

# 'Hotdog lady' serves students

By ANN BRIMBERRY  
Reporter

You can see her almost every weekday in a red and white striped apron selling hotdogs and cold drinks on the corner of Ireland and Ross streets on campus.

Sharon Turner, also known to some as the "hotdog lady," is employed by Texas A&M Food Services Department as an assistant to sell snacks to faculty and students who are on the go between classes.

"The philosophy of the Food Services Department is to provide the best service to the students," said James Arnold, manager of The Underground snack bar. "This enables the students easy access to get a bite to eat during breaks."

Turner assembles her cart at about 8:00 each morning with pastries, coffee, juice, milk and soft drinks. The pastries cost 25 cents to 50 cents and the beverages cost 25 cents to 60 cents.

Sandwiches and hotdogs are added to the cart at about 10:15 a.m. and sell for \$1 each.

"We're busy with hotdogs and sandwiches and lunch items from

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.," Turner said. "Another young lady comes and helps me during that time because we usually have kids lined up everywhere."

Turner moved to College Station eight months ago from New York, where she worked as a physical therapy assistant.

"Most of all, there are pretty nice kids at Texas A&M," she said. "When I moved here I didn't know anyone, just the people at work. But a lot of kids come everyday. They come and talk with me, and I look forward to seeing them. I see something different in them. I like the people."

The Food Services Department started the cart service last October. Eventually the covered area on the corner of Ross and Ireland streets will be made into a snack bar with a grill which will enable the students to have more of a variety, Turner said.

"We are very pleased with the progress we've seen," Arnold said. "Sharon really enjoys her job, and the fact that she does makes it all worthwhile."



Photo by DAVID LEYENDECKER

University employee Sharon Turner sells geology graduate student Frank Irwin a danish from her stand.

## Nation's economic growth slows

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The gross national product grew at a moderate 3.6 percent annual rate during the past quarter, only half as strong as the previous three month period, the government said Thursday, but officials believe it may be enough to improve the job market.

The "flash" projection by government economists did not include the effects of the United Auto Workers strike against General Motors that could reduce growth to 3.3 percent if it lasts until Sept. 30.

The unemployment rate has remained at 7.5 percent for three of the past four months, the same rate as when President Reagan took office.

But Commerce Department chief economist Robert Ortner said the pace is still strong enough to ease the unemployment rate downward in the months ahead.

The department's report on the value of all the country's goods and

services showed the economy is now going through one of its slowest periods of the recovery, but remains better than the average of the past two years average.

In the eight quarters since the GNP stopped shrinking, only two have had lower growth rates.

The vigorous April-June quarter grew at a revised rate of 7.1 percent, slightly less than the 7.6 percent last reported, and the first quarter surged at a spectacular 10.1 percent rate.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes, speaking from Air Force One as President Reagan flew to a campaign stop in Iowa, called the report "good news" and said the latest figures indicate "the economy is settling into sustainable growth."

The slowdown in July and August is being blamed on high interest rates and the fact consumers may have finally caught up on the purchases delayed through two recent recessions.

"The fastest part of the recovery is over," said economist Larry Chimerine, head of the Chase Economics analysis firm.

"The only question is whether this is the beginning of an even sharper slowdown" or a continuing moderate growth pattern, he said.

The indicated slowdown was less drastic than many Wall Street analysts anticipated as they revised their economic outlooks downward this week. So the effect on trading was muted even though slower growth encourages investors that interest rates may come down.

For the economy as a whole, the weaker growth path suggests a slowdown in the creation of new jobs.

The report said inflation throughout the economy, not just for consumers, is expected to run at a 2.9 percent rate in the third quarter, less than the second quarter's 3.3 percent.

## Los Fresnos hardest hit

# Coast seeking relief

United Press International

BROWNSVILLE — The Cameron County Commissioners court unanimously asked Gov. Mark White Thursday to seek federal disaster relief for a coastal area that County Judge Moises Vela said suffered \$25 to \$50 million in damages from a 20-inch tropical rain.

Vela took a helicopter ride over the county and reported that 50 percent to 75 percent of the eastern portion along the coast was still under water a day after heavy thunderstorms subsided.

While Vela was aloft, storm clouds from a tropical disturbance in the Gulf of Mexico headed for the flooded area, but the National Weather Service reported at midafternoon that the system broke up over land and dropped only light rainfall from

South Padre Island-Port Isabel to Los Fresnos and Brownsville.

