



Krysta Wyatt, left, is handed her French excellence award by Dr. Anne Marie

Elmquist, and Dr. Olivier Naudeau. Wyatt received her award Tuesday

A&M students rewarded for excellence in French

by Lezlee Hinson
Battalion Reporter
The Department of Modern Languages recognized two outstanding French students, presenting them with the Prix d'Excellence — the prize of excellence — in a brief ceremony Tuesday.

The students selected for this honor were Krysta Wyatt a sophomore pre-med major from Lubbock, and Alan Hegi, a graduating senior from Petersburg with a double major in English and Spanish.

Dr. Anne Marie Elmquist, chairman of the Modern Languages Department, said the faculty in the French section chose the students whom they felt made exceptional progress during the year, regardless of the level of instruction.

Each of the French profes-

sors was asked to nominate the student whom he felt made outstanding progress, said French professor Dr. Claudine Hunting.

A committee of the French professors, including Hunting, Dr. Olivier Naudeau, Dr. Nancy L. Lawther and Dr. Eric H. Deudon, then evaluated the nominees on the basis of the written work they had completed during the year and on an interview with the committee — in French — to evaluate their oral skills.

The Prix d'Excellence is not awarded to the student who does better than everyone else, Hunting said. It is awarded to students who have made extraordinary progress in mastering the language. If there is no such student, she said, there will be no award.

Both students were presented with a certificate, a check and a leather-bound book of classic French literature. The awards were donated by the French Consulate in Houston.



Open bottle bill changed, accepted

United Press International
AUSTIN — A House subcommittee Tuesday unanimously approved a watered down version of the proposed open container law originally conceived to ban alcoholic beverages in motor vehicles.

The substitute bill that was passed and sent to the full House Liquor Regulation Committee would ban only the driver of a motor vehicle from consuming an alcoholic beverage. A violation would be a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of \$200.

The subcommittee version of the proposed law was expected to be taken up by the full committee later Tuesday.

Rep. Larry Shaw, D-Big Spring and chairman of the subcommittee, said the substitute bill he drafted should be an acceptable substitute to the full committee, which has been accused of dragging its feet on the issue.

"It certainly is a fair attempt to come somewhere in the middle of the issue," said Shaw,

adding the law was modeled after the open container prohibition in Connecticut. "My job was to find something that would get out of committee, and I think this will."

As originally drafted, the bill would have banned alcoholic beverages from the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle, not just consumption by the driver.

Marinelle Timmons, the state director of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, lauded the bill approved by the subcommittee as a "step forward," but expressed reservations that the bill might not go far enough.

"If the driver is riding alone, we've got him," she said. "If there's a passenger, I have no doubt the driver will hand the beer to him."

"We would have like to have seen alcoholic beverages banned in the passenger compartment. But the law does say basically that we don't condone drinking while driving, and that's the attitude that we're trying to get across in the state."

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