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takes place today

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Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

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Here comes the sun

Photo by PETER ROCHA

This large crane at the new physics building Fair weather has allowed construction to appear to be carrying the afternoon sun. continue this week.

Cops call spaces 'sacred'

Too many people are illegally parking in reserved lots near Sterling C. Evans Library, and University Police say they have received numerous complaints from faculty and staff whose reserved spaces are being used by students.

To combat the problem, University Police are blocking off four or five specially designated "sacred" spaces in the reserved lots near the Library. Parking Annexes 6, 10, 13,

18, 22 and 34 will contain the sacred spaces.

The spaces are marked off for faculty and staff use when other people are parked in their reserved spaces. University Police will tow illegally parked cars at the request of the reserved space owner.

The sacred spaces are available during the day to anyone with a sticker for that particular reserved

lot. University Police will patrol the lots at night and on weekends, and will tow any cars parked illegally in the reserved lots, including first offenders.

University parking regulations allow anyone with a valid permit to park in a lot from 4 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., but any car illegally parked in a sacred space at any time will be towed.

Good security protects property

By TRENT LEOPOLD
Staff Writer

Recent police statistics indicate that more than 296 College Station residents were burglarized last year, and a Texas household is burglarized every two minutes.

Marvin Byrd, College Station Police Chief, said residential burglary is one of the most frequent crimes committed in the College Station area.

"Anything done to make entering a residence more difficult helps deter the burglar," Byrd said. "Good security not only creates problems for a potential burglar, but also helps protect property and lives."

Byrd said residential burglaries are problems police cannot fight alone.

Byrd said in order to lower the number of burglaries, police need help from everyone living in the College Station area.

The College Station Police have outlined several things homeowners can do to help prevent burglaries.

To understand how to prevent burglaries, it is necessary to know the three essential ingredients

needed for a burglary to be committed.

The burglar must first be motivated or somehow have a desire to actually commit the crime.

Second, skills and tools needed to carry out the actual burglary must be available to the burglar.

The third essential ingredient is opportunity. This opportunity can be denied to the potential burglar by residents.

The Crime Prevention Unit, a division of the College Station Police Department, has outlined three ways residents can deny the potential burglar this necessary opportunity. They focus on perimeter barriers, doors and windows.

Perimeter barriers are defined by the Crime Prevention Unit as those things designed to be physical and psychological deterrents to burglars thinking about entering a residence. These barriers include such things as fences, shrubbery and lighting.

Chain link and wooden privacy fences are the most common fences found in residential areas. Chain link fences should be at least 4 feet tall, while wooden privacy fences should be kept in good repair. Gates

connected to any fence should be locked.

Shrubbery is a natural deterrent to crime, but the following things should be considered before using shrubbery as a deterrent:

- Shrubbery should be at least 2 feet from any entry point leading into a house.

- Shrubbery should be at least 6 inches from the bottom of any windows.

- Shrubbery should not grow more than about 1 foot above window sills.

- Shrubbery should be trimmed at the bottom, so it cannot hide anyone; and hedges should be separated so potential burglars cannot hide behind them.

Proper lighting is one of the most effective barriers to a potential burglar. Lighting should be concentrated in the following four areas around any house:

- Over doorways
- In front and backyard areas.
- Garages
- Sheds and other small buildings.

Light used in conjunction with other perimeter barriers creates

University rules say no finals for seniors

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

Most graduating seniors have already started the countdown — one term paper, two more programs, one last quiz, one final final project — but no more finals.

Some graduating students, however, have been told they will have to take a final before their grades are turned in to the registrar. Those tests could be against the University policy.

"Quite often it's just a misunderstanding," said Dr. Candida Lutes, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

The misunderstandings usually result from new instructors who are not familiar with the University policy or from old professors who are confused about the recent changes in the final examination policy, Lutes said.

In July, President Frank Vandiver gave the final approval to the Faculty Senate recommendation to require graduating seniors to take final examinations. The new policy does not go into effect until May 1988.

The 1984-85 University regulations state the specific policy toward final exams for graduating seniors.

"For candidates for the baccalaureate degrees at the end of a semester or summer term, the semester average exclusive of the regularly

scheduled final examination in all subjects applicable to the degrees shall be counted as final grades," the regulations say.

