

Local

What's up at Texas A&M

Tuesday

- MSC BASEMENT: Bring money for T-shirts at 7 p.m. in 212 MSC.
- TRADITIONS COUNCIL: Howdy T-shirts will be on sale Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday in the MSC.
- CLASS OF '82 MEETING: Dr. Samson will speak and class council picture will be taken at 7:30 p.m. in 204 Harrington.
- INTRAMURAL SWIMMING DIVISIONALS: Meet will begin at 7 p.m. in P.L. Downs Natatorium.
- DATA PROCESSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: Zapata will be presenting information on careers in Data Processing from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Aggieland Inn Conference Room. All students and faculty invited for refreshments and discussion.
- AMERICAN FOUNDRYMEN'S SOCIETY: Production work will be discussed at 6 p.m. in Thompson Hall Foundry.
- PRE-MED/DENT SOCIETY: Dr. John Ross D.D.S. will speak on "Foreign Medical and Dental Missionaries" at 8 p.m. in 321 Physics Building. Pictures for Aggieland will be taken.
- SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS: EPA Fuel Economy Ratings: Fact or Fiction? Meet in 103 Zachry at 7:30 p.m.
- POLITICAL FORUM: Debate on ERA between Phyllis Schaffly and Katherine Brady at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theatre.
- FOOD SCIENCE CLUB: Meeting at 7 p.m. 127 Kleburg.
- CHI ALPHA: Charismatic worship and teaching from the Bible at 7 p.m. in Rudder Tower.
- COLLEGIATE FFA: Rural safety at 7:30 p.m. in 110 Harrington.
- TAMU COLLEGIATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Club pictures will be taken in the lobby of Zachry at 8 p.m.
- TAMU RODEO CLUB: Final preparations for the All Aggie Rodeo at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Kleburg.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Nursing Home Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center. International Students will have a Bible study at 8 p.m. in the Student Center. Rosary will be held at 9 p.m. in St. Mary's.
- TEXAS A&M WATERSKI CLUB: General meeting at 7 p.m. in 140 MSC.
- PRE LAW SOCIETY: Richard Calkins, the Druke Law School dean, will speak at Interurban Eating House at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday

- SCONA: Pictures will be taken at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC lounge and general committee meeting will follow in 701 Rudder.
- TAMU MATH CLUB: Yearbook picture will be taken and Career Day plans will be discussed at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of Milner in the lounge.
- MARKETING SOCIETY: Picture will be taken and last minute details on the Dallas trip will be discussed at 7:45 p.m. in the MSC main lounge.
- PSI CHI: Membership drive at 7:30 p.m. in 402 Academic Building. Any interested person is encouraged to come and join.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Newman's Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Student Center.
- TRADITIONS COUNCIL: Howdy T-shirts on sale today in the MSC. Also on sale Thursday and Saturday.
- AGGIE SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: Meeting to organize firetower session at 7 p.m. in 140 MSC. All are welcome to come.
- III ANNUAL ANTHROPOLOGY LECTURE SERIES: Together with the Dept. of Biology and the Graduate College presents Topics in Pleistocene Extinctions at 2 p.m. in Sterling C. Evans Library 204C. Topic today is "Relevance of Contemporary East African Large Mammal Populations to Pleistocene Extinctions" by Fred Smeins of Texas A&M University.
- MSC VARIETY SHOW: Membership meeting in 216B MSC at 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome.
- OCA: Executive committee yearbook pictures will be taken at 5 p.m. at the OCA cubicle in 216 MSC.
- THE TEXAS A&M STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY: Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the 12th floor of the O&M Building. Members interested in Nov. 7th field trip should attend.

Lignite reclamation needed in Texas

There's no doubt about if or when. State officials estimate lignite production in Texas will escalate from 1980's 27 million tons to 225 million tons for the year 2000. But how that black, lumpy fuel is extracted raises many doubts. Thoughts of strip mining conjure up visions of desolate moonscapes. However, with proper mining and reclamation methods, Dr. Ed Colburn said, those visions can be dispelled.

Colburn is an agronomist with the Texas A&M Agricultural Extension Service and works with reclamationists to minimize pollution and revegetation problems and maximize the productivity of restored land.

Colburn estimated that the one million acres of land in Texas that are suitable for surface mining have already been leased. Some 12,500 acres have been affected by surface mining to date.

"Utility companies and the petrochemical industry will be major lignite users, and it's important that they plan for reclamation now," Colburn said.

Recently the extension service in San Antonio held a two-day surface mine workshop. The workshop focused on Texas mining conditions and covered surface- and ground-water hydrology, overburden handling, revegetation and management of reclaimed land.

