



## Fraternity house in peril

by Michelle Powe

Battalion Staff

Members of the Texas A&M chapter of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity don't know if they can close the deal on their new house in Bryan until they find out if they are in violation of a Bryan historical district ordinance — and that's at least a couple weeks away.

Their 1903 mansion, at 600 E. 29th St., is in the East Side Historical District and some of the district's residents want the fraternity kicked out of the house because of an ordinance which protects the district.

The ordinance, agreed upon by 75 percent of the district's property owners, says "No new construction of multiple-family housing shall be carried out within the district nor shall existing structures be converted to multiple-family housing."

The problem is that there is no definition for multiple-family housing in the ordinance. The ordinance was put into effect while the house was being used as Discovery Land, Inc. as a psychiatric treatment center, which housed mental patients and doctors.

Bryan City Attorney Donald Wolfe is reviewing the case and will present his written opinion — and interpretation of the term "multiple-family housing" — to the Historic Landmark Commission September 28. Then the Commission must decide if the fraternity can stay or go.

Until then, SAE members must wait. They are now renting the house from its owner, Dr. John Kinross-Wright, and plan to buy it October 20.

Ray Walker, president of SAE, is confident that the fraternity will be allowed to stay in the house. He says the fraternity has a great deal of support from its alumni — "some very, very influential alumni" — and the support of some neighbors who have been impressed with how much the SAEs have taken care of the house.

Kinross-Wright says the people who want the fraternity members out of his house are being impractical. He says the members of SAE have kept the house in much better condition since they moved in last month than it has been in for several months. The house has been vacant since about the first of the year when Discovery Land moved out.

Kinross-Wright says that if the fraternity doesn't buy the house, which is being sold for about \$300,000, it may sit vacant for a long time because few people can afford to maintain such an expensive house as a residence.

Betty Foster, an historical district resident, says she doesn't care if the house is vacant — she just wants "to retain the integrity of the neighborhood."

Foster says she has nothing against the fraternity itself. She objects to fraternity members living in the house simply because their presence violates the ordinance, she says.

Another historical district resident, Colleen Batchelor, says she wants to "preserve the neighborhood community as a neighborhood of families."

Batchelor says that the members of SAE are "very polite and nice," but that students have different schedules and types of activities which may disrupt the neighborhood.

Walker says the SAEs will appeal the decision if the Historic Landmark Commission rules they must move out.

## Japanese turn back two Soviet bombers

United Press International

Japanese fighters scrambled Tuesday to turn back two Soviet bombers and two reconnaissance planes that flew within 100 miles of Japan shortly after Soviet warships ended an exercise in the Sea of Japan where a Korean airliner was shot down.

The unexplained presence of Soviet aircraft near Japanese airspace came a day after Moscow used its power in the U.N. Security Council to veto a resolution that "deeply deplored" the Soviet attack on Korean Air Lines Flight 007.

In Mariuzzell, Austria, Pope John Paul II Tuesday said the world cannot forget "the dead from the recent tragic shooting down of the South Korean airplane."

It was the pope's first public comment on the downing of the Korean airliner with 269 people aboard by Soviet fighter Sept. 1.

A 60-day boycott by pilots from eight Western nations had little apparent effect on air travel to the Soviet Union with East bloc and three Western airlines still making flights in and out of Moscow.

But Japan, furious at what it called Moscow's "shameless" response to the world, Tuesday ordered a two-week ban

on flights between Japan and the Soviet Union. Moscow spurned demands for compensation for the 269 people who died in the attack and expelled a U.S. diplomat and his wife for "spying."

The Japanese suspension, effective Thursday, will halt 14 Aeroflot flights between Moscow and Tokyo and two more between Khabarovsk in Siberia and Niigata, a port on the Sea of Japan.

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The suspension, effective Thursday and coupled with a 60-day boycott in eight European nations, will halt 14 Aeroflot flights between Moscow and Tokyo and two more between Khabarovsk in Siberia and Niigata, a port on the Sea of Japan.

Japan Air Lines flights to the Soviet Union will be grounded for two weeks, the Japanese government said.

The Soviet attitude is brazen and unscrupulous," Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said after a Cabinet session Tuesday.

Japanese government sources said the Soviet Union held maneuvers Tuesday in two locations in the Sea of Japan that involved the firing of live ammunition.

They said Japan had been notified of the maneuvers on Friday.

