

Local

Plans to convert lounge will move radio station

By TED TREAT

Battalion Reporter
KANM-FM and many television viewers will need a new home for the B lounge, a television lounge between Crocker and Moore, is converted into North Area offices. North Area coordinator Tom Murray said if Texas A&M University receives adequate funding from the Legislature and the Office of Student Affairs, the North Area will be divided into two separate areas next fall. The new coordinator and his staff would use the B lounge for their offices.

Murray, who proposed the project, said, "The earliest we'll know is June and the latest is August." KANM, which broadcasts from the B lounge, would not be forced to move until the middle of August, regardless of when the University finds out about the funding," Murray said. "This gives them time to look at alternate sites."

KANM manager Todd Gross is doing just that, but the station has not yet found a new home. Mike Confoy, music director at KANM, said estimates on how long it will take the cable station to get back in good working order — if the station finds a new site — range from a week to a year.

"It took us from the fall of '79,

when we first got on-campus, until this semester to send out a good clear signal," Confoy said. "This puts us back at square one. It's really frustrating."

Despite the expected criticism from KANM if it's relocated, Murray said the proposed new area coordinator would provide welcome relief for his overburdened staff.

"This fall we will have approximately 4,700 students in the North Area," Murray said. "This would make us over twice as large as the other two housing areas. Administratively it makes sense." The other two housing areas — the Commons and Corps areas — both house approximately 2,200 students. Each of these areas has one area coordinator and two assistant area coordinators. The North Area has one area coordinator and four assistant area coordinators.

The B lounge was picked by Murray as a possible office location because he considered it the least useful of the four outside lounges in the North Area.

The three other lounges include the A-1 lounge, a television lounge by Hughes and Fowler; the A-3 lounge, a study lounge by Davis-Gary; and the C lounge, a study lounge between Schumacher and Walton.

Murray said he chose a television lounge for a possible office site because he felt it more important for students to be near a study area than to be near a television lounge.

Murray said that A-1, the other television lounge, was not picked as a possible site because he considered it the busiest of the two television lounges. A-1 houses the area Xerox machine and the quiz file, and is also the lounge that gets reserved the most, he said.

Wellborn Road to get turn lanes

By GWEN HAM

Battalion Reporter
Widening each side of Wellborn Road (FM 2154) by 5 feet should result in turn lanes by the end of the summer if weather permits.

Beginning 600 feet north of the Jersey Street intersection and continuing south to the FM 2818 intersection, turn lanes should help traffic flow faster and more safely, said Kirk Huff, inspector for the State Department of Highways.

"Work should last throughout the summer," Huff said. "We've been working two months already, setting up signs, moving and lowering traffic signal cables and putting in storm drains and gutters."

"It's going to take so long because, in order to let traffic on the road, we can only do one side at a time."

While construction is in progress on the 1.5-mile stretch, safety measures are being taken.

Two patrol cars are stationed in the area every day to enforce the 30 mph speed limit. A yellow center line was painted on the remaining road Tuesday, and a new four-way stop has been put up at the FM 2818 intersection where traffic had previously gone straight through.

L.W.B. Construction Co., which was awarded the job bid, will break up and remove the old road — called the salvage base — and level it. Then a level base will be applied along with slush lime, 6 inches of crushed stone, 8 inches of black asphalt and a final 1-inch layer of asphalt.

Working with 350-degree asphalt in the

summer isn't something to look forward to, Huff said. The new road will have 9 inches of asphalt where the old one had only 3 inches. This should make the new road last longer and stay smoother, he said.

Wellborn Road was chosen for the renovation because of traffic congestion, Huff said. The renovation is funded by both the Federal Highway Administration and state government.

"The county is allowed so much money for road work, and employees of the State Department of Highways travel with surveyors to decide what roads need work the most," Huff said.

"Wellborn Road just happened to be one of the ones chosen. One of the main reasons was the traffic problems created by congested traffic."

Howdy week to be before Parents' Day

By SHARON D. RENFROW

Battalion Reporter
All across the campus people are starting to call out "Howdy" to total strangers more frequently. And growing numbers of students have the traditional Aggie greeting emblazoned across their maroon T-shirts.

What's the big deal? The big deal is Howdy Week, April 20-24. Sponsored by the Traditions Council of Texas A&M University, Howdy Week gives students a chance to show their friendliness and learn about the traditions of the University.

"Our major concern as Traditions Council is to make students conscious of the traditions around Texas A&M," said Sabrina Seward, chairman of Howdy Week. "Howdy Week seemed the best and easiest way to present these traditions."

After Aggie Muster on April 21, the council will present a traditions program in Rudder Auditorium. Dr. Cliff Ransdell, retired assistant dean of engineering, will speak on the traditions and their origins. Following will be a film about Texas A&M and an appearance by the well leaders and Reveille IV.

Aggies can go to a Howdy dance April 23 at the Thirsty Turtle, 121 Walton Drive, College Station. Anyone wearing a "Howdy" T-shirt will get a special on beer.

"Howdy" T-shirts will be on sale during the entire week in the Memorial Student Center for \$4.50 each. "Howdy" buttons will also be on sale for 25 cents each.

During the week, students should be on the look-out for five mystery people. The 100th person to say "Howdy" to each of the mystery people will win a T-shirt and \$5. Since the identities of these people are a mystery, the idea of the game is for everyone to say "Howdy" to everyone.

Howdy Week is the first undertaking of the Traditions Council. The council was reorganized in Spring 1979 by the student services committee. For two years it was disbanded after the graduation of its active members, said Brad Smith, outgoing student body president.

Concern over the student enrollment increase and the lack of knowledge about Texas A&M traditions by those new students were the major reasons for the Traditions Council's rebirth, Smith said. The council plans to hold Howdy Week every semester from now on. This is the third semester it has been held.

During the spring semester, Howdy Week is set before Parents' Weekend, Seward said.

"Since there will be many visitors during the week, we want to have a friendly and warm atmosphere on campus," she said.

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