

## Around town

### Who's Who applications available now

Applications for **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges** are available at boxes located in the Commandant's Office, MSC, Student Activities Office, Zachry Engineering Center, Sterling C. Evans Library, Kleberg Center, the office of the dean of Veterinary Medicine, and the office of the vice president for Student Services. Completed applications must be returned by 5 p.m. Sept. 28.

Students must meet requirements for grade points and completed credit hours. From the qualified applicants, 55 students will be selected to Who's Who by a committee composed of faculty, staff and students appointed by the vice president of Student Services and the student body president. Any questions should be directed to Chris Carter in 110 YMCA.

### Driver safety course begins Friday

The TAMU After Hours Program will sponsor a **Driver Safety Course** on Saturday. This course may be used to have certain traffic violations dismissed and to receive a 10 percent discount on automobile insurance. Registration is held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in 216 MSC. For more information, call 845-9352.

### Apply for research programs now

The National Research Council announces the 1985 Postdoctoral, Resident and Cooperative Research Associateship Programs for research in the sciences and engineering to be conducted in behalf of 21 federal agencies or research institutions, whose laboratories are located throughout the United States.

Information on specific research opportunities and federal laboratories, as well as application materials, may be obtained from Associateship Programs, Office of Scientific and Engineering Personnel, JH 608-D3, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, (202) 334-2760. Applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 15.

## Solar heat operation costs less

By MARK VIGUET  
Reporter

Using solar energy to heat water for homes is an idea that appeals to many budget-minded homeowners.

However, Dr. Paul Woods, who teaches a graduate course in passive solar design in the construction science department at Texas A&M, says there are more things to ponder than money when considering the purchase of a solar water heating unit.

"There are two types of solar water heaters, passive and active," Woods said. "Both of these will probably have collector and storage devices."

Passive units simply heat the water with the sun and store it in a well-insulated box, he said. "Passive solar heaters have no moving parts," Woods said. "They don't need electricity or a pump to operate, they last longer and may cost less than the active type."

Woods said an active solar water heater enables the water to be stored at a distance from the unit. "With an active unit, a pump moves the water where you need it and then is heated by the storage/collection device," he said. "And an active unit may get the water slightly hotter than a passive device."

A homeowner must consider equipment costs as well as operational costs when deciding between a solar or conventional unit, Woods said.

"Initial costs for a solar heater will be much higher than for a conventional system," Woods said. "But the operating costs of the solar type will usually be a lot less. Also, there are tax credits for solar units you can't take advantage of with a regular unit."

Since the purchase of a solar system is an investment, Woods said, one also should consider the interest rates in his area if a loan will be needed for the purchase.

"If the costs outweigh the benefits in the long run, you obviously shouldn't make the purchase," he said.

Woods said solar units have been gaining in popularity for the last decade.

"These solar units aren't new," he said. "There were solar collectors built almost 100 years ago, but the technology of them has improved to the point where they are more accessible to the homeowner."

"Their popularity tends to fluctuate with the costs and availability of fuel. With a fuel price increase or a decrease in the amount of fuel, the units increase in popularity."

Woods said a common denominator among all solar water heating units is the presence of a backup system.

"The sun doesn't shine all the time," Woods said.

## Keeping a budget helpful to students

By TRENT LEOPOLD  
Reporter

Preparing a budget and keeping a record of where money is spent is the best way for college students to efficiently manage their money says Nancy Granovsky, a home economist with the Texas A&M Agricultural Extension Service.

"But many students feel they are in a steel cast if they have to follow a budget," Granovsky said.

"A student should not feel like his budget is placing restrictions on his lifestyle if he prepares it correctly," Granovsky said. "When someone prepares a budget he should not just decide to allocate his money to certain areas, but prepare a trial budget and then follow the plan."

Granovsky said the amount of money a student spends in a month depends upon the individual.

"Some students spend what I consider to be extravagant amounts of

money while others pinch their pennies," she said. "Each individual has different circumstances."

Although students have various lifestyles, Granovsky said, everyone has the common problem of a limited income to satisfy unlimited wants.

"No matter how much money you make it will never be enough," Granovsky said.

The best way for a student to prepare his budget is to write down all of the major expenses for a month such as school supplies, housing, food, clothing and entertainment, Granovsky said.

"It is important for the student to write down the expenses as the month progresses, not just at one sitting," she said. "After a student determines what his monthly expenses are then he should prepare the budget and stick with it in the following months."

## Death row inmate severely burned by bomb explosion

United Press International

HUNTSVILLE — Two Death Row prisoners, one with links to a white supremacy prison group, Wednesday threw a crude bomb in the cell of a black inmate, who was burned severely.

James Michael Briddle, 29, who has refused to discuss his ties with the Aryan Brotherhood, and Warren Eugene Bridge, 24, both white, were named suspects in the attack on Calvin J. Williams, 24, at the Ellis I Unit outside Huntsville.

Texas Department of Corrections spokesman Phil Guthrie said the two threw some kind of flammable material, perhaps a firebomb, on Williams and then tossed a crude bomb fashioned from spray cans into his cell about 8 a.m.

"We don't know what caused the fire. It broke out very suddenly which made us immediately think of the possibility of another device," he said.

He said guards were at the cell "immediately" and used a fire extinguisher to put the fire out.

Briddle and Bridge, who were on their way to a recreation period at the time, surrendered two homemade knives.

"That has us concerned also. They do routinely shake down them (in Death Row). It is a concern in any high-security situation like that for a prisoner to have a weapon. We're trying to figure out where they came from and will check our procedures," he said.