It was not long after the exercises, that two "Backfire" bombers and two TU-16 "Badger" reconnaissance planes flew near central Japanese airspace at about 9:50 a.m. (8:50 p.m. EDT Tuesday).

A spokesman for Japan's Self-Defense Forces said the incident occurred near Sado Island in the Sea of Japan, about 186.5 miles north of Tokyo.

The Soviet aircraft turned back after eight Japanese fighters scrambled from four air bases.

It was the first appearance of the Backfire bomber near Japanese air space since Sept. 14, 1982, he said.

In Bangkok, a small bomb exploded outside the offices of the Soviet air carrier Aeroflot today, shattering glass windows but causing no injuries. Police said a hand grenade may have been tossed against the building.

Along the coast of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, searchers found another business card belonging to Mason Chang of Taichung, Taiwan, police said. Police Monday found a similar card belonging to Chang, a passenger aboard the downed Boeing 747.



### Confrontation at Sully

photo by John Makely

A student, identified only as "Brother Who" testified to a group of about 60 students who gathered last night at the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross following Jerry

Falwell's program. "Who" led a book burning in response to Falwell's appearance on campus. Campus police were on the scene but no arrests were reported.

## A&M prof spends spring with Eskimo whale tribe

by Connie Hutterer

Battalion Reporter

Dr. Raymond Tarpley of the Texas A&M Department of Veterinary Anatomy returned to the University this summer after spending three months on the north slope of Alaska participating in an Eskimo whale harvest.

In mid-April, Tarpley, a research associate in aquatic animal medicine, traveled to Alaska to collect whale tissue samples. During his Arctic adventure, Tarpley gathered specimens from four of eight bowhead whales killed by Eskimo natives in a traditional hunt.

The bowhead is a species of baleen whale which feeds on small plants and animals caught in its vertical, bone-like screening structure — the baleen — which covers the jaw and takes the place of teeth. It is the largest endangered species in body size. Most of the three to four thousand surviving animals migrate between the Arctic Ocean and the Baltic Sea, Tarpley said.

The Eskimos would not allow outsiders to participate in the hunt for fear they would scare away the prey, Tarpley said.

Instead, Tarpley stayed with several other researchers who were studying whale anatomy and taking the annual whale census while he waited for news of a successful hunt. The researchers stayed at the Science Building in the government headquarters of Barrow, a town of about 3,000 people.

The researchers then sped to the hunters' settlement on snowmobiles, usually arriving in time to help land the whale. While the Eskimos sliced off strips of blubber, steaming in the Arctic cold, Tarpley and the others collected bones, digestive tissues and, most importantly, reproductive organs needed for studying the endangered species.

Killing of the rare whales is permitted for two reasons: the annual hunt is central to Eskimo culture, and it is a subsistence hunt — the whale products are used for nutrition, not for commercial sale, Tarpley said.

However, the hunters are limited to striking 17 whales per year, even if all are not retrieved and harvested.

The whales are struck with a harpoon and a gunpowder bomb but the hunters may have to pursue a bowhead for several hours before it dies. Another several hours are required to tow the dead whale to the Eskimo village.

Every person available, including visiting university researchers, is needed to help pull the whale up onto the ice, Tarpley said.

When the whale is safely landed, the villagers hurriedly strip it of its thick layer of blubber, called muk-tuk. The blubber, necessary for the whale to live year-round in frigid waters, may be more than 20 inches thick, Tarpley said. Three or four men stand on top of the whale with long-handled curved blades that resemble garden hoes and chop loose sections of blubber and meat. Workers on the ground grab the meat with hooks and run away from the carcass, peeling the whale "like a banana," Tarpley said. The bones are cleaned with two-inch ulus, or women's knives.

The harvesters must hurry, Tarpley said, because the insulating blubber is so effective that the whale is overheated from its pursuit, and quickly begins to rot even in freezing temperatures.

Some of the stripped-off muk-tuk, considered a delicacy by the Eskimos, is eaten raw at the harvest site. Some is boiled to make an oily stew and some of the meat is stored in ice cellars dug into the frozen ground. Each of

the 500 to 2,500 natives in the Eskimo village receives a share of the whale's meat. Chunks of "a handleable size" are distributed at the harvest and later at the summer whale celebration, or Nalakatuk.

The crew of the capturing boat receives a larger portion, and the boat's captain becomes a hero and leader in local government, Tarpley said.

