student or employee from using any of the University's check cashing facilities. In the case of Uni-

versity employees, Smith added, Texas A&M may hold their paychecks until the amount is paid. This information is not forwarded to the Brazos County business community.

"A lot of these people know the money is not in the bank when they write the check," Smith said.

Patti Swanson, who handles hot checks for Gibson's Discount Center, said the store received approximately 45 hot checks in September.

"We have to be very cautious toward the end of the semester," she said. "Students are leaving and they clean out their accounts and clean us out."

Gibson's requires students to present a driver's license Texas A&M identification card to cash local checks.

Ken Broach of Broach Oil said his company could consider refusing to accept checks if the number of bad checks his

service stations receive continues to increase.

Terry Morris, manager of the Kroger Family Center in Bryan, had noticed an increase in returned checks since the beginning of school this fall. The annual amount of hot checks totals in the thousands of dollars, Morris said.

Students will usually pay their bad checks after being notified, several businessmen said. They noted that students comprised about 20 to 30 percent of the hot check writers in their businesses.

When a delinquent check is not paid after written notices have been sent, most businesses will turn the matter over to the county attorney's office. The county attorney's office publishes and distributes a list of the names weekly. In addition, County Attorney John Barron Jr. said he will prosecute passers of bad checks.

## Standing room only for Saturday's game

By MERIL EDWARDS  
Battalion Staff

Even an Aggie win against University of Houston may not be enough to appease some of the more unfortunate fans standing on the track or watching the action on closed-circuit TV in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Wally Groff, assistant athletic director for business affairs, said 64,000 tickets have been sold for the A&M-Houston football game. The stadium capacity is only 57,000, so that leaves 7,000 ticket holders with no place to sit.

"We'll probably run out of seats in the stands sometime Wednesday," Groff said. "Then we'll start selling standing space on the track. We're planning to sell tickets to 3,000 students to watch the game from the track."

Groff said three areas will be roped off for standing room. Both sides of the field from the bleachers at the south end to the 30 yard line will be designated for standing students. The third area will begin at the northeast end of the field and extend from the horseshoe to the 40 yard line.

While tickets for track space last, Groff

said students have three options: stand on the track, watch the game on closed-circuit TV in G. Rollie White Coliseum or receive a refund of \$4.25 for their ticket.

"I'm sorry students have to bear the brunt of the stadium not being ready," Groff said. "I hope that they can look ahead to the future bright spots of good seats."

One bright spot for Saturday's game is that there will be temporary concession trailers on all three levels, Groff said.

For students with seats in Kyle Field,

the first question is how to get to those seats.

Groff said almost all students will be sitting on the east side. He said all east side ticket holders must enter the temporary gates at the southeast corner of Kyle Field to reach their seats.

Fans on the west side, in the horseshoe, in the bleachers and on the track will enter at the north end of the stadium through gates one, two, three and seven. "About 80 percent of the crowd will use the north end," Groff said (see diagram).

The next issue is safety. The University safety men, the campus police and H.B. Zachry Construction Co. are all working to make a potentially dangerous Kyle Field safe for the day.

"All the equipment will be blocked off," Groff said. "Temporary fences and barricades will be constructed. Nothing will be left dangerous. Zachry Co. is very safety conscious. We'll all be taking every possible precaution."

"Beside every barricade or dangerous area, an officer will be stationed just in case someone does try to go through the off-limits areas."

University Police Chief Russ McDonald said 20 or 30 additional men will be coming in from Bryan to help out with stadium security.

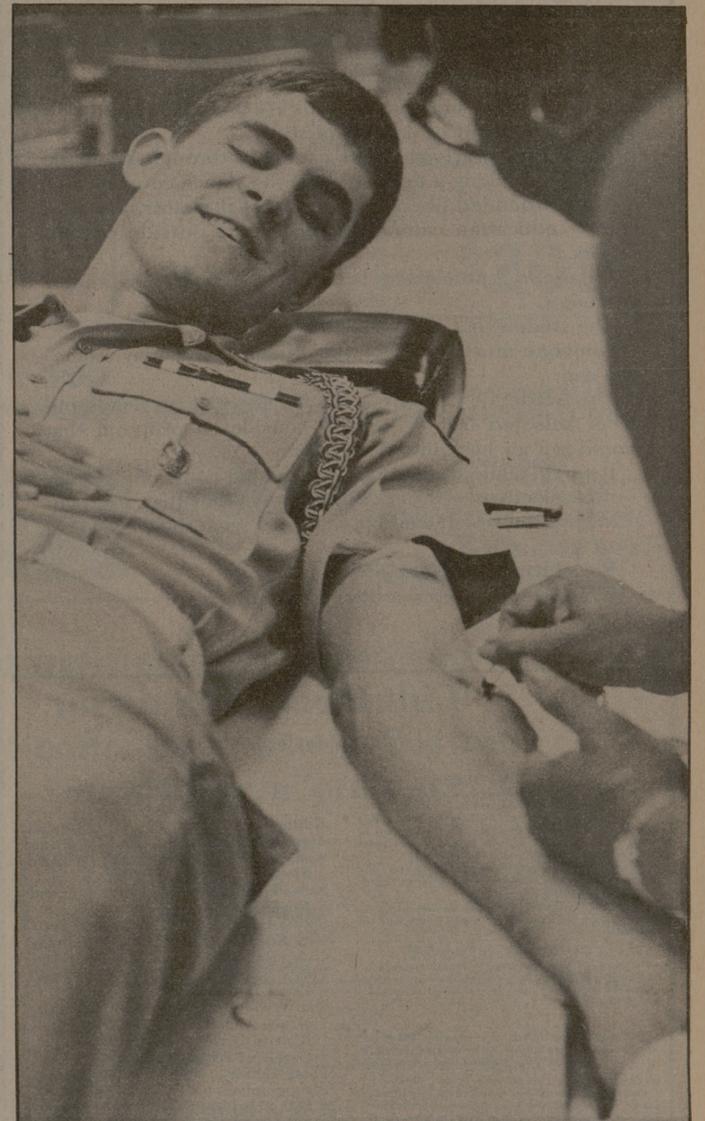
"We'll station the officers throughout the crowd to prevent injuries and accidents," McDonald said. "Our main concern will be to protect the kids running around on the west side."

And finally, where is there room to park?

Groff said about 800 parking spaces have been lost due to the stadium expansion. "It's going to be tough finding a place," he said. "Students should park on the outer parts of campus. Guests won't have any idea where to park."

Looking ahead to the three remaining home games, Groff was more optimistic. He said 4,500 more seats will be available for the SMU game Nov. 3 and additional seats will be added in time for the Arkansas game Nov. 17.

The entire stadium, 71,600 seats, has been sold out for the Texas game Dec. 1," Groff said. "So we sure hope Kyle Field will be ready by then."



Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

## Aggie Blood Drive

Joel Malone, a junior civil engineering major, was the first donor in the Aggie Blood Drive. Blood can be donated from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center today and Thursday.

