

# RAs, head residents have good benefits

By LESLIE MARTIN  
Reporter

Lauren Specht has an important job. She listens with an attentive ear, attends mixers, controls the noise level of her neighbors, locks doors and schedules fire drills. And that's only part of it.

Specht is a resident adviser. Specht, and the other resident advisers here, have a number of other duties which include checking dorm residents in and out, scheduling floor meetings and enforcing dorm regulations regarding cooking and visitation privileges.

She must also be on duty one night a week and two weekend nights each month. During that time Specht must be in her room and available to handle problems that may arise. In general, she and the other RAs are responsible for whatever goes on in their, and all other residence halls.

But along with the work comes many benefits.

Parker Pieri, an RA in Howard Hall, says, "When I am on duty I have to enforce quiet hours and this gives me a chance to study." Working with

people and gaining work experience are also advantages of his job, he says.

Another bonus is the pay. RAs work between 10 and 25 hours a week and receive a salary of about \$1,000 a semester.

Any student who has lived in a dorm for at least one semester can apply, if the student has an overall grade-point ratio of at least 2.25, is a sophomore or higher, and has leadership qualities.

"We're looking for students who are honest and open and have good communication skills," says Nyla Ptomey, housing programs supervisor.

Applications may be obtained at any of the area housing offices at the beginning of each semester. Interviews are held before mid-semester.

Head resident advisers also serve dorm residents but in a different capacity. Head residents oversee the RAs in the dorm and meet with them once a week. They are advisers to the dorm council and the Judicial Boards. A big part of their job is submitting paperwork such as dorm occupancy reports, plans for upcoming activities, and

maintenance orders to the area office.

The position was originally intended for graduate students but this year six undergraduates are among the 28 head residents. Applicants must meet the same requirements as resident advisers and accept responsibility for all dorm activities.

Denise Heitcamp, one of six undergraduate HRs, says one of her duties is dealing with sticky problems that no one else wants to tackle.

"One night I had to single-handedly stop 20 men from having an underwear run through our halls," she said.

Joe Woulfe, head resident for Schuhmacher Hall, is a graduate student from Buffalo, New York. Like other HRs, his room rent is paid, his out-of-state tuition is waived, and he makes about \$2,000 a semester.

Fliers and applications for head resident positions are sent to schools all over the nation to encourage graduate students from other states to attend Texas A&M.

# Mother sues company for selling beer to minor responsible for accident

United Press International

HOUSTON — The mother of an 18-year-old University of Texas freshman filed a \$12.5 million suit Tuesday against a convenience store company because it sold beer to a minor who later was responsible for an accident which seriously injured her son.

Sue Hammerle, mother of Mark Hammerle, said a Southland Corp. employee working at a Houston 7-Eleven Store sold beer to Rex Woods, 18, on Dec. 22, 1983, which caused him to become intoxicated.

Woods, and his father Darrel Woods, also were named as defendants in the suit and were charged with negligence.

Similar suits have been filed against bar owners who served drinks to customers who later were involved in auto accidents. Hammerle's lawyer Richard Mithoff of Houston said his client, who was an outstanding football and baseball player before the accident, "now is incapacitated."

"He can talk, but he's like a little boy again. He was a good student, but he is having to learn to add and subtract," Mithoff said.

Mithoff said Hammerle sustained brain damage which resulted in irreparable damage. He said the teenager is incapable of caring for himself.

In the suit, filed in Harris County District court, Mithoff named the Southland Corp. for selling alcoholic beverages to

Woods. Mithoff said Woods was intoxicated when he purchased beer a second time from the same store.

In the suit, he claimed that Rex Woods, who was driving the car, was a reckless and in-

competent driver and that his father, Darrel Woods was responsible for the damages caused by his son.

Southland Corp. officials could not be reached for comment.

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