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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	70	High	68
Low	55	Low	53
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	10%



Deck the halls with trees

Keith Dunn, a junior civil engineering major from Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, looks at some of the trees that the Lambda Sigma honor society is selling near the Commons. Sophomore society

members Shelly Splawn, an accounting/finance major from Muleshoe and Keith Vance, an accounting major from Bryan, said they will be selling Christmas trees through Wednesday.

Recovery study floundering

By RANDY CLEMENTS

Battalion Staff
The \$9,000 waste recovery facility site study, approved by the Bryan and College Station city councils Nov. 23, probably will die because Texas A&M University isn't going to participate in the study, says College Station City Manager North Bardell.

The waste recovery facility not only would get rid of 85 percent of the area's garbage, but also would produce steam that could be sold to industries, College Station Mayor Gary Halter said. But because the facility would require 150 to 200 tons of garbage a day to produce steam for an industrial market, it would take both cities and the University to generate the waste needed to produce that steam, Bardell said.

University Vice President for Business Affairs Howard L. Vestal said the University hasn't developed a position with regard to the feasibility study. However, he said he would first like to see a suitable site proposed.

"If the two cities (Bryan and College Station) find a suitable site," he said, "I would like to reserve the option of participating in the feasibility study."

A suitable site would be one that is not on the campus but within two miles of the west campus, Vestal said.

But Halter, who initiated the idea of the waste facility study, said if the University isn't interested in participating

at this point there's no point in going on with the study. The site study requires only \$3,000 from the University, he said.

The feasibility study, with an estimated cost of more than \$50,000, would determine if there is a market for the steam produced and if enough garbage can be generated to supply a recovery facility.

College Station, Bryan and the University currently dispose of their garbage in landfills. This doesn't solve the garbage problem, Halter said, but creates a new one — monitoring.

The Environmental Protection Agency requires that landfills be monitored — forever — after they are filled in, the mayor said. The EPA requires a series of measurements for the resistivity of the soil and the thickness and density of the clays at the landfill, he said.

This requirement adds an expense of at least \$20,000 a year for a qualified engineer to take the soil and clay samples at the site and for lab technicians to get the results, he said. Testing the area is an effort to insure there is no seepage, Halter said.

"I am disappointed the University isn't interested in participating (in the study)," he said, "because waste disposal is a problem now that is getting worse."

Freshman arrested for A&M burglaries

A Texas A&M student was arrested by University Police early this morning in connection with 25 vehicle burglaries during the past week.

Joseph Robert Cumpton, 19, a freshman general studies major from Olney, was charged with burglarizing motor vehicles and resisting arrest. The arrest was made at 3 a.m., after officers saw him drive into Lot 56, on the west campus, and enter another vehicle.

Police recovered \$3,500 worth of merchandise from Cumpton's vehicle, Detective Will Scott said. The mer-

chandise — including three shotguns, two rifles, a .357 Magnum, ammunition and over 200 cassette tapes — was reported missing in 25 thefts during the past week, Scott said.

The merchandise was in plain view in Cumpton's vehicle when the officers approached it, Scott said. The police are now in the process of locating the owners, he said.

Cumpton was taken to the Brazos County Jail and bond was set this morning.

Dragnet catches Leggett flasher

By LAURA WILLIAMS

Battalion Reporter
A 27-year-old College Station man was charged with indecent exposure Monday in connection with a series of reports of a man exposing himself to residents of Leggett Hall, a women's dorm.

Robert M. Hall, #606 Willowick Apt., was arrested by University police at 1:40 Monday morning outside Leggett Hall. The oil company employee was released later that afternoon on \$100 bond.

"Since Nov. 17, we've had four reported incidents of indecent exposure (in) Leggett Hall," University Detective Will Scott said.

Scott said the University police have been watching the dorm until two and three in the morning for longer than a week anticipating the suspect's return.

Residents of the hall were connected with detectives' radios and were told to call if the so-called "Leggett Flasher" was seen in or near the dorm.

Scott said he saw the suspect walk around the dorm for some 45 minutes

Monday before detectives received a call from dorm residents.

Sgt. Rick Flores hid on the west side of the dorm, while Scott waited near Thompson Hall and the two circled the dorm after receiving the call, Scott said.

"A partial license plate and car description was given in an earlier report, so we watched for that car," he said. "It was an out-of-state license. I saw it pull up, and the man fitting the description got out."