The cold weather made it necessary to bundle up in layers of clothing, which made work difficult at best. The frigid temperatures interfered in other ways, too, Tarpley said, as tubs of chemical fixatives needed to preserve specimens had to be hung in high, warm places in the tent to prevent their freezing. Sometimes, tissues themselves froze before they could be placed in vials of the preservative.

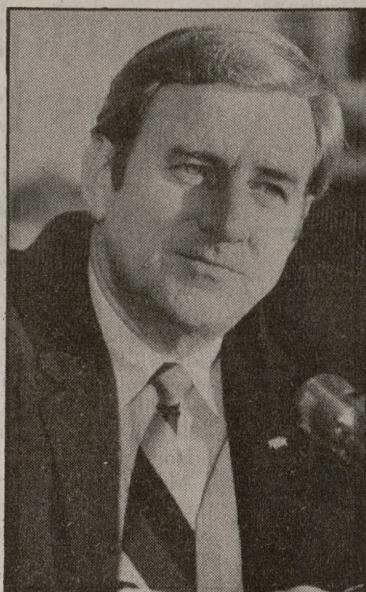
Little is known about whales because their habitat makes study difficult, so the tissue samples collected by researchers like Tarpley are valuable tools. Collections at the North Slope Borough have been conducted for four years under the guidance of Dr. Tom Albert, science adviser for the area. For the past three years, Dr. Raymond Cis, head of the Texas A&M Department of Veterinary Anatomy, has coordinated collections for his department.

Researchers hope to determine the functions of whale anatomy from its structure and to develop ideas of whale life and natural history. Permanent scars from ovulation discovered recently, for example, may help solve the mystery of the bowhead's fertility rate and may provide clues for determining the age of slaughtered females, Tarpley said.

The collection of sex organs is difficult, however, because hunters are fined for killing whales of reproductive

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## Falwell speaks of 'rebirth'



Jerry Falwell

by Michelle Powe

Battalion Staff

Moral Majority leader Jerry Falwell told a near-capacity crowd in Rudder Auditorium Tuesday night that "America is on the rebound," after two decades of "moral and spiritual darkness."

Falwell said "young people today have every reason to believe they'll live in a better society than their parents did." But he said today's young people also have to face four crises previous generations didn't have to deal with. This generation, he says, has to deal with Soviet expansionism, the "awful and awesome nuclear build-up in our society," the likelihood of economic crisis and "collapse ahead" and "the moral break-down and moral decadence" of American society.

Falwell said the "moral decadence" of American society began after World War II when parents who had survived

a devastating depression and world war decided that their children would have everything that they, the parents, had had to do without. Falwell said children were given everything they could possibly want, except values with which to shape their lives.

The result, he said, was two decades — the 1960s and 1970s — of rebellion against the establishment, family and church, academic deterioration, drug problems, high divorce rates, widespread violence and eventually diseases such as herpes and AIDS.

But now, Falwell believes, the United States is experiencing moral and spiritual rebirth. Young people today, he says, are more conservative than their parents and are forming values similar to those of their grandparents — and similar to those of the Moral Majority.

Falwell said the Moral Majority, Inc. was formed as a political lobbying group, with four major issues in mind. The Moral Majority, he said, is pro-life, pro-traditional family, pro-morality and pro-American.

The group opposes abortion, illegal drug traffic, pornography and divorce and supports voluntary prayer in public schools, a strong national defense and alliance with Israel.

*Young people today are more conservative than their parents and are forming values similar to those of their grandparents — Jerry Falwell.*

Falwell said he thinks President Reagan will use the Soviet downing of Korean airliner 007 for a long-range good. Reagan now has world support on his side, Falwell said.

"The entire world now sees that the Soviets do not have good intentions," he said, "and do not respect human life." Falwell said he supports President

Reagan's "peace through strength" policy because strength is the best deterrent to war. The Soviets respect strength, he said.

"We can't afford weakness," he said. "We've got to be strong to protect ourselves."

"You never hear of anyone mugging a heavyweight boxer," he said.

Falwell said the U.S. must take a stand against the Soviets in Central America. The threat of the "Soviet bear," he said, is only as far away as El Salvador.

"I'd prefer to stop them (the Soviets) in El Salvador rather than El Paso," he said.

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### Correction

The Battalion incorrectly reported weekend parking regulations. Students may park in staff parking on the weekends, however, they may not park in reserved spaces. The Battalion regrets the error.

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