

Handicapped parking for handicapped only

by David Manning
Battalion Reporter

An increase of cars parked illegally in handicapped parking spaces is forcing the University Police to tow all such vehicles away, Bob Wiatt, director of security and traffic, says.

"Enforcement of handicapped parking violations will be seven days a week, 24 hours a day," Wiatt said.

Dr. Charles Powell, coordinator of Handicapped and Veteran Services, said the University Police have no alternative but to tow all violators.

A survey conducted for Handicapped and Veteran Services found that unauthorized

vehicles are parked in handicapped spaces 69 percent of the time.

A \$10 fine does not deter violators from parking in handicapped zones, he said. Powell is recommending that the Board of Regents impose a \$50 fine for the violation next year.

He said the College Station Police Department enforces a \$50 fine for handicap parking violations.

"Do you ever see cars parked illegally in handicapped spaces at Safeway? ... not too often," Powell said.

There are about 160 handicapped spaces on campus, and only 30 or 40 of them are located

next to buildings. Seventy-five permanently disabled persons on campus need those spots, Powell said.

However, more handicapped spaces are available this year because almost no temporary spaces have been awarded, Powell said.

Last year, temporary permits were issued to people with broken legs and other major injuries. This year they're not being issued because the people with such disabilities are considered mobile, Powell said.

Powell's office provides a shuttle bus service from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for persons needing assistance to class.



Squirrel causes grass fire

staff photo by John Makely

The College Station Fire Department responds to a grass fire Saturday at 11:30 on Dorothy Isgitt's land off F&B road in Bryan. The fire was caused by a squirrel

short-circuiting a transformer in the middle of a pasture. The fire was quickly contained and only burned about one half acre of underbrush.

No money next fiscal year

Hensel won't get replaced

by Ronnie Crocker
Battalion Staff

Some Texas A&M streets will continue to be in need of repair for a while because of a lack of money in the maintenance fund, associate Vice President for operations Jim Ferguson says.

Hensel Drive, which runs through the married student housing area near South College Avenue, is full of potholes and uneven surfaces, and has residents complaining about its condition.

Resident Cathie Lockett said the condition of the road is "awful." "When driving on the road, he has to 'dodge the potholes,'" he said.

Her husband, Pete, a sophomore horticulture major, agreed. He said he avoids the road as much as possible because of the bumps.

Lockett said he sees the asphalt patches in the road washed away during the first rain that follows the repairs. The problem is a lot worse than it was two years ago when he was here last, he said.

Ferguson said workers could continue to patch the road, but in order to do a "first class job" officials want to replace the road with a new one. He estimated that the job would cost several hundred thousand dollars.

Gene Ray, director of grounds maintenance, said his department receives money for routine repairs, but not for construction projects of that magnitude.

Since state appropriations for maintenance and repair won't cover the cost of the job, Ferguson said the alternatives are limited. The office of operations will try to integrate the project into the University's five-year master plan, he said.

Items placed in the master plan are based on the priority they are given. Repairs for Hensel Drive are not yet included in the master plan.

Some repairs in the master plan include replacing the section of Bizzel Street from Jersey Street to Lubbock Street. It will cost about \$700,000 and is scheduled for fiscal year 1985.

Ferguson said the Bizzel Street project was given higher priority because it is used often to get from Jersey Street to the university.

Ray said reasons for the condition of Hensel Drive include a broken water line which occurred in the early 1970s and shuttle bus traffic.

Ray compared loaded shuttle buses to concrete trucks, saying they put a lot of wear and tear on the roads.

Spence housing women beginning this spring

by Kay Mallett
Battalion Reporter

On-campus spring housing sign-up begins tonight and will continue through Wednesday for students currently living in the residence halls.

This spring, women residents will have an extra option — moving into Spence Hall.

Spence Hall presently is a male dormitory occupied by the

Corps of Cadets and civilian students, however, beginning in January it will house only civilian women, Housing Services Supervisor Tom Murray says.

Each residence hall will have a table set up from 6 to 9 p.m. for the housing sign-up.

Students may either sign up to stay in the same room, to change rooms, or to change residence halls, Murray says.

Students not returning to the dormitories this spring must sign up for a deposit refund. Current hall residents that neglect to sign up will lose their room and their deposits automatically will be refunded, Murray says.

Students planning to co-op in the spring should sign-up to reserve a room for next fall, he says.

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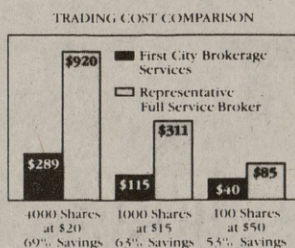
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