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The Weather

Today	Tomorrow
High 75	High 68
Low 48	Low 53
Chance of rain . . 30%	Chance of rain . . 30%

Missing key may be link

By BERNIE FETTE
Battalion Staff

Recent burglaries in the Neeley Hall dorm have amounted to the loss of more than \$1,500 worth of jewelry and cash and a missing pass key is being linked to the events.

Hadley Hoff, head resident of Neeley and Hobby Halls, said three rooms were burglarized Friday, the night of the MSC All Night Fair, and one more theft was noticed Monday night. She said the pass key was probably used because the rooms were locked before and re-locked after the burglaries.

The pass key was discovered missing Thursday, she said.

Hoff said the residents of the hall were told to remove their class schedules from their doors and to tell no one what times of the day they would be gone from their rooms for the remainder

of this week.

Although there is a chance new locks will be installed on all the doors, Hoff said she won't know until later this week if that will be done. "We're also trying to monitor the halls," she said.

The number of thefts on campus reported from the beginning of the fall semester until the end of January is substantially higher than during the same period last year.

Lt. Josie Hoelscher of the University Police Department said the increase is due to a greater awareness of the crimes.

"It used to be that more were just not reported," said Hoelscher, who has been in charge of investigations for the University Police since last July.

"They either didn't take the time to

report it or just thought that if something was stolen, it was gone and nothing could be done about it," she said. "Now more of them are being reported."

There have been 494 thefts and burglaries reported so far this school year, a 27 percent increase over last year's count of 388, according to a summary compiled early in February by University Police.

The biggest theft problem being faced now involves billfolds and purses left unattended by students in locker rooms and restrooms, Hoelscher said.

She said people who leave their billfolds and purses on shelves in restrooms such as the ones in the Memorial Student Center are taking unnecessary risks and with a little more attention they could take an active role in reduc-

ing the amount of thefts.

In a related area, she said that un-locked bicycles are another invitation to theft.

"Some people leave their bikes un-locked because they're just going inside somewhere for a few minutes," Hoelscher said. And that gives a potential thief more than enough time to make off with the bicycle.

In an effort to reduce the amount of thefts and burglaries, Hoelscher said many of the officers and investigators make presentations on crime prevention. One such seminar was conducted last semester for the residents of Briggs Hall.

But, Hoelscher said, students can also help fight the problem by doing such things as locking dorm room doors and reporting any suspicious activity to the University Police.

Dorm thefts top \$1,500

Raintree residents to file suit

By BELINDA MCCOY
Battalion Staff

A group of residents from the Raintree subdivision of College Station will file suit today against the College Station City Council for a decision it made to rezone a 53-acre tract of land near the subdivision, said C. David Stasny, the attorney representing the group.

Citizens for Responsible Government, the group formed to oppose the rezoning, will seek a writ of mandamus (court order) to force a referendum on the rezoning of the land, said Robert C. Webb, chairman.

However, there will probably be a delay in court action on the suit, said Stasny.

"There has been a snag that might cause a delay," Stasny said. "The City Attorney has been instructed not accept

service of citation for the council."

This means that the papers informing the individual members of the council that a suit has been filed against them cannot be served by the city attorney's office. Instead, a sheriff's deputy "or someone" will have to serve the papers, causing "possibly a long delay" in court action, said Stasny.

A Jan. 8 decision by the council rezoned the land near the Highway 6 bypass from residential and agricultural-open to industrial. Westinghouse Electric Corp. later announced that it plans to buy that land.

The citizens group later filed a petition requesting a referendum election to repeal the rezoning decision, and presented the petition to the council Thursday night. The council denied the petition upon the advice of City Attor-

ney Lowell Denton.

Denton told the council that the election would be void, since the city charter does not provide for referendum elections on rezoning issues.

Mayor Gary Halter later said that suit action by the group is a political move.

"It can't be a legal move since they don't have any legal recourse. They can't go back to the previous zoning," said Halter. "It's simply a self-interest political group. . . I don't know how else to define it, except as a political move."

In response, Webb maintained the group's action is not political.

"In fact, right now it's a legal move," he said.

Webb also said that the citizens' group will become involved in campaigns in the upcoming municipal elec-

tion in which two city councilmen — Larry Ringer and Roy Kelly — will face re-election.

The group's filing suit for a writ of mandamus for a referendum election has nothing to do with its possible support of candidates opposing the incumbent councilmen, said Webb.

"They're two different things," he said.

Whether the group wins the suit or not, Webb said, the group will still band together in its support of candidates.

