

# Closing on weekends may save \$100,000

By TERRY DURAN  
Campus Reporter

Closing Duncan Dining Hall on weekends may save the Texas A&M University Food Services Department over \$100,000 this semester.

Lloyd H. Smith, assistant director of food services, said seven-day board plan students who normally eat at Duncan will eat at the Commons cafeteria on weekends this semester.

"If you can do it all in one spot, of course it's going to cost less," Smith said. He said

savings in labor and utilities may amount to as much as \$115,000.

This is the second time Duncan has been closed on weekends. The dining hall was closed on weekends last spring but reopened in the fall for business as usual. Duncan stays open weekends in the fall because more Duncan boarders are on campus then due to football season.

"We're looking for everything we can find to save money," Smith said. He said costs rose 16 percent from September 1978 to September 1979, but the board plan

price only went up 5 percent.

Last fall, 4,865 students paid \$448.35 each for the five-day board plan; 3,928 seven-day boarders paid \$501.90 each.

The department is also trying to save by minimizing plate waste — the amount of edible food left when a student puts up his tray.

The department does this by randomly checking plates in the dining halls two or three times within a five-week menu cycle. After weighing the edible portion left, they compare the waste with the number of peo-

ple fed that day and the amount of food prepared.

This technique particularly helps in Duncan, where the Corps of Cadets eats breakfast and supper "family style" on weekdays.

"Family style" means food is brought to the eight-seat tables in large servings and everyone helps himself.

When the food staff notices a lot of one particular food getting left, one solution may be to serve smaller portions to each table.

Last fall, Commons' 2,175 boarders wasted an average of \$330.45 worth of food daily, for a semester total of \$28,894.06. Duncan's 2,278 diners left food amounting to \$358.90 per day, totaling \$32,664.63 for the semester. Sbsa, with 4,340 boarders, sent an average of \$509.35 to the trash can daily, for a total of \$44,247.46.

In all, over \$105,000 worth of food was hauled away in the trash trucks last semester. Smith estimates the average student leaves about 7 cents worth of food on his tray at each meal.

The department itself is doing its fair share to save money and energy, Smith said. He said the department is forming an energy committee with representatives from the kitchen and dining areas of each facility.

"Management can always preach," he said, "but we hope that peer pressure will have more effect than our sermons."

Smith said the cost of the board plan will have to go up again next fall, although he doesn't know just how much yet.

## THE BATTALION

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### Freshman dies when hit by car

By LOUIE ARTHUR  
City Staff

One Texas A&M University student was killed and another was seriously injured Monday when a car went out of control at Texas Avenue and Krenek Tap Road.

Steve Sikora, a freshman transfer student from Crosby, Texas, died Monday evening at St. Joseph Hospital from multiple internal injuries, a hospital spokesman said.

Robert O. Brooks, a junior civil engineering major, was transported by helicopter from St. Joseph Hospital to Methodist Hospital in Houston Monday afternoon. Although there is no official word as yet about the extent of Brooks' injuries, a hospital administrator said, "He's not in very good condition."

