

Local/State

Don't sneeze at trees

United Press International
DALLAS — If you're the kind who likes to head for the woods to cut down a Christmas tree, show some discretion. Your nose will appreciate it.

Allergist Dr. Timothy Sullivan, head of the allergy division at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, said the problem is especially likely to hit the back-to-nature crowd who hunt out and cut down their own trees.

Sullivan said next to ragweed, mountain cedar pollen is the most common cause of pollen-induced allergic reactions in the Southwest.

The female mountain cedar is pollen-free, but the male mountain cedar at the peak of pollination can produce the classic hay fever symptoms: redness, itching, burning and watering of the eyes and most often a running nose.

Sullivan said most people are attracted to the female mountain cedar, which is usually greener than the pollinating male and has blue berries.

He advises shying away from cedars that have a brown cast since the pollen-producing agents in the male trees turn from green to brown as the pollen matures.

Parking meeting set today

By **RITCHIE PRIDY**
Battalion Staff

Off-Campus Aggies representatives will meet with the Texas A&M University Traffic Panel today at 3:15 p.m. to keep the only internal campus parking lot available for off-campus students.

Several dorm residents have asked that Lot 9, located west of Law Hall on Old Main Drive, be made into a dorm parking lot to allow for more parking and safer surroundings for on-campus students.

Paula Sorrells, president of OCA, said Tuesday that with nearly two-thirds of the A&M student body living off campus there is a need for more on-campus parking.

"Quite a few of us have to drive cars," Sorrells said. "The dorm residents already have access (to campus), we need the parking."

While the shuttle buses serve many off-campus students, not all have passes, Sorrells said.

Phil Suter, OCA vice-president for Special Committees, said: "The majority of students on campus don't have to use their cars as much as off-campus students. OCA needs the space."

Lot 9 is the only remaining parking lot located near the center of campus available for use by off-campus students. Earlier in the semester another OCA parking lot was changed to a dorm lot.

Students must display a blue parking sticker to park in Lot 9.

Students wishing to voice their opinion on the matter are encouraged to attend the meeting today at 3:15 in 139 MSC.

What's Up

WEDNESDAY

CARIBBEAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

OMEGA PHI ALPHA: Registration for the Muscular Dystrophy Marathon Dance is open. More information is available in 216 MSC.

TEXAS STUDENT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: Will have a Christmas party at 11 a.m. in 104 Harrington.

"THE WOMEN": An all-female cast interprets the play about mischief among the idle, rich and spoiled matrons of New York. The feature will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees from 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

NURSING SOCIETY MEETING: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Physics.

HILLEL CLUB: Will have a party at 8 p.m. at the club president's apartment.

MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 350 MSC.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The Newman club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center.

TAMU SPORTS CAR CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 202 Francis.

THURSDAY

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 207 Harrington.

MSC HOSPITALITY FASHION BOARD: Will sponsor a "Holiday Fashion Show" at 7 p.m. in the MSC Ballroom. Admission is 50 cents.

MARKETING SOCIETY: Will have a party at 7 p.m. in Q-Hut A.

A&M NOON BIBLE STUDY: Will meet at 12:30 p.m. in 113 Biological Sciences.

TAMU METAPHYSICAL SOCIETY LECTURE: "Christmas — The Birth of Christ in the Soul of Man" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. in the All Faiths Chapel.

CLASS OF '82: Will meet at 8 p.m. in 401 Rudder. The class will be taken at 7 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees from 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and from 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

"GODSPELL": This is an updated passion play from the gospel according to St. Matthew in which the disciples and their wander over New York. The parables and proverbs unfold in a different manner. The feature will be shown at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will meet for Bible study at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center. A group will meet in MSC Main Lounge before the showing of Godspell and a mass will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the All Faiths Chapel.

FINANCE ASSOCIATION: Will have their fall banquet at 6 p.m. Beef & Brew. The Aggeland picture will be taken at 8:30 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.

IMPERIALS: Will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Bryan Auditorium. Tickets are available at the MSC Box Office.

FRIDAY

PSYCHOLOGY LECTURE: David B. Cohen of University of Texas Austin will speak on "The Function of REM Dreaming" at 4 p.m. in 302 Rudder.

HILLEL CLUB: Will meet for Shabbat dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Chanukah services at 8 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Student Center.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The TAMU Chorus will perform a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

OASIS: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 701 Rudder.

"AMERICAN GIGOLO": Richard Gere is Julian Kay, a man who earns a living pleasing women — such as senator's wife, Liza Hutton. The feature will be shown at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

"WHEN A STRANGER CALLS": A babysitter gets a strange call which asks "Have you checked the children?" The police trace call and find it's coming from within the house. The feature will be shown at midnight in Rudder Theater.

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Banks charge monthly fees

Free checking disappearing

United Press International
NEW YORK — Consumers soon may find free checking relegated to the realm of nostalgia as more and more of the nation's banks, beset with soaring costs, raise their checking fees.

Bank customers throughout the country, especially those with small balances, can expect to pay monthly service fees of as much as \$6 on their checking accounts within the next year, says bank pricing expert Alex Sheshunoff.

"There definitely is a trend away from free checking," said Sheshunoff, who heads a bank consulting and research firm bearing his name in Austin, Texas.

"I would guess the number of banks offering free checking will drop to 5 percent within two years. The thinking is that the person who

uses the service should pay for it," he said.

Sheshunoff's figures show some 18.5 percent of the nation's 14,000-odd banks offered free checking regardless of balance size in the fall of 1979. That number is 6 percent lower than in 1978, according to the American Banking Association.

"On the high side, where three years ago a customer would pay a \$3 monthly service charge for a balance under \$100, now he pays \$5 or \$6 for accounts of less than \$200," said Sheshunoff.

Banking experts say the trend away from free checking will escalate as inflation continues unabated and banks are forced to compete with savings and loan associations by offering costly interest bearing checking accounts.

Checking charges weigh most

heavily on customers with bal-

ances, decreasing as the inflation on account exceed certain official levels, and usually discontinue altogether at a given minimum.

In a bid to encourage full-service banking among its customers, New York's Citibank recently offered free checking to depositors with combined checking and savings balances of at least \$1,500, and to customers keeping balances with the bank of \$500 or more.

"We want to service our customers, the ones bearing the burden. They shouldn't have to subsidize smaller customers," said Pamela Flaherty, vice president and director of marketing in New York City for Citibank. "We want to service our customers, the ones bearing the burden. They shouldn't have to subsidize smaller customers."

Big city banks do not necessarily levy the highest charges, according to Sheshunoff. In areas like Little Rock smaller banks are leading the way, he said, with charging monthly service fees as high as \$7.

Banks some years ago began marketing experts told them the way to increase their customer base so that they could then sell into money-making areas.

But after the 1973-1974 inflation sent the costs of services sky-high and net worth shrank as customers took money out of savings accounts and put them into higher-yield market instruments.

It costs a bank today \$80 a month to handle a checking account compared with perhaps \$25 in the early 1970s, according to Walters, a senior vice president at Alex Sheshunoff.

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Hubert Beck, Pastor

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Oh, How Joyfully

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

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Away in a Manger

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Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Silent Night

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Joy to the World

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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