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Saturday, May 9.

Biggest bike problems are speeding, parking

Students study complaints

Battalion Reporter
Speeding, congestion and illeg-

portation engineering class.

ing bicyclists, as well as pedes-Instructor Steve Richards said his students have collected data on their own time out of class. The

be turned in to him Friday.

Richards said he initiated the class project because bicycle travel has caused problems on

There have been studies done before on how many bicycles are registered," Richards said, "but there has never been an actual count of the number of bicycles on

Student Larry Pechacek said the study was done to find out exactly how many and what kinds of problems exist with bicycles.

I'm going to summarize all the data and state the students' findings," Richards said. "I'll then make the information available to the University Traffic Panel."

The University Traffic Panel is a committee of eight students and 13 faculty members that handles problems associated with traffic movement and parking on University property, along with vehi-

cle registration and traffic control. Richards, who designed the project, said he divided his 39 students into nine groups. Each group was assigned one area of campus and was asked to inventory all bicycle facilities, such as racks and lanes, in that area, he

Richards said he also asked the students to compile a list of problems in that area from the points of design purposes, he said.

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the bicycle problems brought up by a Texas A&M University trans- and identified problems confront- view of both the bicyclist and pedestrian. A bicycle count to establish the number of parked and illegally parked bicycles was taken at various times of the day,

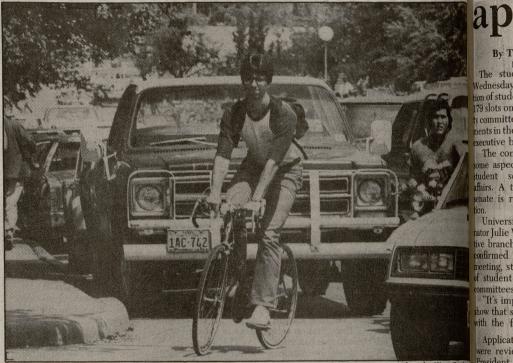
In the students' preliminary reports, pedestrians complained of speeding and illegally parked bicycles, congestion on campus and a cluttered appearance from too many bicycles, Richards said. Bicyclists complained of a lack of parking spaces and lanes, bicycle thefts and hazards due to slick sidewalks.

Richards said the number of bicycles on campus on a given day is totally dependent on the weather. "We estimate that on a sunny day there are about 3,000 bikes on

If it is slightly cold or raining, he said, the number of bicycles on campus drops 50 to 70 percent. He said the highest bicycle traffic is around the library and the Academic Building, and weekday

mornings are the peak hours.
Richards said the students also found in some areas there was often a large number of bicycles parked near doorways or propped against trees when there was suffi-cient parking space available in nearby racks.

Richards said he and his students will not make any recommendations to the University Traffic Panel, but will only submit their data and findings. The find-ings could be useful to the admi-nistration for their planning and



fronting bicyclists on campus as they combat class project also brought up speeding a rush hour traffic. Transportation engineering parking problems.

Congestion is just one of the problems con- students who studied bicycle problems a

Vietnam veterans fight lift of Agent Orange ban

United Press International AUSTIN — Chemical companies are trying to make "guinea pigs" out of Vietnam veterans and have mounted a stepped-up na-tion-wide effort to lift the ban on a chemical in Agent Orange, the president of the Brotherhood of Vietnam Veterans, Inc. said Wednesday.

'I don't know how the rest of the country feels, but I don't appreciate the chemical companies making guinea pigs out of us," Dan Jordan told a news conference on the Capitol's south

steps.
"We are mad, and we are as frustrated as hell."

Jordan said chemical companies and special interest groups Agent Orange poisoning in are lobbying the Environmental Vietnam.

Agent Orange, so they can use the chemical around construction sites, public waterways and along

"There is a real push to lift the ban on it," Jordan said.

'No new research has been started or completed since doubts were raised by Vietnam veterans. The lobbyists are saying that there is no scientific data to prove these health effects.

sticker in support of Agent Orange legislation, urged support for two bills in the Legislature to help Vietnam veterans suffering from ailments they contend result from ans await the legislative decision— the disabled, the ill, the ill dren born with birth defects a perhaps the most important of a the unborn child," Jordan said

The Vietnam veteran asks wh the body count from Vietnam! not ended. They ask if they to survived Vietnam. Their o crime seems to be that of loving this country so much that they are Jeff Bissey still dying for it.

Jordan held the news conference to announce a welow home parade and rally Friday in Vietnam veterans. The activities commemorate Veterans Day proclaimed by Gr. Bill Clements

"It's eight or 10 years overdubut it's a beginning," Jordan and Hackfield

time maintenance-security guards • tennis courts Court threatens SW Bell with lower rates, refunds at (An committee METRO PROPERTIES

customers by June 1 unless the rate decision. Texas Supreme Court rules the Public Utility Commission while it appeals the commission deci-

The 3rd Court of Civil Appeals upheld a trial court decision Wednesday requiring Southwestern Bell to comply with a Feb. 28 PUC order limiting the interim rates charged by the telephone company to the \$114.3 million set by the commission.

Since November 1980 Bell has been collecting rates amounting to an increase of \$152.8 million annually, and argues it should be

AUSTIN — Southwestern Bell allowed to continue charging Telephone Co. must roll back its those rates until the courts finally rates and begin making refunds to have settled its appeal of the PUC

Bell initially filed a request in company can legally charge rates higher than those approved by the higher than those approved by the recommended an increase of \$152.8 — the rates Bell implemented pending the PUC de-

Telephone company officials said Wednesday they were dis-appointed at the Civil Appeals

cision on the rate case.

Court decision, and spokesman Gray Kerrick said the company has not yet decided if it will appeal the ruling to the Texas Supreme

Along with questioning the PUC order concerning its interim rates, Bell is challenging in court of the PUC's initial order and the commission's denial of the full

\$326.3 million rate increase Court hearings have not yet beggt \$326.3 million rate increase Joe Jordan Archive on the merits of the full rate in mittee

The telephone company of Robert Sa rates June 1, then ultimately pro Jim Harris vails in the appeal of the rate case it has no way to recover the Grace Movenue it would have earned it Gwendoly higher interim rates had remaine in effect.

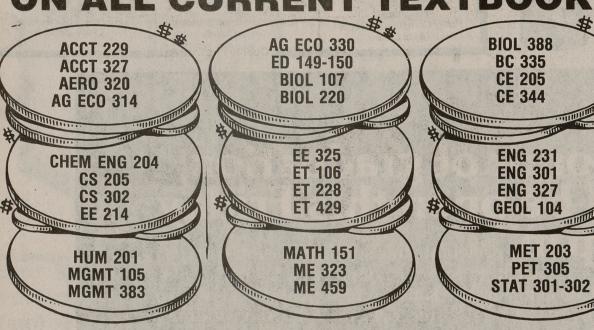
Brenda Ka

Paul Fish

Kathy Bar But the Court of Civil Appear Dale Coll said Wednesday if Bell eventual wins its appeal of the rate case, the appellate court can send the back to the PUC for adjustment William F Kim Russ Matt E. V the final rate to allow recovery any revenues lost by the tel Paul Van Dale Coll time the appeal is finally settled Cathie Fe

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