The two inmates were put in solitary confinement to preserve any evidence they might have in their cells, Guthrie said.

Williams, who was stabbed several times in an April 1983 incident on Death Row, was taken to John Sealy Hospital in Galveston and listed in fair condition with burns on both his legs.

After guards removed him from his cell, they found a small bomb about the size of a Coke can.

Guthrie said the bomb, a piece of tubing with aerosol spray containers on each end and a fuse, was detonated by a team from Fort Hood at 1:20 p.m.

"They described it as a slight explosive," he said.

He said it had not been determined if the cause for the attack was racially motivated.

"It appears to be more a case of personal dislike and animosity to-

ward the victim. We have found no tie-in with the AB (Aryan Brotherhood)," he said.

Briddle has been linked with the Aryan Brotherhood, a white supremacist prison group formed at San Quentin prison in California in the 1960s to protect members from black and Hispanic militants. The motto of the group is "Kill to get in and die to get out."

The FBI has described its membership as "stone-cold killers."

The group evolved from a Nazi organization in prison and Briddle wears a swastika and the Nazi SS lightning bolt tattooed on his left arm.

But Briddle, sentenced to death for the February 1980 rope strangulation of a Houston man, has been very guarded in talking on the Brotherhood, estimated to have 300 members nationwide.

"Listen to me," he said in an interview two years ago. "I don't fear the death penalty hanging over me. But I do fear a piece of steel in my belly. Let's not talk about the Brotherhood."

## Ruling furthers corporate responsibility

United Press International

DALLAS — Companies may find themselves more responsible for their employees' conduct because of a \$600,000 settlement to the relatives of three people killed by a worker who was sent home drunk and had a traffic accident.

Two days before the suit against Otis Engineering Corp. of suburban Carrollton was to have gone to the jury, the company agreed Tuesday to pay \$600,000 to the relatives of three people killed in a 1978 car crash.

Testimony in the trial, which was authorized by the Texas Supreme Court in November 1983, indicated that Otis employee Robert Matheson

was ordered to go home when he showed up for work drunk.

An autopsy of Matheson, who also died in the accident, indicated he had consumed the alcoholic equivalent of 18 cocktails.

Matheson lost control of his car and crashed into another vehicle, killing Janis Clark, 33, her son, Derrick Grabauskas, 12, and her mother-in-law, Geraldine Clark, 55.

Most legal attention has focused on the Texas Supreme Court's decision to allow the trial, not the \$600,000 settlement that followed.

"The employer is now on the horns of an insoluble dilemma as to what to do," John McElhany, a lawyer for Otis, said.

"The employer doesn't have the right to keep an employee in custody against his will," he said. "I don't think any employee knows what they can do now."

The unusual case also drew the attention of the Trial Lawyers of America in Washington, D.C.

The ruling takes corporate responsibility "a step and a half farther than what was accepted," said Jeff White, editor of TLA's in-house publication.

Baylor University law professor Michael Morrison suggested the decision to allow the case to go to trial was a landmark ruling.

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will host a **Grand Opening** reception signalling a new era for local trophy stores. OMC Industries, Inc. of Bryan, a leader in the national recognition awards market, has recently acquired Aggieldand Awards and has rapidly expanded its product selection to accommodate the gift and recognition needs of all clubs and organizations in the Brazos Valley.

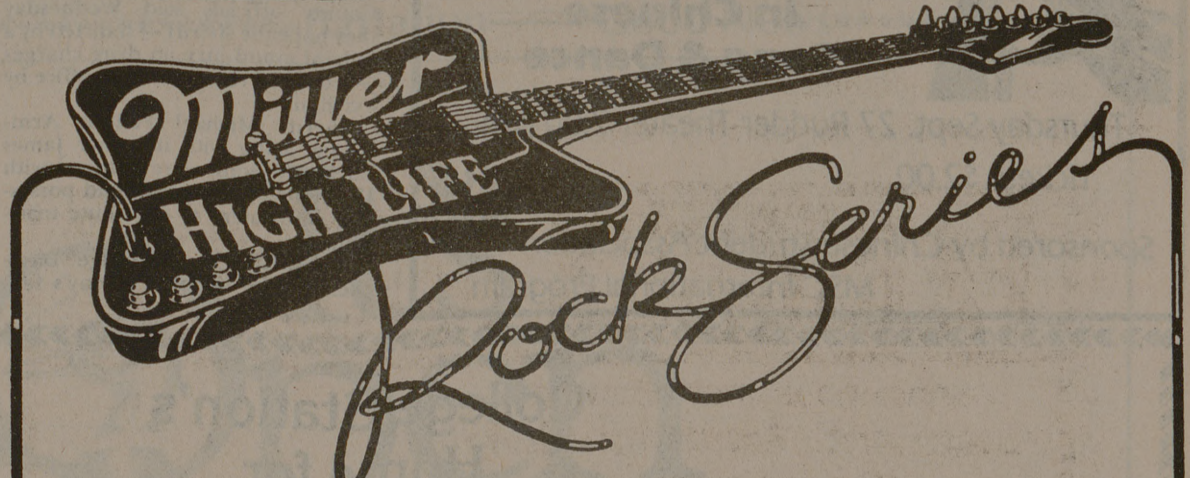
The **Reception** will be kicked off by a Chamber of Commerce Ribbon-Cutting at 4pm and will feature free snacks and drinks until 7pm and demonstrations of our exclusive **computerized engraving** operation. We look forward to seeing you Thursday afternoon and serving you with the best service in the Brazos Valley.

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