Three straight days of heavy rain that ended Wednesday morning in the same area routed an estimated 300 people from their homes. Most of them were returning on Thursday along with the 1,500 people who had been evacuated from flood-prone Matamoros, Mexico.

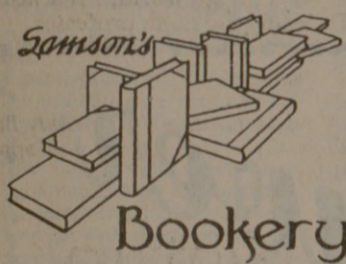
The rainfall, heaviest since Hurricane Beulah swept ashore on Sept. 20, 1967, was spun ashore from a tropical wave that receded 100 miles offshore Wednesday, but which still was being monitored closely by the National Hurricane Center on Thursday.

Wind gusts of up to 47 mph were registered at South Padre Island as a fast-moving squall swept across the sandy resort

shortly after noon Thursday, but a police spokeswoman said later the rainfall was not enough to add to the flooding on the sandy resort.

"All of the state roads, county roads and city roads that are either caliche or asphalt disintegrate when they're under water and they're very expensive to repair," Vela said after the commissioners court voted 5-0 to seek federal disaster relief. "And that's just one damage. There also is damage to houses under water."

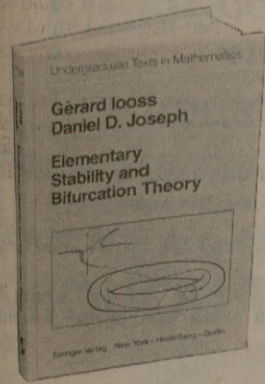
At Los Fresnos, the area hardest hit by flooding, about 80 people from the low-lying Del Mar Heights area were still waiting at the First Baptist Church for the water to recede from around their shacks.



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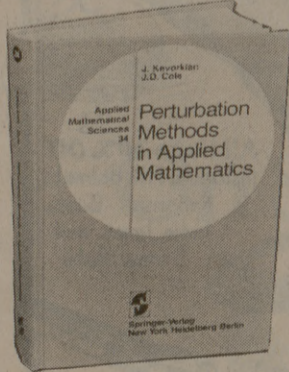
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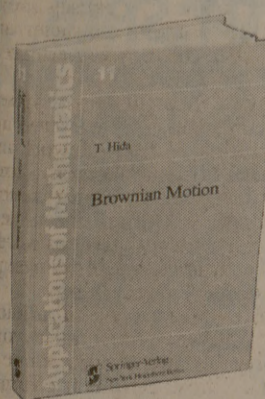
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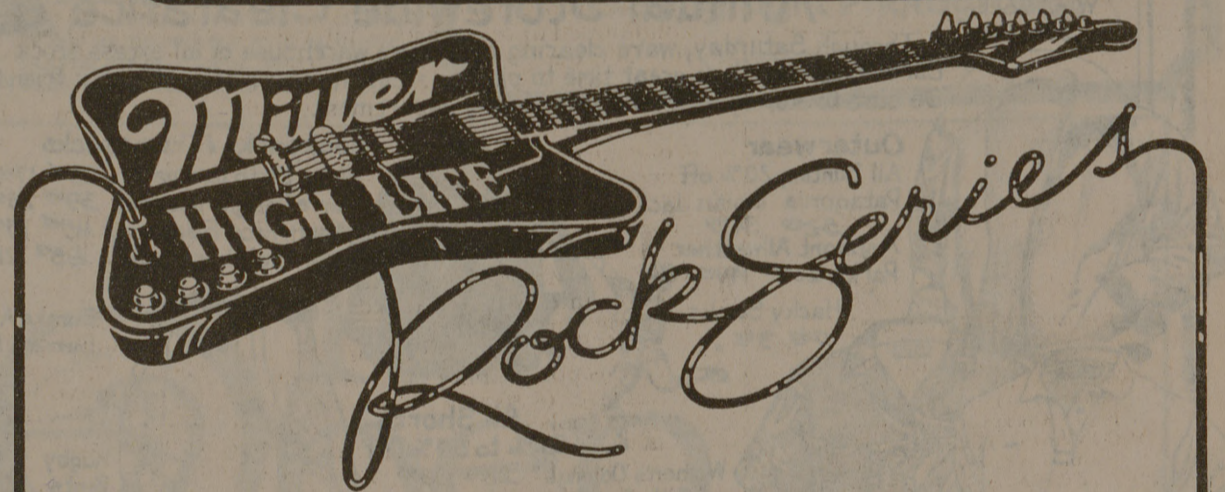
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