

# Stiff penalties urged for DWI repeaters

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Citing studies that show most alcohol-related traffic deaths involve repeat offenders, a West Texas senator has announced plans to sponsor legislation aimed at getting drunks off Texas roadways.

"We feel our realistic penalties, along with good admissible evidence, will encourage guilty defendants to plead guilty to DWI," Sen. Bill Sarpalus, D-Herford, said Tuesday.

The senator said present DWI laws encourage persons arrested to plead guilty to lesser charges, thus escaping harsher penalties for subsequent offenses.

Under his proposals, any person suspected of drunk driving

who refuses to submit to a blood or breath test within one hour of arrest, would have his or her driver's license automatically revoked. The refusal also would be admissible in court.

"We have learned through our research that most of the traffic deaths attributed to alcohol are the result of repeat offenders," Sarpalus said.

"For the first time, we will know who the repeat offenders are and will deal with them harshly."

He said this legislation is designed to give repeat offenders stiffer penalties.

The proposed legislation, which he plans to submit next session, also would increase penalties for repeat offenders.

The penalties would include mandatory jail sentences.

Sarpalus' proposals to curb drunk driving, announced at a Capitol news conference Tuesday, drew immediate support from Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby.

Under Sarpalus' plan, punishment for a first DWI conviction would be a fine of \$300 to \$1,000 and three days to two years in jail, which may be probated. The person convicted also would be required to attend a special school, and would be permitted to drive only for occupational purposes for 90 days.

Second offenders would face fines of \$500 to \$2,000, mandatory jail sentences of three days to two years, and up to six months suspension of driving

privileges except for occupational purposes.

The punishment for third offense would be fines of \$500 to \$2,000, jail terms of 30 days to five years, and suspension of the driver's license for up to one year.

# MSC Gallery exhibits tapestries, sculptures

by Robert Curlin  
Battalion Reporter  
An exhibition entitled "Tapestries and Sculptural Vessels," featuring works by Lea Makinen Lyman and Rebecca Roberts-Hirsch, will open in the MSC Art Gallery Monday.

The opening reception will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the MSC Art Gallery. The exhibit will run through May 9.

Lyman, whose studio is in Bryan, specializes in color and abstract design in tapestry weaving, and has more than 20 years' experience in her art.

Lyman's commissioned works are featured in private collections in Oregon, Louisiana and Texas.

She said her latest works highlight the tension between fantasy and reality and between the creative self and formal conventions.

"Each piece is an attempt to interpret the process which transforms mere rote existence into a strong human experience," Lyman said.

Lyman is a member of the Handweavers' Guild of America, the American Crafts Council, Texas Designer/Craftsmen and the Brazos Spinners' and Weavers' Guild.

Roberts-Hirsch received her bachelor's degree in ceramics from Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn., in 1970. Her ceramic works have been exhibited throughout Tennessee, Indiana and Texas since 1968.

"I am strongly influenced by organic forms and texture and I want my work to reflect the nature of clay," Roberts-Hirsch said. "My hope is that my vessels will invite the viewer to come closer to look and to touch."

# OCA cook-off plans nearing completion

by Lezlee Smith  
Battalion Reporter  
Plans for the Aggrieland Mayfest Chili Cook-Off are nearing completion, Bruce Martin reported at the Off-Campus Aggie meeting Wednesday night.

Martin, chairman of the cook-off committee, said that KORA advertising spots have already begun and negotiations with Schlitz beer are well under way.

The cook-off will be held May 1 at the Texas Hall of Fame grounds. Admission to the all-day event will be \$1. KORA will broadcast live from the cook-off.

Chili cooking teams are limited to eight members, and the entry fee is \$15. Entry forms are available at the Rudder Box Office and at Ron Yoakem Toyota.

Other events featured at the Chili Cook-Off include: a tug-of-war, an egg-toss, an armadillo race, a jalapeno eating contest, a watermelon toss and a beer chugging contest. Entrants may sign up at the cook-off for these events.

The Parents' Day Barbecue was also discussed. The barbecue will be held on Saturday in 212 Memorial Student Center, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or at the Rudder Box Office for \$4.50.

Also, results of the recent blood drive were reported. The OCA came in third place with approximately 200 donors. The Aggie Band won the drive with 196 donors.

In other business, guest speaker Hugh Lindsay, Republican candidate for Justice of the Peace in College Station, encouraged students to vote in the upcoming primaries.

"If you don't get out and vote, you have no basis to complain," Lindsay said.

The next general meeting of the OCA will be on May 5. Discussion of the new constitution will take place.

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