A white male, approximately 5-feet, 8-inches tall, 190 lbs., about 25-years-

old, with curly brown hair, a beard, moustache and a pot belly had been reported exposing himself outside Leggett twice before the detectives began surveillance.

"We've had four corresponding reports from Leggett since Nov. 17, some girls in the dormitory identified the man as the one they had seen immediately after we caught him," he said.

Under the Texas Penal Code, maximum punishment for indecent exposure is a \$200 fine.

Legal aid office helps students, legal officers

By GARY BARKER

Battalion Staff
About 250 students a month seek advice from the students' legal department at Texas A&M University about everything from consumer protection to landlord/tenant disagreements.

The purpose of the office is to provide legal advice to all students and recognized student organizations.

The most common cases involve landlord/tenant relations, consumer protection, automobile accidents and domestic relations, Legal Adviser Daniel Usiak said.

Although the student legal advisers can advise a student in almost any legal matter, there are restrictions on which cases the legal advisers may represent a student in court.

Legal advisers can only represent students in court in some consumer protection cases and some landlord/tenant cases. Advisers cannot represent a student against Texas A&M or against another student. Furthermore, Usiak said, the office usually will not handle a case in which the trial is expected to take a long time or in cases which involve a large amount of money.

A referral system has been established for cases the legal office can't handle, however.

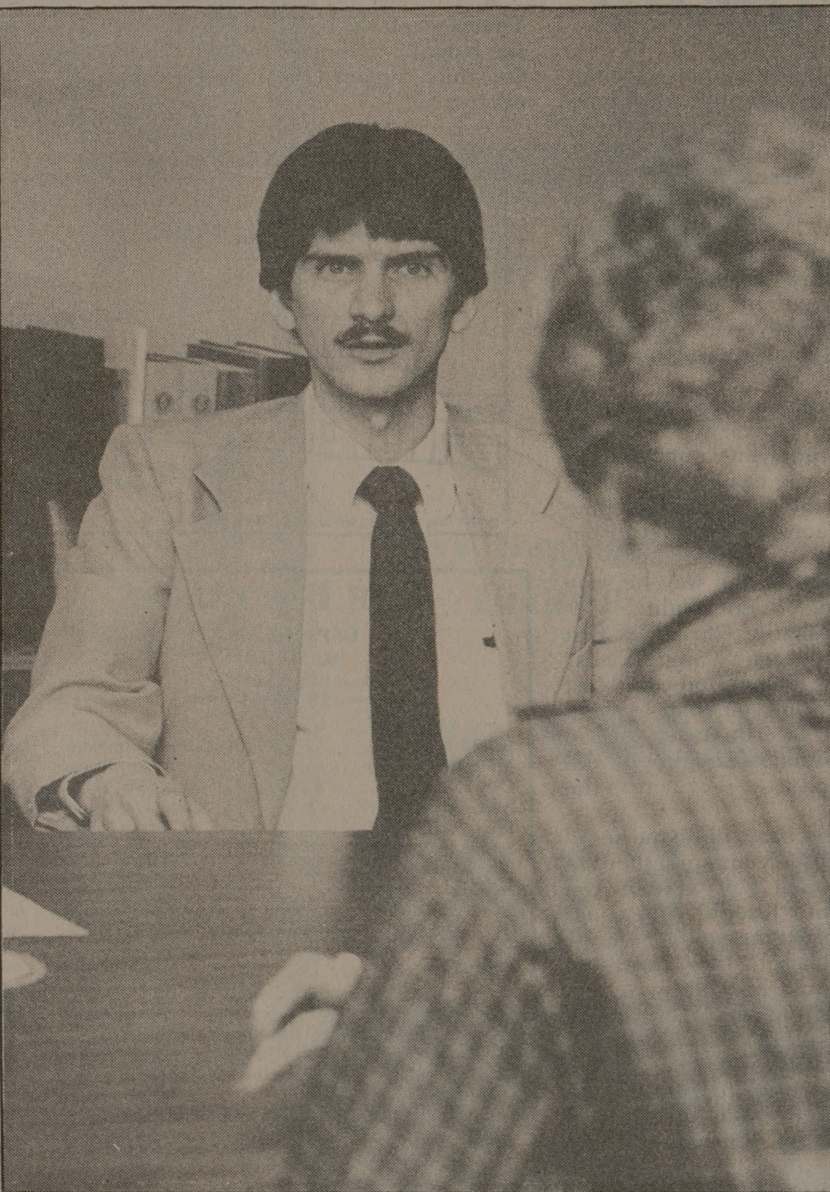
Usiak said the office has taken three cases to court since October, 1980. Two of the cases were landlord/tenant cases in which an apartment complex wouldn't return a security deposit to a student.