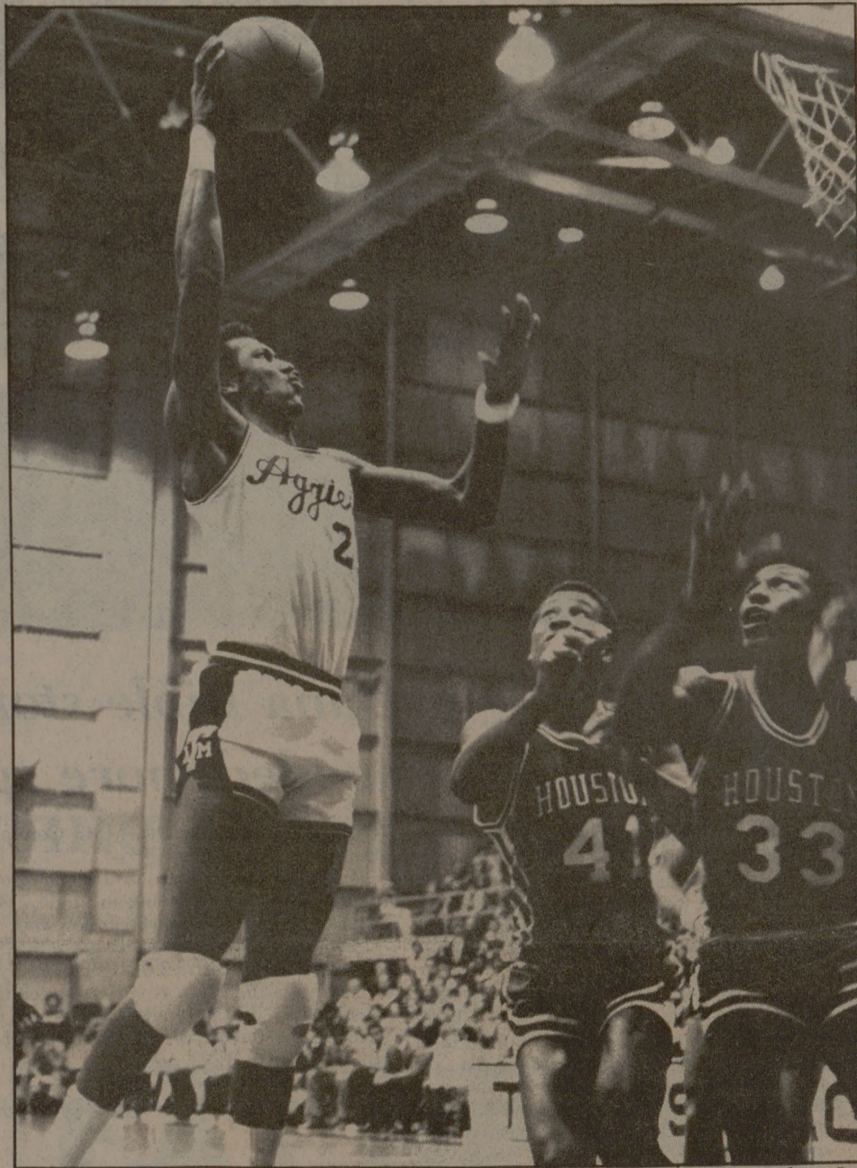
College Station Police Sgt. Linda Andrews, who is investigating the case, said the accident occurred at 2 p.m. Monday when a car carrying two Texas A&M students ran off the road while travelling north on Texas Avenue, 120 feet south of Krenek Tap Road. The intersection, a Texas A&M shuttlebus stop, is about a mile south of the university.

Andrews said the car then became airborne, hitting Sikora while he was standing at the shuttlebus stop. The car then hit Brooks' vehicle, as Brooks waited to turn onto Texas Avenue.

Until her investigation of the accident is completed, Andrews said, no charges will be filed.

The driver and the occupant of the car that hit Sikora were treated and released from St. Joseph, hospital sources said.

Sikora's body will be moved to Crosby Tuesday for burial.



Staff photo by Lee Roy Leschper, Jr.



Photo by Brian Blalock

### An action and a reaction

Aggie center Rudy Woods looks for two of his career-high 31 points during Monday night's 92-79 victory over the Houston Cougars. Fans weren't shy in expressing their feelings about

the Aggies extending their winning streak to eight games and continuing to lead the Southwest Conference. Please see related story on page 8.

## Regents discuss new building, purchase of plane

By DEBBIE NELSON  
Campus Staff

The Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System discussed the funding and construction of new engineering and medical sciences buildings, the purchase of an eight-passenger airplane, and the renovation of roofs and windows on campus buildings at their bimonthly meeting Monday.

Action discussed Monday will be voted on at Tuesday's board meeting.

The new engineering building, to be completed in Sept. 1981, has a low-bid estimate of \$13,678,000. The laboratory-

research facility will run parallel to Bizzell Street, with connections to McNew Engineering Lab and the Hydromechanics Lab.

A spokesman for Bernard Johnson, Inc., an architecture firm from Houston, said the three-story Engineering Laboratory Center will have moveable lab facilities and walls in order to gain greater flexibility.

A 20-ton crane in the center section of the building will be used for experiments. The entire third floor will hold research support offices.

The consideration of bids for the new Medical Sciences Building came under de-

bate by the board. The lowest bid, \$14,292,000, was recommended by the planners. However, this bid left out several facilities which other board members deemed important.

Some of the regents argued that the facilities in question (the Family Community Medicine section, several labs and environmental rooms) were eliminated to hold the building within the budget, because additional funds were not available. Other board members said the facilities will be needed by the time the building is completed two years from now, so the sections should be added now to avoid added costs

due to inflation.

Later in the day, regent H. C. Bell reported that adequate funding had been found for the labs and family medicine section in question. Members agreed the facilities should be added to the budgeting of the building.

### Almanac

United Press International

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 29, the 29th day of 1980 with 337 to follow.

The moon is moving toward its full phase.

English-American freedom crusader Thomas Paine was born Jan. 29, 1737.

On this date in history:

In 1861, Kansas became the 34th state.

