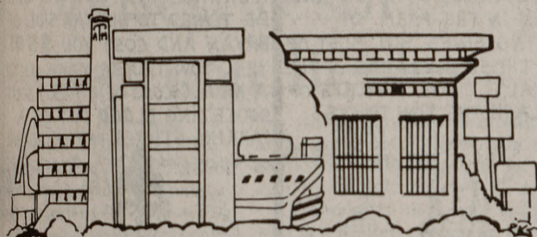


Around town



Single adults group to hold social

The Community of Single Adults will hold an autumn social tonight, beginning at 8 at the Ramada Inn in College Station. Refreshments will be provided. New single faculty and staff members are especially welcome. Dress is after 5 p.m.

COSA was founded on the Texas A&M University campus in 1981 as a service to the single faculty and staff members of the University.

Ultra-light planes on display Sunday

A special show of ultra-light aircraft will be held Sunday, Sept. 11, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bryan Utilities Lake Park on Sandy Point Road.

The one and two seat planes will be on display and will perform flying demonstrations. Admission is the same as the fee charged to fish, boat or picnic at the park: \$2 for a car holding up to six people, and senior citizens and annual passholders can enter free.

Israeli consul will speak Monday

Medal Medina, consul with the Consulate General of Israel, will participate in a roundtable discussion about the impact Prime Minister Begin's retirement will have on United States-Israeli relations. The program will be held at 8 p.m., Monday, Sept. 12, in 302 Rudder Tower. Two Texas A&M faculty members from the political science department, Dr. Michael Levy and Dr. William Snyder, will also participate in the discussion.

The program is sponsored by the Hillel Student Foundation, the Israel Club and the Political Science Society.

PCPA barbeque tickets now on sale

Tickets for a barbeque held on the Professional Career Planning in Agriculture day, Sept. 14, are on sale through Sept. 12. Students may choose to sit with representatives of the more than 40 agricultural companies participating in PCPA day. Tickets cost \$4, and can be bought in the Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center, the main hallway of the Memorial Student Center, and the Agriculture Building. The barbeque will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Brazos Center on Briarcrest Drive.

A career fair featuring the participating companies will be held on the second floor of the MSC from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for juniors, seniors and graduate students, and from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. for any interested students. The fair is free and open to anyone interested.

The annual PCPA day is sponsored by the National Agri-Marketing Association, the Career Planning and Placement Center, and the College of Agriculture.

For more information, call John Gudelman at 845-5139.

Library to offer tours next week

The Sterling C. Evans Library will offer free tours Sept. 12-16. The tours last about 45 minutes and provide information about materials and services available in the library.

Tour times and sign up sheets are posted close to the reference desk on the first floor of the library. For more information, contact Joe Jaros at 845-5741.

Hobby Hall to sponsor dance Friday

Hobby Hall will sponsor a dance at the Texas Hall of Fame, Friday, Sept. 9. It will begin at 8 p.m., and everyone is welcome.

Class of '85 will sponsor "Playday"

The Class of '85 will hold a "Playday" Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Royal Oaks Racquet Club on Carter Creek Parkway. For a \$2 fee paid at the door, participants can swim, play tennis, racquetball, or basketball. Activities begin at noon. Everyone should bring his own picnic lunch; drinks will be provided. Proceeds will go toward funding the class gift, to be presented in 1985.

To submit an item for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald.

'She wouldn't go now anyway'

Young girls could lose eyesight

United Press International
LEWISVILLE — The mother of two girls denied entry to the Soviet Union for eye treatments says she would not take the nearly blind daughters to Moscow now even if the Russians granted permission.

"I wouldn't want to risk getting over there and then being held prisoner, like what happened in Iran," said Marlene Syc. "Things are just too sticky right now. Even if we got permission, I wouldn't go. I just don't trust them."

Syc said Wednesday, in the

wake of the Soviet Union shooting down a South Korean airliner, that a Moscow trip now looms as dangerous.

The family made an initial trip to the Soviet Union in November 1982 and the girls received unique enzyme treatments for the condition that were developed by a Soviet scientist.

The daughters, Ginger, 10, and Sherry, 7, suffer from retinitis pigmentosa, a rare disease that causes a gradual loss of sight and results in blindness.

Ben and Marlene Syc's two daughters were scheduled to receive their second series of injections in November 1983, but Syc said she was informed Sunday by the Soviet tourist agency that the trip had been canceled.

Syc said she approves of President Reagan's response to the South Korean jet crisis and that, if anything, Reagan has been too easy on the Soviets. She said she does not worry that severe repercussions against the Soviets might further damage relations and hurt her daughters' chances of getting

additional treatments.

"Getting this thing cleared up is more important than the girls at this time," she said. "War would mean their whole future is threatened, not just their eyesight."

Sherry already is legally blind and Ginger's eye condition is stable, but both girls' vision is faint and blurry, the mother said. Both could be completely sightless by the time they are 20 years old, she said.

Syc said the Soviet eye treatments do not cure retinitis pig-

mentosis, but do seem to arrest the disease.

Even if the furor over the deaths of 269 passengers and crewmembers aboard the Korean commercial flight subsides by Christmas, it would take another six months for the Sycs to go through Soviet channels for the medical trip, she said.

"We'll just keep giving them as much visual stimulation as we can. Just day-to-day things, like nature and colors, and other things that will stick in their memory if they do go blind," Syc said.

