

Towing Alert

A&M police begin cracking down on all campus parking violators

By SARAH OATES
Reporter

You're late for class again and are caught in a 9 a.m. parking lot battle, jockeying for position in a long line of cars with each student determined to grab the last available parking space. Unfortunately, an equally resolute pickup driver has just zipped in ahead of you and claimed it for his own.

The only space available is marked off for use by handicapped students, but you park there anyway, reasoning that after class you can come back and move the car. But when you return, you're dismayed to find it has been towed.

"We try to uniformly tow all cars in violation of parking regulations," said Elmer Schneider, chief of the Texas A&M University Police Department.

Schneider said University Police officers continually patrol all campus parking areas to check for violations. Cars are towed 24 hours a day and an officer on each shift is assigned to make sure the policy is enforced.

If an illegally parked car is not towed, the officer must explain why in his daily written report. The reports are submitted to Schneider and his assistant, Mike Ragan.

Schneider said that sometimes wreckers are not available to tow cars right away, which is why an illegally parked car occasionally remains parked until a wrecker is available.

The University Motor Vehicle Regulations pamphlet lists violations for which a car can be towed:

- Spaces reserved for handicapped persons and numbered reserve spaces can only be used by vehicles with the appropriate permits.
- Students, faculty or staff with six or more parking tickets can have their cars towed at anytime.
- Students, faculty and staff are not allowed to park in areas designated for visitors.
- Vehicles parked in short-term parking areas, such as those marked "30 minutes," can be towed if left in the space after the time limit has expired.
- Vehicles parked in any way that obstructs the flow of traffic, such as in bus stops or loading zones, can be towed.
- Parking at curbs is prohibited, unless signs or pavement markings specifically indicate that parking is permitted.
- Motorcycles and scooters should only be parked in designated areas. Motorcycles should not be parked in bike racks, unless a "MOTORCYCLE" sign is displayed. Mopeds may be parked in bike racks.
- Where parallel parking is permitted, the vehicle must be parked within 18 inches of the curb and must be headed in the direction of traffic.
- "Handicapped space abuse is high," said Maj. Boris Maddox, assistant director of administration of the University Police Department. "We've gotten lots of complaints from handicapped students."

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Rollins discusses changes

Corps' aim is higher grades

By SUZY FISK
Reporter

Chuck Rollins, who will be Corps Commander beginning next semester, says he wants to see changes in the Corps that will lead to higher grades and renewed pride by the cadets.

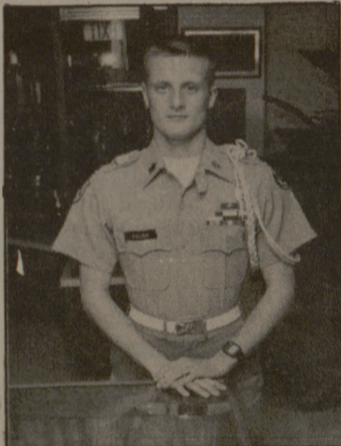
The Corps is already pushing for higher grades this semester in an attempt to raise its overall average. The Corps is more active during the football season and so cadet grades usually are lower then, Rollins says.

He says he plans to continue to "push grades" to keep the average above a 2.3 GPR, the Corps' present average.

Several years ago when the University was all Corps, grades were not a problem, Rollins says. However, trying to compete with the rest of the University is a big change.

He has seen a definite improvement in grades since last semester and wants to keep them from becoming a critical issue again. Rollins says if the grades drop the Corps will find it more difficult to survive.

"If grades drop below the University's average then it might be said that (being in the Corps) hurts grades," he says.



Chuck Rollins

A key to improving grades is continuing the study time required for freshmen and sophomore cadets, Rollins says. However, juniors with inadequate grades (below a 2.0 GPR for the semester) now are required to "sit CQ."

"CQ" or "call to quarters" is a three-hour period Sunday through Thursday when freshmen and sophomores must study.

Rollins says he also plans to

work on the internal attitude of the Corps. He wants "to get everybody feeling good" about being in the Corps and to get rid of any doubt as to why they are there. He says the morale of the Corps is low because of a "persecution complex" that exists. He says there is a feeling that people are out to get them, and he plans to use the push for grades as a way for the Corps to gain confidence. By matching grade point averages with the University, he says, attitudes will improve.

Another concern will be to improve the retention rate in the Corps, which now has 1,871 members. Rollins says roughly 250 freshmen have withdrawn from the Corps for various reasons, mainly grades. In the fall there were 2,100 cadets enrolled. A drop to 1,871 cadets is "a little low," but not abnormally low for the Corps, Rollins says.

"People think there's a magic number but there isn't," he says. Rollins says he has no problems with Corps policy in eliminating "fish bites" and "quadding." However, he is trying to negotiate a compromise with Corps Commandant Col. Donald Burton to allow the Corps to

Seniority system to be used for pre-registration in April

By TRICIA PARKER
Staff Writer

Pre-registration for the fall semester will be slightly different this Spring.

Students will still have to see advisers and wait in lines but card packets will be eliminated and a seniority system will be implemented.

Donald Carter, associate registrar for admissions and records says the IBM computer cards will be eliminated in favor of a standard eight and a half by eleven inch form.

Rushing to the Animal Pavilion at 8 a.m. Monday is also a thing of the past. Students can present their forms only on the day specified in the schedule.

Carter says the IBM cards are being eliminated because the machinery used to process them is obsolete.

"We started our first automated system in 1969 and we've modified it considerably over the years. It's so antiquated now that it's working from sheer brute force on our part to make it work, he said."

Another change is in the way the information will be fed into the computer. Terminals in the Pavilion will replace the old system of manually pulling cards, thus making the system more accurate, Carter said.

"We are not changing the system," Carter said, "just the method of collecting the data."

This method should be quicker and there should be fewer errors."

The changes are all part of an interim registration system designed to help the present outmoded system cope with the preregistration rush and to help pave the way for a new software system which is being planned.

Carter says the University is in the process of buying a new software system which will help not only with registration but with admissions, records and financial aid as well. He says the new software should be fully operational in 18 to 24 months, at which time an entire new way of preregistering may be needed.

The new schedule for preregistration is as follows:

- April 9 — Graduate students
- April 10 — Seniors with last names beginning A-K.
- April 11 — Seniors with last names beginning L-Z.
- April 12 — Juniors with last names beginning A-K.

April 13 — Juniors with last names beginning L-Z.

April 16 — Sophomores with last names beginning A-K.

April 17 — Sophomores with last names beginning L-Z.

April 18 — Freshmen with last names beginning A-K.

April 19 — Freshmen with last names beginning L-Z.

April 20 — All students.

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MEETING SCHEDULE:

BRYAN BRYAN CENTER 3006 29th Street, #1	COLLEGE STATION LUTHERAN STUDENT CENTER 315 North College Main
Mon. 9:30 a.m.	Thurs. 5:15 p.m.
Tue. 9:30 a.m.	
Wed. 9:30 a.m.	
Fri. 9:30 a.m.	
Sat. 10:00 a.m.	

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