"We are planning to lend support to the candidates we feel will bring back to the city a bit more response from citizen input," said Webb. "We are going to look very carefully at the candidates. Certainly the ones who were instrumental in this thing will not have our unfailing support."

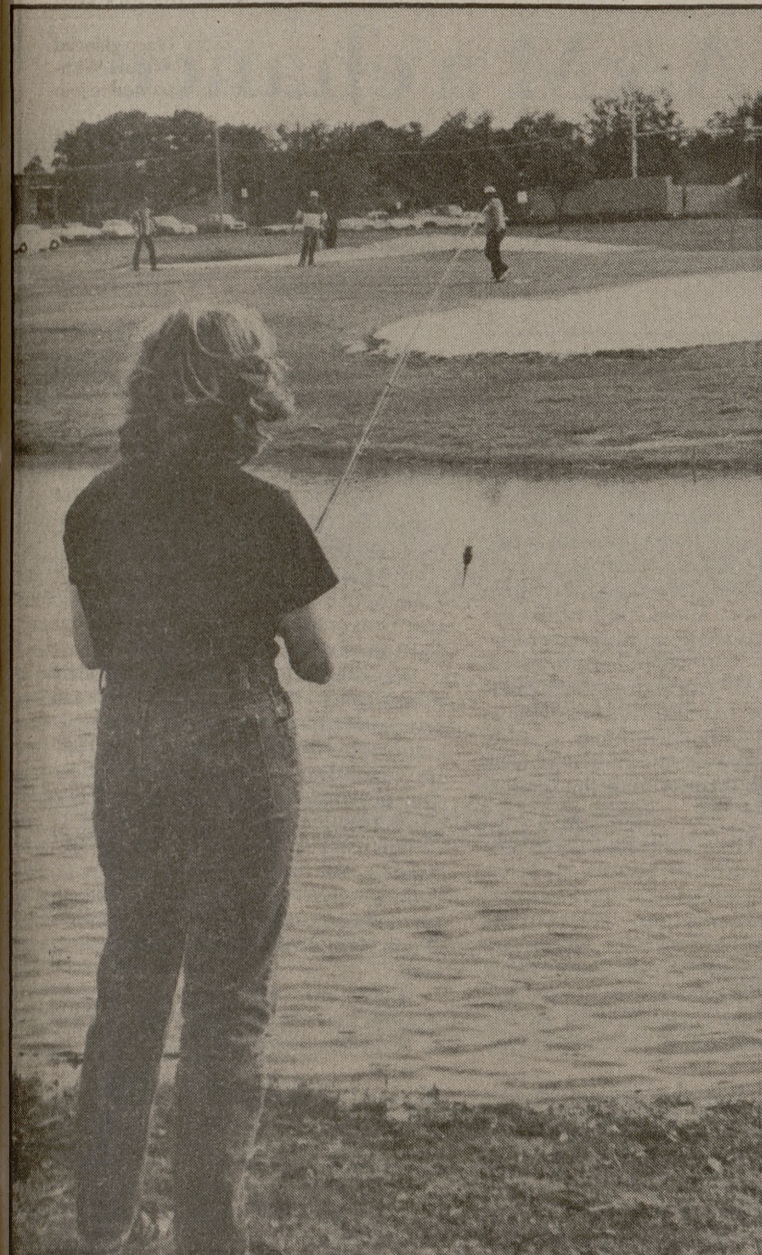


Photo by Kathleen Wakefield

Strange catch

Fishing is not always the relaxing sport some people believe it to be. After this picture was taken, Sherry Evans, junior journalism major, was hit in the leg by a UFG (unidentified flying golfball) while practicing casting in a pond on the Texas A&M University golf course.

Children's deaths mar Mardi Gras

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — The glittering Mardi Gras floats eagerly awaited by more than a million screaming revelers meant death to two small children, shoved under the wheels by surging Carnival mobs.

The youngsters died Tuesday in separate but similar accidents in the final, raucous hours before today's onset of Lent, making this year's Mardi Gras the most tragic in recent history.

The children were pushed under floats by rowdy celebrants scrambling for virtually worthless plastic and aluminum trinkets. Sunday night, three people were injured by gunfire that came, police said, from a detective scuffling with a band chaperone.

The coroner's office said Margaret McKenzie, 2, of New Orleans, was with her father when she was pushed under a float at the disbanding point of the Zulu parade. She was pronounced dead at Charity Hospital.

"He dropped the baby," said horrified bystander Louella Givens. "She fell under the float and the float rolled over her head."

