

campus

Ticket books prized items

By MIKE BURRICHTER
Battalion Reporter

You just got a hot date to the Texas A&M-Houston football game and you discover that you've lost the most important document that any Texas A&M University student owns, the football or all-sports coupon book. What can you do?

Well, before you do anything drastic like jump off Rudder Tower, run across Kyle Field during Midnight yell practice or walk across the USC lawn, you should go to the Athletic Business Office.

There you may give your sob story to the Athletic Business Office manager, Penny King.

The Athletic Business Office has a system of tracking down lost or stolen ticket books. Students who have lost books must go to the office, located at room 115 in G. Rollie

White Coliseum and report it missing to King. She records the student's ID number and looks up the receipt that has the ticket book number on it. The ticket book number is then put on a list and posted inside ticket boxes at G. Rollie White.

The ticket clerks use the ticket book number as a means of identification because it is printed on the book and can't be tampered with. The ID number is written on the book at the time of its acquisition.

When a student comes up to get his ticket and presents his ticket book, the ticket clerk checks the list, and if the book is on the list, the book is confiscated and the rightful owner of the book is notified.

King said that 24,000 student ticket books have been issued this year. She said that 17 have been re-

ported missing and three have been recovered this year. "Last year we recovered about 75 percent of the 100 or so ticket books we lost," she said.

Ticket books may not be replaced under any circumstances, King said. "Three years ago, we let students sign a statement saying they had lost their books," she said. "The first day we had 56 students come in."

The system used now keeps that number a lot lower, King said.

A student caught using a "hot" ticket book faces no disciplinary action from the school, King said. "We turn the student's name over to the ticket book owner and let them settle it themselves," she said.

Ticket book clerks are also keeping a watchful eye out for ticket book alterations, King said. "We've caught students who have made

their own stamps and have stamped "senior" on their books," she said. "These stamps are just a little bit different than ours."

King said a student caught tampering with or altering his ticket book will have his ticket book confiscated.

"Yesterday, a student came in and said that we should go ahead and issue him a new ticket book because he had hidden his in his own room and couldn't find it and so no one else could possibly use it," King said, laughing, "but I had to tell him we couldn't give him another one."

"People who lose their all-sports passes are really in a bind because they must go without for it the entire year," she said. "All we can do is try to find them."

Economy may spur social protest

By CAROL AUSTIN
Battalion Reporter

Social outbursts of the 1960s were attempts to generate social change. Dr. J. Steven Picou, a Texas A&M University sociology professor, said current economic problems may become acute enough for people to ignite another protest movement.

Picou said the recent farmers' march on Washington and the truckers' strikes are traditionally conservative groups who are economically motivated. "If problems get acute enough, people will collectively organize and act to their own self-interests," he said.

As more people become collectively affected by the economic situation, there is consciousness formation, and we can expect more groups to voice their opinions in this

way," Picou said.

Previous social problems were the rights of blacks and the Vietnam War. Now the problems seem to be inflation, where people are getting less and less for their money and are getting hurt by it," Picou said.

"A social movement may not have to have a god to follow, but it certainly has to have a devil," he said.

The Vietnam War served as an increasingly negative thing to focus on over a long, long period of time, from 1963 to 1972. Since then, the attention of the American public has been on economic factors," Picou said.

"The tolerance level of the American people is hard to tell," he said. "When expectations rise and the notion that what one has is being taken away because their situation is not getting any better, people

mobilize," he said.

"Trouble spots are hard to pin down because it is difficult to determine just who is hit the hardest. If things get bad enough for 25,000 people to march somewhere, with law enforcement officers watching them, you have the preconditions for conflict," he said.

"Conflict is a common part of the social fabric, but since the '60s, we've learned much about controlling civil disorders and riots and such," he said.

"Unfortunately, the social control agents are often the ones who initiate violence," he said. He cited Kent State as a classic example. "Be-

fore this, law enforcement officers, especially city forces, weren't really trained to handle large masses of people," Picou said.

Picou said that one of the best strategies to keep violence from erupting is to avoid personalizing the issue. "Whatever the objective the people are marching for, don't become the negative symbol where people will personalize their protests against you."

"If the intelligence of the American public is continually insulted, and the continuing explanations of the economic situation is seen as being unsurmountable, they will eventually react," he said.

UT enrollment tops 44,000 restriction not planned

United Press International
AUSTIN

Enrollment at the University of Texas reached a record 44,000 students this fall, the first time the university has topped enrollment restraints approved 10 years ago.

The 44,000-student total this fall is 2.3 percent over the 1978 official enrollment of 43,100. The increase in first-time freshmen is 7.87, a 6.4 percent increase compared to last year.

The UT board of regents in 1969 placed a limit of 5,500 on first-time freshmen and 5,200 on first-

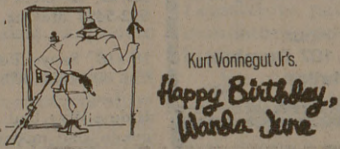
time transfer students. David Hershey, UT admissions director, said this was the first time the university had topped either one of the restraints.

UT President Peter Flawn, however, said he did not plan to institute any enrollment restrictions at the largest university in the South.

"I'm not planning on making any recommendation to the board to control enrollment in that way," Flawn said. "You know my general feeling is that the best way to control enrollment is through academic standards of performance."

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY THEATRE ARTS

PRESENTS



Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, WANDA JUNE

Crazily rewarding — deliciously anti-machismo — a droll comedy about a modern-day Ulysses who comes home to find his kind of heroism is out of style.

Acting gives Vonnegut play funny, touching moments

By LAURA
HERTENBERGER
Battalion Reporter

The Theater Arts Department's production of Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s play "Happy Birthday Wanda June" is fun, but not necessarily for the whole family.

The contemporary dramatic comedy about modern day heroes and a changing society is at times hilarious and at other times touching. Vonnegut fans will rejoice, and all theater-goers will enjoy an entertaining evening with the Ryans.

The story concerns the great white hunter Harold Ryan, played by James Hall, who returns home after 10 years in the jungle. His wife Penelope Ryan (Debbie Frazee) has given up hope for his return, and is engaged to marry the peace-

loving Dr. Norbert Woodyly (Dean Sorrels).

Paul Ryan, the 14-year-old son (Jorge del Angel), worships the legend of his father but has a little trouble accepting the reality of the new head of the household. Conflict between the ideals of Harold and Norbert leads to a surprising ending.

The most likable characters of the play are Looseleaf Harper, a pilot who dropped an atom bomb on Nagasaki killing 74,000 people, and Seigfried von Konigswald, a German S.S. officer known as "the beast of Yugoslavia." Keith Barber and Dan Sullins deserve special recognition for their portrayals of these men.

Special effects of the play include two unusual doorbells. The front doorbell of the Ryan's apartment is the roar of a lion

and the back a hyena's laugh. Lighting changes shift the scene from the apartment to heaven for three short scenes.

The apartment is decorated with trophies of Harold's various hunting expeditions. The walls are hung with elk and tribal artifacts. The mantel sports a stuffed iguana and armadillo. A brown bear guards the door.

The dialogue of the play is peppered with obscenities which make the play a bit much for young children. If the play were a movie it would be rated PG.

The story is typically Vonnegut. Its references to life after death and what it's really like in heaven may be considered a bit irreverent by some but do show an interesting interpretation of one man's ideas about paradise. This production makes a great play even better.

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