Large banks facing changes

United Press International
FORT WORTH — Small country banks and big bank holding companies will be able to meet the stiffening competition in the financial industry, but banks in larger communities will have to change to survive, a Texas Christian University professor believes.

City banks will have to align themselves with big organizations, Dr. Stanley Block said.

"I really think the consumer is going to have so many options and alternatives that a financial institution that is not providing these alternatives is going to have a difficult time competing," Block said in an interview.

As a professor of finance and a writer on the banking industry, Block closely observes movements and trends in the financial community. Lately he's had a lot to watch.

"Five years ago, everybody was well defined," he said in an inter-

view. "You're a savings and loan, you a commercial bank, and you a brokerage house."

The clear delineation no longer exists, he said, and that makes it tougher for small banks to compete.

Increasingly, Block said, non-banking institutions such as Sears and American Express are moving into areas traditionally served by banks. Some banks are trying to find special areas of a market which they can effectively serve.

But as competition increases, Block said, "the fairly safe defined niches in the marketplace will be more difficult to establish."

Block sees bank holding companies as "very viable entities able to compete with the new participants in the financial services arena. I also think they will have to compete," he said.

"I think you'll see more situations such as Citicorp going up against Merrill Lynch, or Bank of

America competing with Sears Roebuck. I'm not sure anybody wants this, but it's coming."

New technology makes it easier to expand into other financial

The consumer is going to have so many options and alternatives that a financial institution that is not providing these alternatives is going to have a difficult time competing,
Dr. Stanley Block said.

fields, he said. Investment houses offer moneysaving plans; banks and department stores sell stocks.

But deregulation pressures also are involved.

"The Federal Reserve under (Chairman Paul) Volcker is saying 'Let's go slowly. Banks have a special place in our economy. Let's take this step by step. Let's not unleash the banks into too wide an array of services. And let's not move too quickly letting others into the traditional banking fields,'" Block said.

"At the same time, the administration and particularly Donald Regan, the Treasury secretary, with his Merrill Lynch background, says 'Let's go forward now in terms of competition for financial services.' He views the financial arena as similar to the airline industry in which there has been substantial deregulation."

"And basically, he suggests no one has really benefited from a go-slow policy when it comes to deregulation," Block said.

The two opposing concepts will be coming before the Senate Banking Committee this month.

"It's the feeling that Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, and his committee really haven't come to grips with these issues," Block said.

"Nevertheless, I would say the trend is toward increased competition. The question is when, not if."

In the very small rural communities, banks probably will survive, he said. "But most of the other banks, in larger communities, are going to have to align themselves with viable entities — like large holding companies — to compete," Block said.

The professor thinks barriers to interstate banking eventually will fall.

"Subtly, they're coming down now. I think a lot of the technological developments are leading to the breaking of interstate barriers. And the banks are now positioning themselves, on the drawing board, to be ready for interstate banking."

Don't be left out of the book!

The Aggieland yearbook

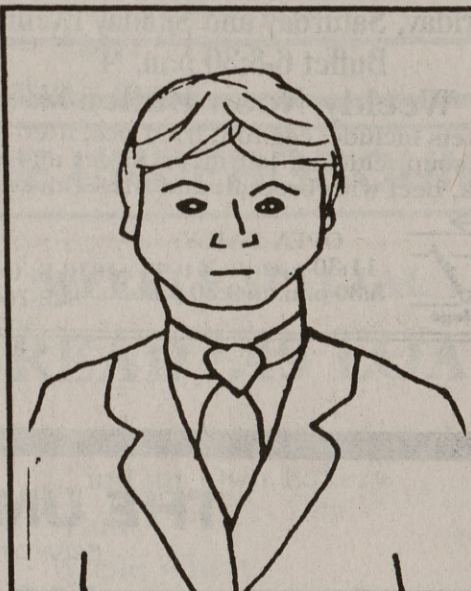


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Congressman fined, may be charged for auto accident

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Rep. Charles Wilson, D-Texas, paid a \$25 fine for colliding with another car in an accident on a rain-slick bridge last month but a charge of failing to report the accident still might be refilled, police said Thursday.

Police originally charged the six-term East Texas congressman with misdemeanor failure to report an accident but were told that the charge no longer existed under a "limbo period" involving a change in a District of Columbia law allowing no-fault insurance as of Oct. 1.

"Maybe we were right after all.

The lawyers are trying to get together to sort through the law," Brunzos said.

However, traffic division Capt. James Brunzos said Thursday that city lawyers now are saying the original assessment might have been wrong and the charge could have been filed.

However, he said that even if the charge is now valid, he personally doubted the charge would be refilled against Wilson after he paid the \$25 fine Wednesday.

"Probably, that will be one for his team," said Brunzos. "We probably won't attempt to bring it back."

Freshmen
Sophomores
Sept. 12-16
19-23
26-30

Oct. 3-7 Pavillion
10-14 Pavillion

Juniors
Nov. 7-11
14-18
Nov. 28-Dec. 2
Dec. 5-9 Pavillion

Seniors,
Grad, Vet, Med
Oct. 10-14
17-21
24-28

Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Pavillion

Photographs will be taken at the Yearbook Associates Office at 1700 S. Kyle behind Culpepper Plaza. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. During the weeks Oct. 3-7, Oct. 10-14, Oct. 31-Nov. 4, Dec. 5-9, photographs will be taken at the Pavillion on campus. For more information call Dena L. Brown at 845-2681.