A hospital spokesman said a second child, Christian Lambert, 8, of Jefferson Parish, was knocked off a ladder by a

crowd fighting for favors tossed by riders in the Elks Krewe of Orleanians parade.

Each year, spectators nail boxes to the tops of ladders so children will get an unobstructed view of the festivities. As people pushed forward for a handful of trinkets Tuesday, the Lambert ladder toppled and Christian fell under the float wheels.

Parade after parade snaked through the mobs of people — many disguised in masks and outrageous costumes — having one last fling before today's Lenten austerity in the "city that care forgot."

On Bourbon Street, the wall-to-wall crowd flowed beneath balconies packed with hotel guests tossing beads and aluminum doubloons to screaming spectators below.

The Rex parade, rolling for the 100th time since 1871, lost one of its most popular bands because of Sunday's bizarre shooting incident.

The St. Augustine High School marching band, a blaring all-black unit from New Orleans that shattered the color barrier when it marched for the first time in 1967, voted to bow out because one of its members was shot in the weekend Bacchus parade.

Senate cleans house on old bills tonight

Cleaning out the legislative closet will be the order of business at tonight's student senate meeting at 7:30 in 204 Harrington.

Ten of 12 bills listed under old business will probably be reported out of committee for consideration by the full senate, including:

— A bill to request changes in basketball ticket distribution procedures.

— Two bills asking changes in bicycle and motor traffic regulations and policies.

— A proposed alternative to current on-campus housing policies.

— Proposed changes in campus parking ticket policies.

— A proposed expansion and increase in support of the Learning Resource Center in Heldenfels Hall.

Bills appearing before the senate for the first time include:

— Recommendations from the fi-

nance committee on student service fee allocations which would entail a \$7 increase over current fees.

— A measure asking University officials to study the possibility of establishing an outdoor recreation facility.

— Endorsements of user fees for students receiving prescriptions, x-rays and similar items from the A. P. Beutel Health Center and for students participating in intramural sports.

— A recommendation for the building of an addition to the health center.

— A request for extension of Q-drop deadlines for graduate students.

— A request for official University recognition of off-campus fraternities and sororities.

A bill proposing recognition of fraternities and sororities has failed once before in the senate. Judicial Board Chairman Paul Bettencourt said Tuesday "there is no telling" what the reaction to another Greek-approval bill would be.

Language is no barrier to love

Couple conquers obstacles to wed

By LAURA YOUNG
Battalion Reporter

Jon met Ewa in Moscow, married her in Poland and brought her to Aggie land despite a massive ball of red tape — but they can't even speak each other's native language.

Now, that's true love.

Anyone who sees the grin on Jon Davis' lean face whenever he talks about his new bride would know that.

And that grin has gotten even bigger since Ewa was able to leave Poland and join her husband in College Station.

The couple, forced to live apart until the American Embassy in Poland approved Ewa's visa, was reunited in New York on Feb. 22. As a direct relative since she married Jon, Ewa was not under quota restrictions, but she was forced to remain in Poland for two months until the American Embassy approved her visa while her husband returned to College Station.

That was a long two months for Jon who "set up house" in Married-Student Housing and waited anxiously for Ewa to arrive.

Jon met Ewa (pronounced like Eva with a short 'e') and began a "love-at-first-sight" romance while both were studying at the Pushkin Institute in Moscow last February. The institute is a school for those who want to learn to teach the Russian language but are not native Russians.

"The first time I saw her I was standing at the bus stop waiting for the bus to come," Jon said. "I was looking at the bus, squinting because I don't see very well, and these two girls were laughing behind me because of the way I was squinting. I looked and I saw these girls and one of them was really kind of cute."

Jon is a Russian major at Texas A&M University and plans to graduate in May. Ewa has studied Russian in her native country of Poland. Although they both know Russian, neither can speak the other's native language.

"When I was first going out with her I'd carry a dictionary with me all the time," said Jon, who has since picked up a little Polish.

"We met in Moscow and then I told her I'd come see her in Poland. I don't think she really believed me."

True to his word, Jon went to visit Ewa and her family in Poland. He was there five months until they were married Dec. 1.

Jon is from Midland where his mother still lives on their small ranch.

After a three-week honeymoon at Ewa's parent's house, Jon left Poland to return to Texas where he began the spring semester at Texas A&M, while his bride awaited her visa approval in Poland.

The Polish government has been issuing a lot of passports, letting people get out of Poland," Jon said. "The U.S. Embassy was operating under a heavy load and they couldn't process her visa very fast," Jon said.