In 1900, eight baseball teams were organized as the American League. They were Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

In 1936, Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Babe Ruth and Honus Wagner became the first five men elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Also on this date in 1979, President Carter commuted Patricia Hearst's seven-year bank robbery prison sentence to two years, opening the way for her to leave prison and get married in February.

A thought for the day: Early American freedom fighter Thomas Paine said, "A bad cause will ever be supported by bad means and bad men."

### Man bitten

A man called the Battalion Monday and said that he had been bitten by a dog in the Corps dorm — Heldenfels building area. The man is scheduled to undergo a painful series of rabies shots unless it can be determined that the dog is not rabid. The man is asking that the owner of the dog, named "Eva," call him at 845-7874 as soon as possible.

### Moving news

Students who have moved or changed their mailing address should complete an address change card in the records section of Heaton Hall, room 112. Both local and permanent addresses should be accurate.

Also discussed was the purchase of a 1973 Beechcraft KingAir A100 for \$625,000. Presently, the University owns three airplanes, two of which are KingAir comparable to the new airplane. The other plane, a Navajo, will probably be sold for about \$625,000, Texas A&M University President Jarvis Miller said.

Pilots will be interchangeable between aircraft when all three airplanes are the same type. Now, pilots can't easily adjust from the Navajo to the Beechcraft airplanes.

Cost of fuel for the new airplane will be 10 percent over the two Beechcraft KingAir

now owned, but the new craft seats eight passengers and the old ones seat six.

Another subject under discussion was urethane foam roofing on four dormitories, the Coke Building, the Physical Plant Office, the Old Engineering Building, and four warehouses.

Total costs for the projects is \$300,361. Proposed replacement of existing windows on Hotard Hall, Bizzell Hall, and Ferrier Hall with anodized aluminum windows will cost an estimated \$128,265.

The Board of Regents will formally accept or reject these items at today's meeting.

## Got the income tax blues? Take some tips from IRS

By NANCY ANDERSEN  
City Staff

By now nearly everyone has received it. Most are probably stuffed in a desk drawer or under a pile of magazines where they will remain until April 14.

"It" is the federal income tax form and instructions booklet, courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service. Most college students use Short Form 1040A, for anyone reporting an individual income of \$20,000 or less or a joint income of \$40,000 or less.

The IRS has compiled a list of helpful hints to make filing a return easy and painless.

One — Carefully read the instructions. This will save time and should answer any questions a taxpayer might have. According to an IRS press release, the service has been working hard the first few years to make the instructions less technical and easier to read and understand.

Starting on page seven of the booklet are detailed instructions with examples, beginning with how to fill in the name, address and Social Security number and ending with how to complete the return.

Two — Review the form carefully. The IRS release states that many people can do their own returns if they go carefully, line by line, through the form. Skipping a line can be a costly mistake, according to the release.

Three — Check back over basics. Make sure the information is correct and check for mathematical errors.

Four — Check attachments. Be sure the W-2 forms are stapled in the correct place on the front of the form.

According to Taxpayer Information Service worker Kelly Casper, most taxpayers think employers are required to mail out W-2 forms. However, the law only requires employers to make the forms available to employees by Jan. 31. If a W-2 form is received after filing the return, an amended return will be required.

Five — Sign the return. Without a signature a return is not considered to be properly filed and must be returned to the taxpayer to be signed. This will slow down the refund process, which Casper said takes anywhere from five to seven weeks, depending on how it is filed.

Six — Use the peel-off label and the coded envelope. Both are designed to speed up processing. If corrections are necessary on the address label, they may be written right on it. If the Social Security number is wrong, contact the IRS. Do not attach the label until completing the form — it only peels off once.

For those people with questions not answered in the instructions, help is available by calling toll free the Taxpayers Service Center in Dallas. The center serves

Texas and New Mexico; staffers take a six-week training course on tax qualifications, filing requirements and the deduction technicalities, Casper said.

The number is 1-800-492-4830 and the hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The release stated that the best time to call is late Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

"There is just one call after another during filing season," Casper said.

Locally, Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honor and professional society, will operate a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance booth in the Memorial Student Center, Niles Wood, president of the society, said the VITA program is set up by the IRS and is tentatively planned for the last two weeks in March from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For those who would rather not figure their income taxes there are two options. The first is to let the IRS do the return. Just fill out the form to line 12a, sign and date the return and attach the W-2 forms.

The other is to pay someone else to do the return. Taxpayers are advised to make sure the paid preparer is reputable. The ultimate responsibility for a return is primarily on the person signing it, not the preparer.

Finally, make sure the return is in the mail by midnight April 15.