



C'mon, buy one!

photo by John Ryan

Lisa Neinst, a senior psychology major, Pam Gerber, a sophomore marketing major and Edna Woodall, a senior elementary education major, all residents of Haas Hall, sell a Bonfire Button to Tim Goggin, a junior building construction major. Proceeds go to Bonfire construction.

## Motorcycle traffic up; University plans new lot

by Tammy Jones  
Battalion Reporter

Local Suzuki and Yamaha dealers say motorcycle sales are down, but University Police Chief Russ McDonald says motorcycle traffic on campus has doubled since last year.

This fall, 1,146 motorcycle and moped parking permits have been issued compared to last fall's 600. And McDonald says that has caused some problems.

"Naturally, the increase is because motorcycles and mopeds are an economical way of transportation," McDonald said. The biggest problem with the motorcycles is the students who drive them refuse to park in designated lots, he said.

"On both sides of G. Rollie White Coliseum, there are numerous motorcycle parking spaces, but students seem to prefer parking on the sidewalk in front of the Memorial Student Center," he said.

The University Police are concerned about the hazard these motorcycles on the sidewalks may be to pedestrian traffic.

The University plans to build a new motorcycle parking lot next to the Print Center on Ireland Street which should have room for 100 or more motorcycles.

Issuing parking tickets to the motorcycles is not the answer to the problem, he said, because it doesn't seem to discourage driv-

ers. And unless the motorcycles are obstructing pedestrian or vehicle traffic, they are low priority compared to car lots.

Mopeds have not posed a traffic problem so far, mainly because they can be parked in the bicycle racks, he said.

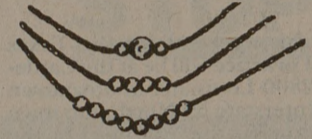
While the number of motorcycles on campus has increased, students don't seem to be buying many locally.

Joe Fisher of University Cycles, Inc., and Bill Aymond, of the Suzuki Sports Center, both agree that motorcycles are not being bought locally since students have difficulty getting loans. Because of high accident rates, theft and unpaid loans, most local banks won't even talk to a student about a motorcycle loan, Aymond said.

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## Students used in flu study

by Diane Yount  
Battalion Reporter

When the hacking, wheezing, coughing, sneezing, fever-ridden flu strikes, a research team of doctors and volunteers from Texas A&M University and Baylor University strike back.

Each year, student volunteers are vaccinated and observed throughout the flu season. The study determines if the vaccines prevent flu epidemics.

"This is part of the government work to stop the flu," Dr. John Quarles Jr., assistant professor of medicine, said. "We (Texas A&M and Baylor) are now the main group doing these studies for the nation."

The National Institute of Health controls funds that the national government budgets for flu research programs across the United States.

"Right now we're just getting set up," Quarles said. "The flu has been relatively low on campus. Only about 25 percent of

the student body get the flu each year, but you can't wait until an epidemic starts."

At Texas A&M, the typical flu season lasts from early January through spring break. Quarles said. The student volunteers are being tested for previous exposure to viruses, in the form of vaccines or earlier bouts with the illness.

"What we're looking for this year is people who aren't already protected," Quarles said. "We've taken blood samples from a little over 3,000 people and we expect to screen that sample down to about 1,000."

Because a flu virus can change from year to year, flu studies are conducted each season to improve the vaccines that combat the different strains of flu.

"If you receive an inoculation from a doctor, the shot usually has a vaccine for three different strains of flu," Quarles said.

"This year we are comparing a vaccine given in a shot with a vaccine administered through nose drops. The nose drop idea is better if it will work as well as the shot. Some people just don't like shots and won't come in for a vaccine."

Volunteers who go through the entire program will receive about \$60 to fill out data cards, give blood samples and report to the researchers each week.

"Inoculations will begin at the end of October," Quarles said. "We'll probably find our first case after Christmas. Students go home and come back sick."

Flu is an acute respiratory disease that has an entire body response.

"Your head aches, your back aches, your chest hurts, your whole body gets sick and fights back," Quarles says. "A cold is not as severe, doesn't happen as fast and usually doesn't involve

your whole body.

"These vaccines have been worked on in the laboratory for a number of years. Now it is our job to do a real world study. We're just trying to stop the illness."

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