

# Heed speed limits, DPS says

by Jean Kiser

**Battalion Reporter**  
If you're planning to drive out of College Station for spring break, your best bet will be to drive at 55 mph because driver misjudgment and driver error usually result in traffic tickets, a Texas Department of Safety spokesman said.

"Heed speed warnings and slow down," Sgt. Fred Forsthoef said. Some cities — commonly known as speed traps — cause more concern for motorists than others.

"There are no speed traps in Texas, but there are speed-enforced areas," said Ted Buck, director of auto travel for the American Automobile Association in Houston.

The AAA has received many complaints and requests for bail bonds from people traveling in these areas.

Splendora and Kendleton, on Highway 59, are speed-enforced areas, he said.

"We arrest more drunks than any small town in Texas," said Cpl. Kirk Coleman of the Kendleton Police Department.

Buck also said motorists have complained recently about the absence of speed limit signs in the Freeport area.

The cities of Selma and Live Oak are on Interstate 35, a major highway leading to San Antonio. Selma City Sec-



retary Margie Lubinski said there is an officer on duty at all times, and radar is being used to monitor traffic. These speed-enforced areas replaced speed traps, which used to exist in certain parts of the United States. These speed traps were uncovered and eliminated after the law creating a uniform speed

limit of 55 mph was passed, Buck said.

Speed traps were areas where speed limits were abruptly reduced without a clearly visible sign stating the change in the speed limit.

Speed traps also were areas where traffic lights were rigged to change suddenly to catch motorists off guard.

The traps were set up to generate revenue to take the city tax burden off small town residents.

As Texas A&M students, faculty, staff and administrators travel through these speed-enforced areas this week and next, the chances are that some of them will be exceeding the speed limits in these zones.

In 1979, Texas reported the highest average speed of any state with 69.7 percent of its drivers exceeding the speed limit.

But that percentage is down. Figures released in March 1980 indicate that 63 percent of Texas drivers exceed speed limits.

The DPS attributes the reduction to stepped-up law enforcement which came after the federal government threatened to shut off several million dollars in annual highway funds if the speed wasn't reduced.

The department spends an average of 56 percent of its total operating funds on traffic law enforcement. More unmarked cars, radar-equipped units and officers monitor Texas highways now than ever before.

The 55 mph speed limit also is credited with saving lives and gasoline, according to Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation statistics.

# Council to offer advice, aid to the College of Education

by Dennis Prescott

**Battalion Reporter**  
A development council created to enhance the Texas A&M College of Education's instruction, research and service has met, and Dr. Dean C. Corrigan, dean, said he was satisfied with the council's progress.

The council, which met for the first time Feb. 23, is a group of 22 private citizens. It will attempt to improve the college's programs by locating resources and advising the faculty and the dean.

The council meets again May 4.

Areas of interest for the council include computer literacy, the role of educators in diverse settings, meeting the needs of students with special needs, international education and the improvement of college teaching.

Corrigan said about 200 people were nominated for membership. Personal invitations were extended to 22 nominees, and none refused, he said.

Although not all the members are former students, Corrigan said most of them have "an Aggie connection."

Dr. Peggy Coghlan, an educational consultant from Longview, chairs the council. Members will serve a three-year term.

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# Honor society seeking high-ranking juniors

by Joe Tindel Jr.

**Battalion Reporter**  
Tau Kappa may be the answer or sophomore honor students who would rather not wait until their senior year to join an honor society.

A mandatory meeting for sophomores who wish to join the new junior honor society next year will be at 7 tonight 701 Tudder.

Tau Kappa was established last fall by the Tau Kappa student activities adviser Tricia Barber and students from the sophomore honor society, Lambda Sigma. The society now has 65 members.

Students eligible for membership must have an overall grade point ratio of at least 3.25, must have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours and a maximum of 94 and must have attended Texas A&M University the preceding semester. Publicity Chairman Dulcie Green said.

Tau Kappa plans to assist the Student Academic Council by assigning members to visit professors monthly to exchange ideas on academic issues. Members will report feedback to the Tau Kappa coordinator.

The society also will make contributions to the Central Quiz File in the Sterling C. Evans Library, participate in the Academic Counseling Experience program and provide assistance for the Mentors Program.

The Academic Counseling Program offers society members opportunities to conduct counseling and study skills sessions for students requesting counseling from the program.

The Mentors Program is designed so students can meet with a professor who will talk to them as a counselor and a friend.

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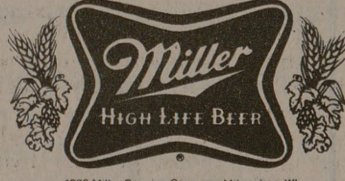
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