

# THE BATTALION

Serving the Texas A&M University community

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College Station, Texas

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## The Weather

Today	Tomorrow
High ..... 87	High ..... 85
Low ..... 73	Low ..... 75
Chance of rain ..... 60%	Chance of rain ..... 50%

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4 Pages



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

### Clowning around

Mark Ebeling, a senior at Plainview High School, watches as Marie Hooper paints a clown face on Mandy Ito. All three are members of the Hill County 4-H Club in Plainview. These students are on the Texas A&M University campus

as part of 4-H Roundup, the state competition for 4-Hers. The conference started Tuesday and will end today. Both Hooper and Ito are sophomores at Plainview High School.

## New Aggies arrive as first conference begins today

By KATHY O'CONNELL

Battalion Staff

If you happen to spot some confused faces wandering about the campus this summer, a friendly Aggie "Howdy!" — and possibly some directions — might be appreciated.

Approximately 6,000 entering freshmen are expected to attend orientation conferences on the Texas A&M University campus throughout the summer, and the first of those conferences begins today.

Dr. Lee Millikin, assistant director for research and summer conferences said about 98 to 99 percent of all freshmen enrolling for the fall semester attend the two-day conferences.

All entering freshmen are strongly encouraged to attend the conferences unless they have a special hardship, he said.

With the 17 conferences being held — 10 in June, two in July and five in August — there are a variety of activities scheduled to acquaint the freshmen with life at the University.

There are also conferences for transfer students. The orientation programs for the entering freshmen and those for transfer students are slightly different, Millikin said.

The freshmen are required to take placement tests, whereas transfer students normally do not. Depending on test scores, freshmen may or may not have to take "freshman English," courses 103 and 104, or "freshman math," course 102.

Incoming students and their parents are also introduced to the many Texas A&M traditions with a slide show and presentations by yell leaders and other student leaders.

In a separate presentation, prospective Corps of Cadets members are familiarized with the University's ROTC program and life in the Corps. Non-Corps members and their parents can attend a presentation on "Student Life" at the University. Students get a taste of the variety of student activities ranging from Student Government programs to

intramural sports.

On the final day of the conference, students meet with their respective academic advisers or deans to plan a fall semester class schedule.

Once the incoming students endure the confusion of their first round of college registration, they are offered a bit of relief. The senior class sponsors a dance or "mixer" for the new students attending each conference, Millikin said.

Housing for the conference students and their parents is available in Krueger and Dunn halls in the Commons area.

For the approximate 1,800 transfer students attending summer conferences, Millikin said there usually isn't a presentation on Corps life since many transfer students don't "frog" into the Corps.

He said the transfer students also have more direct contact with their departmental advisers since they have accumulated more hours and have more complicated schedule needs.

## Tests made on road material developed from garbage

Motorists may shudder at the thought of driving on broken glass, tin cans, rusty appliances and other trash, but it could happen.

The only thing that stands in the way is a puff of smoke.

Littercrete — so named because it is an asphalt paving mixture that uses a city's incinerated solid waste as aggregate — has proven successful in six years of testing by Texas A&M engineers.

The problem — that puff of smoke — is pollution caused in burning the garbage which leaves an aggregate-like litter.

Paper products, other organics and similar non-rock like material removed from garbage leaves non-combustibles for use as littercrete, said Dr. William B. Ledbetter. Ledbetter, a civil engineering professor has worked on the Texas Transportation Institute littercrete project since a test section of roadway was built into a Houston city street.

Field observations and laboratory tests on field core samples "show that the littercrete is performing essentially the same as the conventional asphalt concrete base," Ledbetter said.

"We make no miracle claims," Ledbetter said about tests on littercrete. Minor cracking occurs in littercrete just as it does in conventional surfaces, but did not progress through the littercrete base. The 200-foot test section on Bingle Road at the Hempstead Highway intersection exhibited no rutting,

shoving or stripping.

But obtaining the incinerated refuse to make littercrete presents problems.

"We can't incinerate without some pollution," observed Ledbetter. "It requires special handling. There's some stuff in garbage that is highly detrimental to precipitators and other pollution control equipment."

Though the problem is difficult to control, he believes the technology will be developed to remove the pollution causing material before the garbage is burned.

He envisions one way around part of

the incineration problem, but admits it is still down the road.

"In the future, I'm convinced it is going to become acceptable and cost-effective for households to separate garbage into three containers, one for plastics, one for combustibles such as paper and one for non-combustibles like cans, metal and glass," Ledbetter said.

"Once the combustibles are separated from the non-combustibles, we can take the latter to choppers and crushers for use in littercrete with incineration."

## Fee deadline Friday, enrollment ends today

While summer school students are getting back into the swing of attending classes at Texas A&M University following a two-week vacation, the lines in C. Rollie White Coliseum have been forming so that students can pay fees and drop and add classes.

Fees can be paid through Friday, but today is the last day to enroll in the University for the first summer session. It's also the last day to add

courses to current class schedules.