The 195 people who attended the workshop included utility and oil company representatives, ser-

vice and equipment suppliers, environmental consultants and several in-state and federal agency representatives. "They were all concerned about how to continue improving reclamation methods," he said.

Colburn said some of the participants also were concerned about state and federal regulations regarding surface mining.

"Government regulations are useful in establishing reclamation standards for lands that have been mined," Colburn said. "However, federal regulations actually dictate how land should be restored, and that's not necessarily the best way in every part of the country."

In Texas, areas affected by surface mining lie within the coastal

plains and include woodlands, grazing land and some cropland.

"Reclamation involves various leveling, soil preparation and seeding operations," Colburn said. "Research is currently being conducted to refine these operations for reforestation."

Colburn said 30 to 35 lignite-fired power plants are planned or in operation in Texas. "Texas'

abundant lignite resources help bridge the gap between diminishing oil and gas supplies and the more permanent energy resources of the future," Colburn said.



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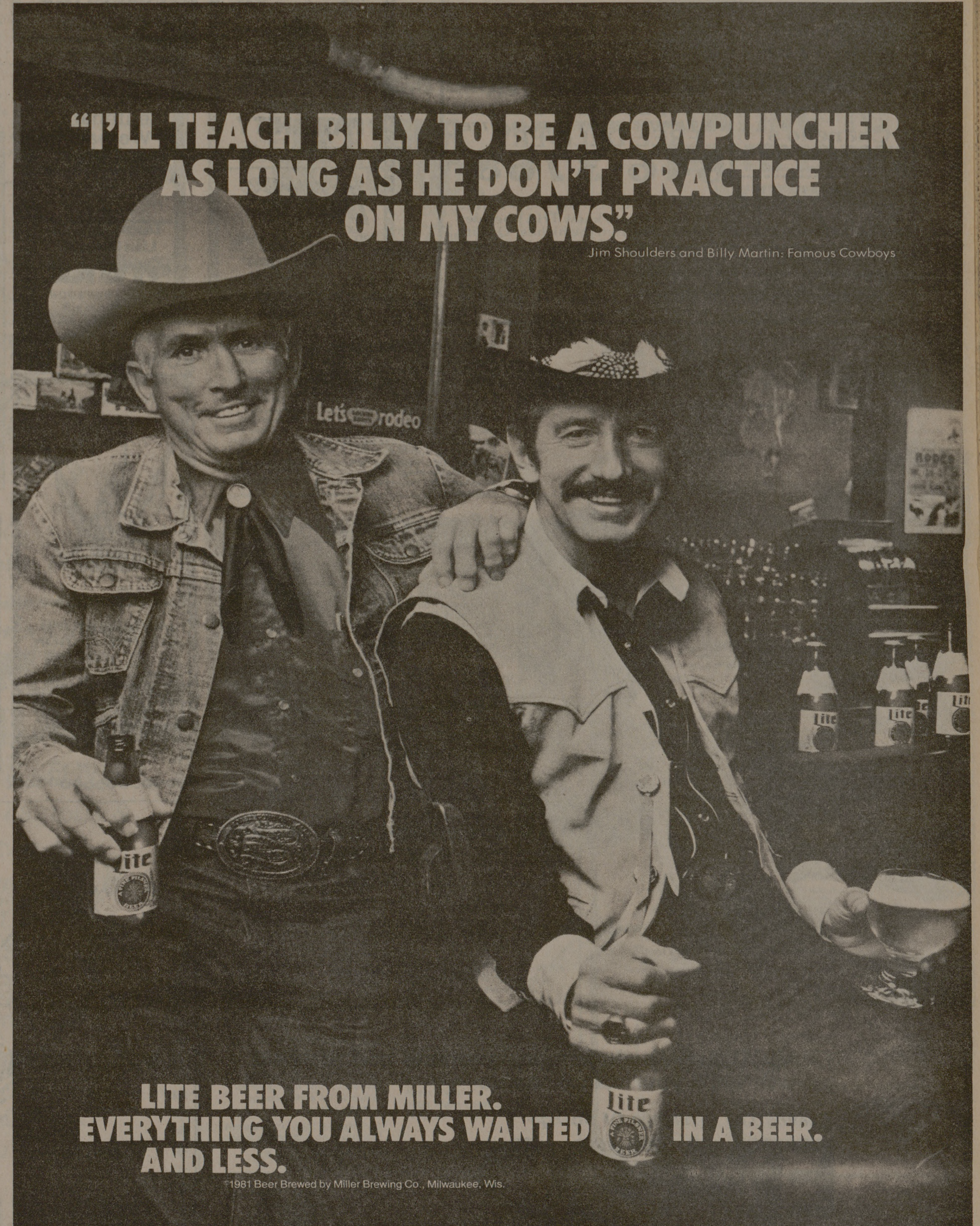
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