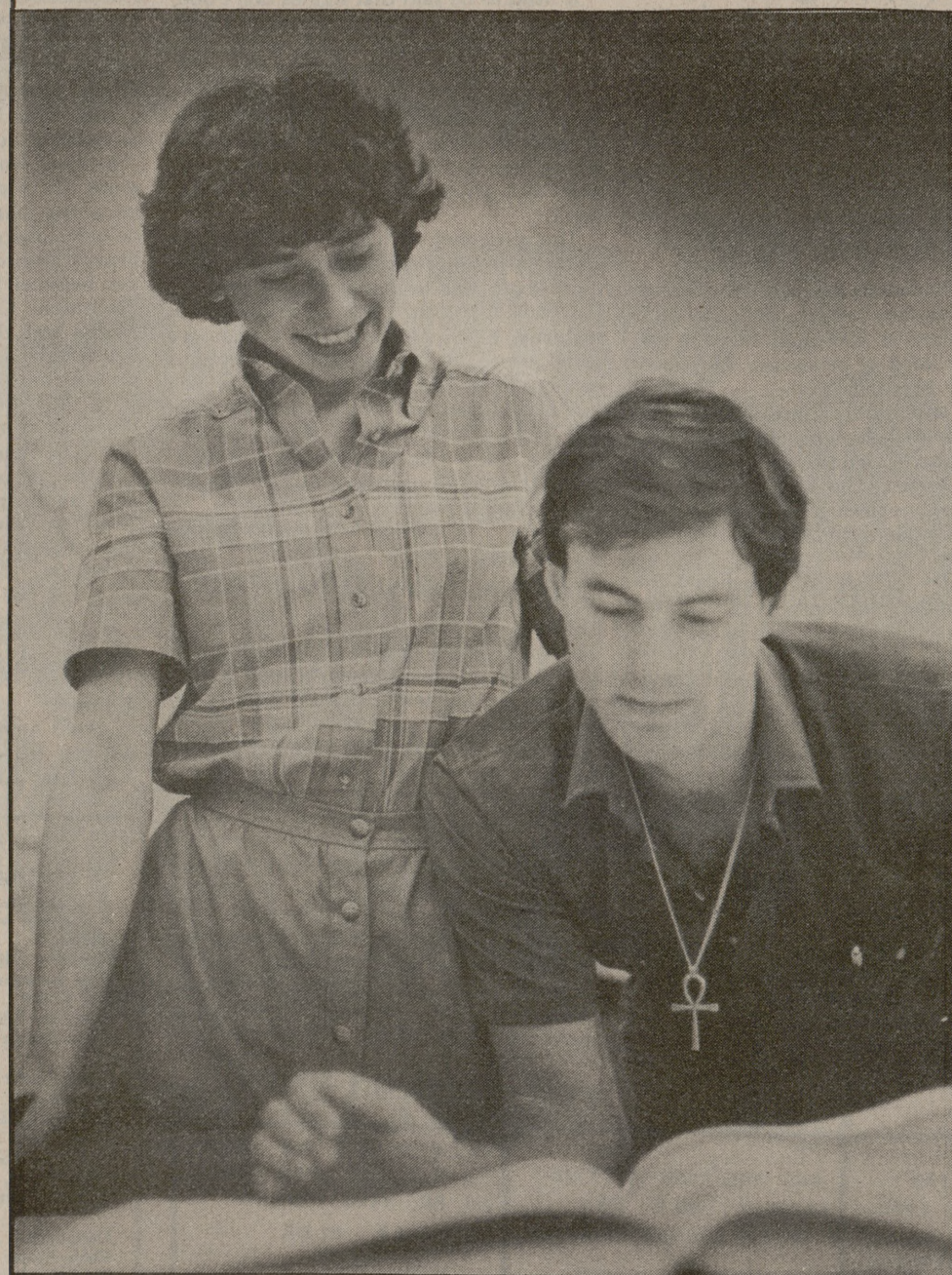
But, with what Jon describes as "a little help" from U.S. Senator John Tower's office, Ewa arrived in New York where she was greeted by her husband. They hadn't seen each other since Jon left Poland two months earlier.

The first stop back in the United States was Midland where Ewa met Jon's family. He then brought her to Aggie land.

"We really don't know where we're going to live when I graduate," Jon said.

When asked if they'd live in Poland, even with the political unrest there, Jon said yes.

"I think that it makes it a little more exciting, because, well, they're changing their system. It could become something really great."



Jon and Ewa Davis met in Moscow and went on to be married despite the fact that neither speaks the other's native tongue; they meet on common linguistic ground with Russian.