

Local

Crowded housing expected for fall

By BETH GIBSON
Battalion Reporter
Residents in the modular dorms on the Texas A&M University campus will again temporarily experience close-quarters, three-to-a-room living next fall, Dena Todd, coordinator of special services in the Department of Student Affairs, said Thursday.

"We always oversign people," Todd said. "In the beginning we have to put people in temporary quarters, based on a projected number of residents. Some people don't show up and don't tell us they're not coming."

Todd said the Housing Office has always had to deal with over-booked dorm students, putting them in study carrels or temporary housing.

"Then the modular dorms came along with those big rooms, allowing us to put three in a room," she said.

Todd said the third roommates will be moved to permanent spaces as soon as the Housing Office finds out who is coming and who is not.

About 3,200 room assignments

were sent out Tuesday, Todd said.

"If a student wants to reject a room assignment, we ask that he return a card (included in the assignment letter) within 15 days," she said. "This will let us know initially who is coming and who is not."

But, she said, students have until June 1 to turn down a room without losing their deposits.

"We have to have those figures as soon as possible," she said. "We can sign other people on if we know that we're going to have a large number of people rejecting rooms."

The 3,200 students assigned rooms came from a waiting list of about 4,500 students, Todd said.

Those on the waiting list who are not offered a room will be notified by letter, but their names will not be taken off the list, Todd said. As rooms become available up to the beginning of the semester, notices will be sent to these students, she said.

She said dorm spaces are awarded on a first-come-first-served basis as they become avail-

able after the semester begins.

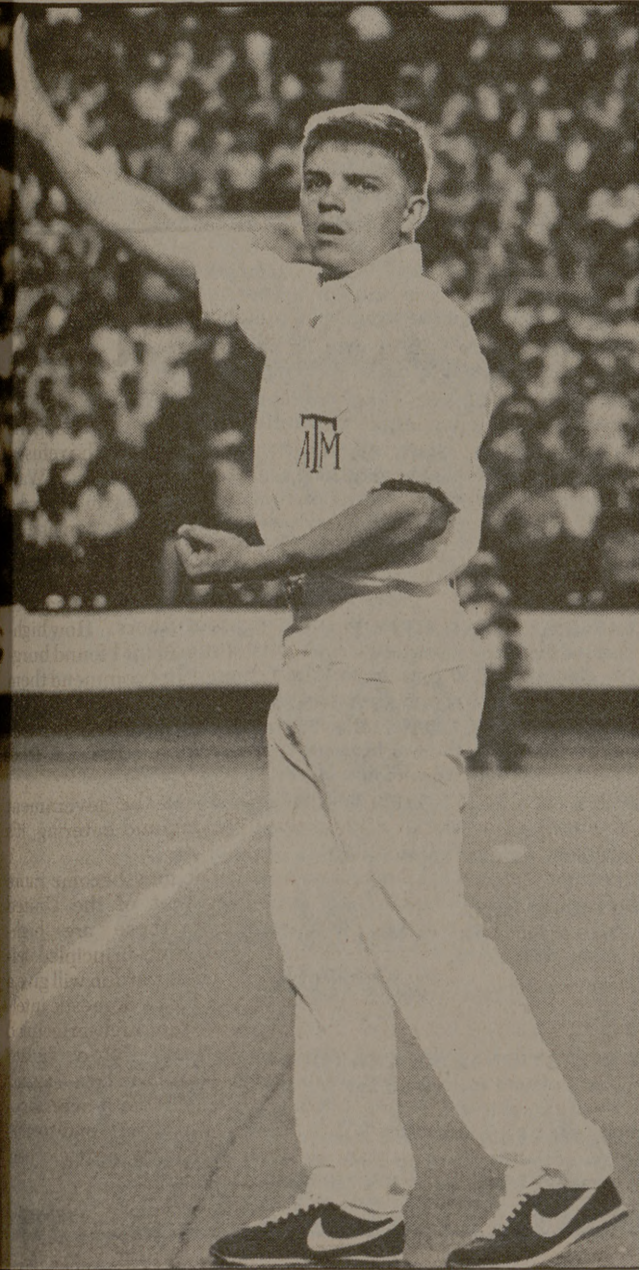
Todd said this waiting list does not include anyone entering the Corps of Cadets, which guarantees housing for its members.

Nor does the list include anyone awarded certain high-value scholarships, she said. President's Endowed Scholars, Lechner Fellows and McFadden Scholars are all guaranteed rooms on campus.

The approximately 500 new bed spaces to be available in the fall in Modular A, by the Commons, and Modular B, by Fowler-Keathley-Hughes, will add needed space for more residents, Todd said. But, she said, they will not help the on-campus dining situation.

"The two new dorms will affect dining for off-campus students who are on the board plan," she said. "They will be eating in Duncan for the most part. Things will be very restricted in Sbis and the Commons for off-campus students."

She said the dining halls will have no problems accommodating the number of on-campus students.



New head yell leader

Mike Thatcher was named head yell leader Thursday afternoon after approval by Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services.

Thatcher, a junior agriculture major, was a junior yell leader this year. He is also a member of the Ross Volunteers.

In his campaign for yell leader this year, Thatcher said a more unified student body and a more thorough understanding of traditions would allow these traditions to remain an important part of the University without interfering with the changing times.

Thatcher was recommended for the post by the Bonfire and Yell Leader Committee.

P.E. class offers A&M new venture

By AUGUST SKOPIK
Battalion Reporter
Not all physical education classes are for aspiring basketball stars, tennis pros or prima ballerinas.

In Venture Dynamics I, a course being offered at Texas A&M University next fall, students can learn how to rappel down a cliff or wall with a rope and how to solve physical problems such as getting a group across an eight-foot gorge.

Next fall there will also be Venture Dynamics II, an advanced class for those who have already taken Venture Dynamics I and would like to learn more of the same skills.

"Many of the students in this class work with youth groups such as the YMCA, church groups and 4-H, and this course helps them when working with those groups," instructor Camille Bunting said.

"I like the challenges presented by the class," Mike Scott, a student in the class, said. "I've even tried to recruit some new members for it."

There will be four sections of Venture Dynamics I in the fall, with a limit of 24 students per section. Venture Dynamics II will be a two-hour class and will be taught Tuesdays from 2:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. It will be available only to students who completed Venture Dynamics I.



Explanation given for flags staying full-staff for Bradley

By DENISE RICHTER
Battalion Staff
A University official says there was a reason for not complying with a student's wishes to have flags on the Texas A&M University campus lowered to half-staff in respect for Gen. Omar Bradley, who died last week.

Flags on campus are lowered when the president declares a national day of mourning, usually for the death of a former president, Ormond R. Simpson, assistant vice president of student services, said.

Neither was the case following the five-star general's death April 8. However, Hector Rivera, a junior business management major from El Paso, wasn't satisfied and for two days last week attempted to get University officials to lower the flags.

He was unsuccessful.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington did, however, order flags on all active military installations to be lowered to half-staff, Simpson said. But, Texas A&M was exempt from this directive because the University is not an active military installation, he said.

Unless a day of mourning is declared by the president or the governor, the University president or his designated representative de-

clares when the flags are to be lowered.

By tradition, the flags in front of the Academic Building and the Corps' dormitories are lowered for Muster and Silver Taps.

"It was my decision that the flags stay at full-staff," Simpson said. "It was not from a lack of respect for Gen. Bradley because I feel he was a great national hero. But, we can't take cases in isolation. We must have a consistent policy concerning when the flag is to be lowered. It would cheapen the act if the flags were at half-staff all the time."

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