Friday is the last day to drop classes with no record, and June 12 is the last day to drop classes with no penalty (Q-drop).

The deadline for application for degrees to be awarded in August for students completing degree requirements in July is also June 12.

Registration for the second summer session will be held July 9 with classes beginning July 10.

## Texas Clipper prepares to sail on 9-week European cruise

Nearly 200 students at Texas A&M University at Galveston are making final preparations for their Saturday departure on a European training cruise aboard the Texas Clipper. The students — a combination of Texas A&M-Galveston students and recent high school graduates who signed on to see the world while earning college credit for basic courses — and a 49-member crew are scheduled to sail at 3 p.m. on a nine-week excursion that includes visits to Amsterdam and Copenhagen.

Texas A&M-Galveston's senior cadets will be honored at a Saturday breakfast hosted by Mary Moody Northen, a long-time patron of the institution and its Texas Maritime College.

Samuel B. Nemirow, assistant secretary of commerce for maritime affairs, will be the featured speaker at the breakfast, which has become a traditional part of sailing day activities at Texas A&M-Galveston, the marine-oriented unit of the Texas A&M University System.

The Texas Clipper, a 473-foot converted ocean liner that serves as the institution's primary training vessel, will be open for public tours from 8 a.m. Saturday until shortly before departure, Texas A&M-Galveston officials said.

Texas A&M-Galveston cadets will operate the ship under the supervision of Capt. George K. McKay and his staff. Most of the cadets are majoring in marine engineering and marine transportation. Approximately 30 of the students are prep-cadets, recent high school graduates who will be taking six hours of basic courses, such as English and American history, as part of Texas A&M's "Summer School at Sea" program.

Ports of call for the Clipper include: New Orleans, June 8-12; Mayport, Fla., June 16-19; Amsterdam, July 2-7; Copenhagen, July 9-14; Hamilton, Bermuda, July 27-Aug. 1; Lake Charles, La., Aug. 8. The ship returns to Galveston Aug. 9.

## Assets are convenience, energy efficiency

## Motorcycle sales increase as gas prices rise

By DAVID CALVERT

Battalion Reporter

Jeff Morris gets out of bed at 8:30 a.m. for his 9 a.m. English class. As he arrives on campus, he finds a parking spot only 50 yards from the Academic Building, where his class meets.

If this scenario sounds like a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence, think again. Morris says the parking situation and his gas bills have been like this since he bought his motorcycle last August.

Morris, a sophomore from Dallas, said he bought a motorcycle because he could not afford a car but wanted some way to get around.

"I paid just over \$1,000 for my motorcycle, and the gas mileage and the maintenance costs make it unbeatable," he said. "With the hassle of on-campus parking with a car, it looks even better. I've never found a lack of parking spaces for a motorcycle."

Many motorcycle riders, however, look beyond economics when buying a motorcycle.

"You can't find the performance and excitement found in a motorcycle unless you want to shell out over \$10,000 for a sports car," Joe Frey, a junior from San Antonio said. "There's nothing to me like a ride in the country on a motorcycle to relieve tensions."

Sales in local motorcycle shops support the evident growing popularity of motorcycles. Joe Peterson, owner and operator of University Cycles in College Station, said his sales have risen annually since the price of gasoline skyrocketed.

"We get a lot of students who don't have a lot of money to spend, but are looking for a good buy on some kind of substitute for a car," he said. "They are usually satisfied when they don't have to spend more than \$2,500 and get a machine which will get at least 45 miles per gallon."

Peterson said his sales went up 21

percent in 1980, from 43 bikes sold in 1979 to 52 in 1980. He said the average annual increase before that had been around 10 percent.

"My sales have increased so much, I have had to move to a larger showroom," he said.

Other dealers in the area report figures which support Peterson's claims. Mike Newsom, manager of Sports Center Suzuki, said his sales for 1980 increased 27 percent, from 36 new bikes sold in 1979 to 46 in 1980.

"I feel the increased demand for bikes is due to the need for cheap transportation," he said.

