

Local

What's Up

TUESDAY

BIOCHEMISTRY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder.
TYLER HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 109 Military Sciences.
STUDENT AGGIE CLUB: Will meet at 8 p.m. in the Letterman's Lounge, G. Rollie White Coliseum.
MANAGEMENT SOCIETY: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 105 Harrington.
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS: The club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 108 Harrington.
ACRONYMY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:15 p.m. in 103 Soil and Crop Sciences-Entomology Center.
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 200 Heldefelns.
MSC MBA/LAW DAY COMMITTEE: Will meet at 7 p.m. in the MSC Council Conference Room, 216 MSC.
RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 204 Harrington.
BONFIRE CUTTING CLASS: Will begin at 5 p.m. in the Animal Husbandry Pavilion. A card will be required at the cutting site.
SADDLE & SIRLOIN CLUB: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 118 Kleberg.
WILDLIFE BIOLOGY ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 321 Physics.
RECREATION AND PARKS: The club will meet at 7 p.m. in 140A MSC.
SILVER TAPS: The ceremony will begin at 10:30 p.m. in front of the Academic Bldg. The last shuttle bus will run at 11 p.m.
BIOCHEMISTRY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder.
CORPUS CHRISTI AREA HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 200 Harrington.
CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The Nursing Home committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center and a Bible study will be held at 9 p.m. in Corps Area Lounge E.
OFF-CAMPUS AGGIES: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White.
PHI THETA KAPPA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: Will meet to elect officers at 7 p.m. in 104A Zachry.
HANG GLIDING CLUB: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 701 Rudder.

WEDNESDAY

TEXAS A&M PARACHUTE CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 110 Military Sciences.
HILLEL CLUB: Will meet for country-western dancing at 6:30 p.m. in the Hillel Jewish Student Center.
SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 103 Zachry.
PROFESSIONAL CAREER PLANNING IN AGRICULTURE DAY: Will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 201 MSC.
EUROPE CLUB: Will meet at 8:30 p.m. at Mr. Gatti's in College Station.
SOCIOLOGY CLUB: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 104 Bolton.
RUSSIAN CLUB: Will meet to elect officers at 7 p.m. in 704A Rudder.
STUDENTS FOR ED CLARK: Will meet at 8 p.m. in 203 Harrington.
PRE-VET SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 321 Physics.
CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The Welcoming committee will meet at 6 p.m. at 4300 F Boyett, and the Newman Club and the foreign students will meet at 7:30 p.m., both at St. Mary's Student Center.
"WOODSTOCK": Features performances by The Who, Joan Baez, Jimi Hendrix, Santana and Arlo Guthrie. The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.
BONFIRE CUTTING CLASS: Will begin at 5 p.m. at the Animal Husbandry Pavilion. A card will be required at the cutting site.
TAMU SPORTS CAR CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 202 Francis.

Rain-making studied at A&M

Seeding method stimulates cloud reaction, increases crop productivity

By MARCY BOYCE
Battalion Staff

Weather across most of the Southwest last summer was one big re-run — sunny, hot and no rain.

Few farmers escaped substantial losses due to the 100-plus degree temperatures that had become the norm for the heat wave. Long before any county was ever declared a federal disaster area, you can bet farmers were wishing they had some magical seed or a rain-making recipe to bring long-awaited relief to their wilting crops.

Dr. James Scoggins, head of the meteorology department at Texas A&M University, has such a recipe, and for the past five years has been researching weather modification on the High Plains of West Texas in Big Spring.

As part of the High Plains Cooperative Experiment (HIPLEX) research team, Scoggins has been trying to learn how to increase rainfall by flying into clouds at altitudes close to 20,000 feet and sprinkling them with silver iodide and carbon dioxide (dry ice) particles, a process called seeding. Silver iodide and carbon dioxide are the two most common agents used for seeding.

The two chemicals cause cloud particles to freeze. This in turn

causes smaller particles to evaporate, Scoggins said. Moisture condenses on the ice particles and as they grow, gravity pulls them down, creating a rain shower.

"If we can make it rain even a half inch at the right time during the growth of a crop, we can increase productivity by several million dollars," he said.

But, reassuring those who fear weather modification could encroach a little too far upon mother nature's domain, the HIPLEX scientific adviser said the researchers are not anticipating a year-round program.

"We're not looking to alter total rainfall very much ... but just at the time when crops need it so badly and a little bit of rain could make a big difference in productivity. It's a matter of seeding on a few select occasions during growing season," Scoggins said.

But at its present stage, he said, HIPLEX is not yet operative. It is a research effort by the U.S. Department of Interior, the State of Texas Department of Water Resources, the Water and Power Resources Service in Denver, the Water District in Big Spring, Texas A&M, Texas Tech University, the Colorado International Corp. and the National Center

for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo.

At the beginning, Scoggins said, the research team expected it to take 10 years to prove or disprove that clouds could be altered effectively. Five years later and half way to the end, he said the hypothesis is definitely provable.

"We now know we can alter the properties of clouds. We now know what makes some clouds form and others not."

Scoggins said some clouds naturally produce rain, so seeding would have no effect on them. Others will not produce rain under any circumstances, seeded or not.

The purpose of HIPLEX's present research, then, is to identify that small percentage of clouds which would produce rain only if seeded, to seed them and make them grow to increase rainfall — a "big step," Scoggins said. And, he said, Texas A&M students have played a particularly vital role in this stage of the research.

HIPLEX has been a "highly productive program in terms of student participation," Scoggins said, "and they've made a tremendous contribution."

Last year 19 students from at least

eight different departments were hired to participate in the program.

After a fairly extensive program on campus, the students were on location for two months in Big Spring. They were primarily responsible for collecting data of atmospheric conditions, processing the data and making forecasts used to determine suitable seeding conditions.

They then returned to the University to further analyze the data they obtained while in the field, to conclude why clouds formed, why they didn't and what possible effects seeding might have had on them.

In addition to the students, the public also has been supportive of the research effort, Scoggins said.

"We've had almost no adverse reactions; rather the opposite. We've had good public support for what we're doing because people see its potential," he said.

Weather modification research, although relatively new to the University, has been around since 1947. It is being used regularly to increase the snow pack over the Sierra Mountains and to dissipate cold fogs over airports in Utah and Alaska.

As for HIPLEX's research, Scoggins said, "There is no question that it will be used. It's only a matter of time."

Off-Campus Ags making bonfire plans

Off-Campus Aggies will have a bonfire slide show tonight at 6:30 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White Coliseum.

"The structure, the cutting site, the function of redpots, and other things about bonfire will be explained," Paula Sorrells, OCA president, said.

Bonfire redpots will be in charge of the presentation that is designed to give off-campus students a chance to take part in this year's bonfire activities, Sorrells said.

Interested students can sign up after the presentation.



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Occupancy undercount survey on

Department of Urban and Regional Planning students, under the supervision of Professor James Gardner and in cooperation with the College Station Planning Department, will conduct an occupancy survey of the Village Green, Barcelona, and Plantation Oaks apartment complexes.

The purpose of the survey is to compare the results with those of the 1980 census to see if an undercount of the College Station population occurred in these areas.

Surveyors will be around apartment complexes today through Oct. 17.

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GENERAL MEETING
7:30 P.M.

TUES., OCT. 7
601 RUDDER

BE ON TOP OF A&M ATHLETICS

JOIN THE

STUDENT AGGIE CLUB

General Meeting

Tuesday, October 7 — 8:00 p.m.

Letterman's Lounge — G. Rollie White Coliseum

SPEAKER: ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MARVIN TATE

Everyone Welcome