The third case involved a student suing a non-student roommate for unpaid rent that was left after the non-student broke his lease.

One example of a case Usiak handled during September involved a student who said she had been forced off a road by a truck. About \$900 damage was done to her car.

After a month-long search, Usiak said, he found the truck's owner, but he discovered that the truck had changed owners three times in about three weeks.

Usiak said he wrote a letter to the current owner and then turned her case over to a private attorney.



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Student legal adviser Daniel Usiak Jr. advises a student on a legal matter. Usiak's office receives requests for legal advice from about 250 students a month.

Legal advisers get boost into law profession

By GARY BARKER

Battalion Staff
Not only does the Student Legal Advisers office provide services to students, but it also serves as a stepping stone for young, inexperienced lawyers to establish themselves in the law profession in Bryan-College Station.

Vice President for Student Services John Koldus, who is in charge of the student legal advisers, said all of the past six student legal advisers and one assistant legal adviser have gone into legal practice in the local area — either in private practice, in the judicial branch or for the University.

"I'm sure all (of the past student legal advisers) have seen the position as a stepping stone in the community," Koldus said. "The track record shows that if they do a good job in the position, they can find a more financially profitable job in the community."

Former student legal advisers include Bryan Municipal Judge Sonny Lyles, former College Station Municipal Judge Kenneth Robison and Chris Kling, a lawyer for the Bryan law firm Lawrence, Thornton, Payne and Watson.

And Lowell Denton, a former assistant student legal adviser, is now College Station city attorney.

Two other former advisers have remained with the University — Director of Development Robert Rutledge III and Gaines West, associate general counsel under the vice chancellor for legal affairs.

Jim Locke, the most recent student legal adviser to leave the office, began a private law practice in Bryan-College Station on Nov. 13.

Locke was hired as an assistant student legal adviser in September 1978. He was promoted a short time later to become the student legal adviser for the next three years. However, he said he

didn't consider the position to be a stepping stone.

"I considered the job more than just a temporary perch," Locke said. "I was there for three years, which is the longest term for any of the legal advisers."

"It was an interesting place to be for a certain amount of time and the monetary compensation was good considering the amount of experience I had."

In contrast, Daniel Usiak Jr., who recently replaced Locke as student legal adviser, said he considers the position to be a stepping stone and he feels it will help him become qualified for a number of different positions in the law profession. Usiak said he doesn't know if he will stay in the area when he leaves his present position.

"The job forces an attorney in the position to become active in the community and in the local bar association." — Bryan Municipal Judge Sonny Lyles

Locke said he stayed in the area because he has family here and because he thinks there are more opportunities here than in most larger cities.

"Opportunities are more related to rate of growth than size," Locke said. "This place is growing faster than any place in the state so it's a good place to open any kind of business."

Lyles, who is both Bryan municipal judge and a law partner with Robison, said he stayed in the Bryan-College Station area for a combination of reasons.

"This area has a great climate for

raising a family and continuing in a professional endeavor," Lyles said.

Lyles also commented about how holding the position of student legal adviser helped him advance in the law profession in the Bryan-College Station area.

"The job forces an attorney in the position to become active in the community and in the local bar association," he said. "It also forces an attorney to know the local judicial system and local attorneys."

"By doing your job as best you can as student legal adviser, you learn about the legal climate in the local community." Since 1974, the Office of Student Services has employed a student legal adviser to counsel students. And in 1976 the office added the position of assistant student legal adviser.

Koldus said the salary for the student legal adviser has been high enough to attract lawyers with some experience, but because the salary for the assistant is lower, he has had to hire several lawyers just out of law school.

Almost all of the legal advisers started as assistant legal advisers.

Usiak, who started as assistant legal adviser and became legal adviser upon Locke's departure, said the salary for assistant legal adviser is about \$18,000 a year and the salary for legal adviser is about \$22,000 a year. Usiak, 26, said the position is his first full-time job since he was graduated from law school.

John Lawrence, a partner in the Bryan law firm Lawrence, Thornton, Payne and Watson, said the position of student legal adviser is a good starting job for an inexperienced lawyer.

And a legal adviser's salary is "pretty respectable" for a young lawyer just getting started in Brazos County, he said. Yet, he said, the salary is substantially lower than what a top law school graduate could make in one of the better law firms in Houston or Dallas.