"If the instructor chooses to give candidates for the baccalaureate degree a major test before submission of grades, this test must be scheduled to comply with the registrar's schedule for the submission of grades for graduating students and must be administered during a regularly scheduled class period."

Lutes says this means that instructors must give the test before the Nov. 30 deadline for submission of graduating senior grades.

Lutes said instructors can have the students who are taking the exam report to a different location, but the exam must be given during the scheduled class period.

The policy also says, "The test is not a direct substitution for a final examination encompassing the entire course, but should include material since the last regularly scheduled examination."

Lutes said this means instructors cannot give a comprehensive examination. But if the course is cumulative the instructor does not have much choice in not giving a comprehensive test, she said.

The policy also says, "If such an examination is to be given, it is to be

announced at the beginning of the semester or term."

It is best for the instructor to include the examination on the syllabus, Lutes said. If the instructor announces the test, Lutes said it is best done during the first week of the semester so the student can drop the class.

The policy states, "Those who do not qualify for graduation on the basis of their semester averages may take the regularly scheduled final examination in any course in which they wish to improve their grade in order to meet graduation requirements at the next degree granting time. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor prior to the examination of his or her intention to take the examination."

If a student's grade in a class bars him from graduation, the student has the option of taking the final examination at the regularly scheduled time to bring up his average, Lutes said. The student, however, is responsible for informing the instructor of his plans to take the examination.

Even if the student scores high enough on the final to pass the class, the student will have to wait until the next semester or session to receive a degree because the registrar's office will have already finalized grades for graduating students.

Alzheimer's victims find gradual loss of intellect

Editors note: This is the last of a two-part series on Alzheimer's disease.

By DAINAH BULLARD
Staff Writer

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, degenerative disease that sentences its victims to a gradual disintegration of memory, intellect and personality. The search for a cure is underway, but so far there is no relief for Alzheimer's patients or for the disease's secondary victims, the family and friends of the patient.

"The best description I've heard of it (Alzheimer's) is that you forget what you forgot," said Steve Miller, an area businessman whose mother is a victim of Alzheimer's. Miller heads up the "steering group" in the Brazos Valley Alzheimer's Disease Family Support Group.

Besides dealing with the heart-breaking changes which result from Alzheimer's, the families of victims must deal with practical problems ranging from care for the victim to financial arrangements, Miller said.

"The end result is that people who can't afford to put the Alzheimer's victim in a nursing home facility basically get a one-year-old child on their hands again," he said. "They have great expenses, and they can't leave them alone even long enough to run to the corner store for a carton of milk, because they (the victim) can't be left alone that long."

Miller said his mother, Jane Miller, began exhibiting symptoms of the disease about one year ago. Miller's mother now resides at Crestview Retirement Community in Bryan.

"She's 65 years old," Miller said. "A year ago she lived by herself and was totally independent. Now she lives in the infirmary — the true nursing-home part of Crestview."

Miller said his mother must be fed, directed and observed constantly. Because she is only in the early stages of the disease, his mother still recognizes family members, he said.

"She has memories of family members from many, many years ago," Miller said. "She used to have many, many friends, but she never sees them any more. She can't carry on a conversation with them, so now she sees only family members."

To Miller, the worst effect of the

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Battalion editor for spring chosen

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

The Student Publications Board will nominate Brigid Brockman, a senior journalism major from Houston, as the editor of The Battalion for the Spring 1985 semester.

"I'm thrilled," Brockman said after receiving the news.

Each semester, the publications board interviews and screens each applicant and then nominates a student for the position of Battalion editor. The board's nomination is subject to approval by the University Provost and Vice President for academic affairs Gordon P. Eaton.

The current editor Stephanie Ross, will graduate in December.

When asked about her goals for the newspaper next semester, Brockman said, "I think the paper right now looks good and has good content. — especially page

two. You can look for page two to remain the same.

"I think we've done an excellent job covering local news, but I would like to see us have more national and international news in the paper."

"I'm not looking to change the paper so much as I am to improve on what we are already doing."

During this semester, Brockman has been the night news editor for The Battalion.

"I've been working on the paper for about 2½ years," she said, "and during that time I've always had a lot of respect for the editor. I hope I will be able to do as good of a job as those before me."

Brockman will take over as editor of the newspaper the week of Dec. 2.

"I know it will take a lot of work, but I'm willing to do it because I want to put back into the paper what I've learned from working on it," she said.

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