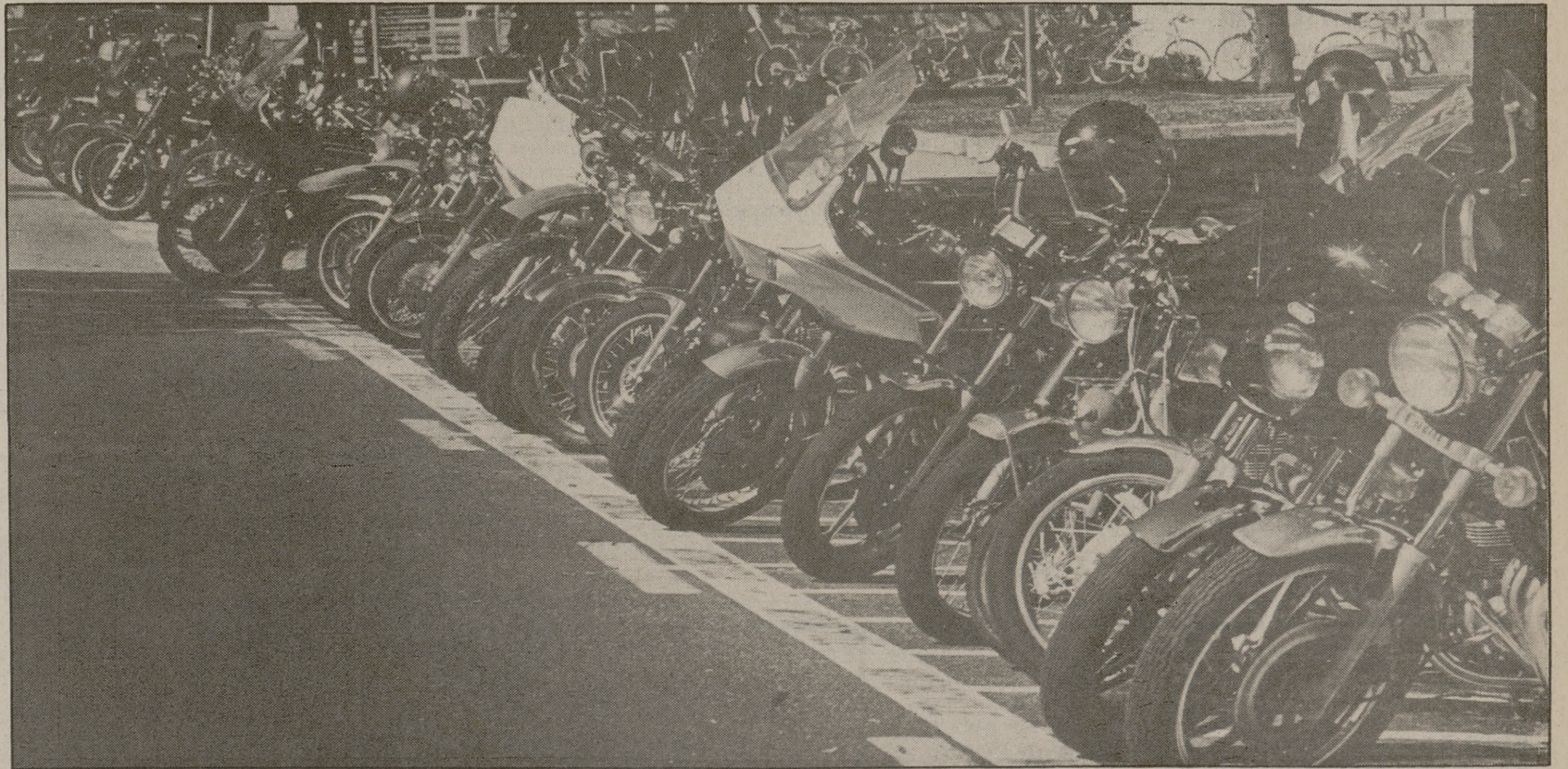
Two other dealers in Bryan also reported sales figures which reinforce this opinion. Mike Ford, a salesman at Central Cycle Supply, said the dealership sold 35 motorcycles in 1980.

The shop was not open in 1979, so sales figures for that year were not available. Ford said, however, that this figure was high for a dealership in its first year.

Emory Tyson, a salesman for Twin City Honda, said their sales increased around 25 percent from 1979 to 1980. Tyson said exact figures were not available because the dealership was being moved to a new location.

Statewide statistics show motorcycle registrations have increased. Allan Reis, director of motor vehicle registration for the Department of Transportation, said there were 44,980 new registrations made in 1979. In 1980 there were 56,227 new registrations, a 25 percent increase. Reis said Texas is currently fifth in total registrations.

The number of motorcycle parking stickers issued at Texas A&M University has increased greatly in the past three years. After a 20 percent decrease from the 1976-77 school year to the 1978-79 school year, 1,097 motorcycles were registered on campus in 1979-80, a 62 percent increase.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Parking places for cars are a valuable commodity on campus. The small space requirements for parking motorcycles makes it much easier to find a parking place, even though there are over 1100 motorcycles registered

on campus. The convenience of motorcycles, coupled with their energy efficiency, make them popular for college students.

Permits have increased 25 percent since the 1978-79 school year. Col. Tom Parsons, University director of security and traffic, said 1,377 motorcycle permits were issued for the 1980-81 school year.

The price of gasoline and motorcycle sales followed a similar trend in the 1970s. An informal survey of gas prices showed a 73 percent increase in the price of gasoline from April 1969, when gas cost 28.9 cents a gallon, to April

1974, when gas cost 49.9 cents a gallon. During this same time period, motorcycle registrations increased 70 percent to 3.9 million.

As gas prices continued to rise in the late 1970s, motorcycle sales also in-

creased. Gas prices rose from 47.9 cents a gallon in April 1976 to \$1.19.9 a gallon in April 1981, a 150 percent increase. During this same time period, motorcycle registrations increased 36 percent, up to 5.3 million in 1980.