

SMU holds SWC lead  
Red-hot Stangs scorch Ags, 81-79

Page 11

Recruiting wars over  
Sherrill gets 23 signatures to A&M

Page 11

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Report: human rights have made progress

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The State Department said Wednesday in its annual report on worldwide human rights that "real progress" was made in Latin America and the Caribbean. It also stated that the "most serious" problems of political repression occurred in the Soviet bloc.

Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary for human rights and humanitarian affairs, said, "The only significant overall trend is the trend toward improvement in the Western Hemisphere."

Over the last five years, nine countries have shifted from dictatorship to democracy in the hemisphere while "zero countries have gone from democracy to dictatorship. That's a very impressive trend."

The 1,453-page report, which is mandated by Congress and has been issued annually since 1977, covers conditions in 164 countries through the end of 1984 and, in some cases, early 1985.

Although the report praised the rights records in most democratic

countries, the situation in Uganda, one of Africa's few parliamentary democracies, was described as "grave," with tens of thousands reported killed as a result of insurgent terrorism and government countermeasures.

Other countries singled out for unusually harsh appraisals were Albania, where the situation was said to be "exceptionally bad," with "extremely harsh prison conditions," and North Korea, described as "one of the most highly regimented and controlled" nations in the world.

Asserting that objectivity was a key goal, the report said "while the Soviet bloc presents the most serious long-term human rights problem, we cannot let it falsely appear that this is our only human rights concern."

According to the report, "Soviet performance in the realm of human rights fails to meet accepted international standards. The regime's common response to efforts to exercise freedom of expression is to incarcerate those concerned in prisons, labor

camps or psychiatric hospitals."

Abrams said there was a "further crackdown" on religious activity in the Soviet Union last year. Among the groups targeted, he said, were Catholics, Pentacostalists, Baptists and Jews.

The report also found that in Vietnam, a close Soviet ally, "pervasive" controls are maintained over the citizenry and Hanoi bears some responsibility for executions and other abuses in neighboring Cambodia, where more than 150,000 Vietnamese forces are stationed.

The report called democracy "the surest safeguard of human rights" and said it was "encouraging" to see "real progress" coming about in the strengthening of democratic institutions, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean.

President Reagan has said, the report noted, that 90 percent of the people of those regions live in nations either democratically governed or moving in that direction.

## Study says efforts to move poor out of inner cities fail

Associated Press

DALLAS — Over the past 11 years, Congress has appropriated more than \$223 billion on grants and programs designed to help the poor escape from urban ghettos into suburban public housing.

But the inner cities have been shored up by racial discrimination, politics, poor program design and inadequate enforcement of federal regulations, the Dallas Morning News found during a 14-month in-

vestigation of federal housing policies.

George Romney, who took charge of the nation's housing programs in 1969, said in a recent interview the traditional residents of the inner cities have found it difficult to move to the suburbs of major American cities.

Robert C. Embry Jr., who managed the Carter administration's ef-

forts to move the poor out of ghettos, said, "The neighborhoods won't accept it."

The Census Bureau's most recent figures, based on 1980 data, indicate that in the nation's 100 largest cities, 41.4 percent of low-income whites lived in poverty-dominated areas. The figures also show that 73.8 percent of low-income Hispanics and 82.9 percent of low-income blacks lived in such ghetto areas.



Photo by JOHN MAKELY

### Will You Be Mine?

Sully was given a rose by some admirer late Wednesday afternoon in honor of Valentine's Day. The holiday is celebrated in memory of St. Valentine, who, in medieval times, came to be associated with the union of lovers under duress conditions.

## Women can invite men on dates, too

UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

Put that special guy on the receiving end of the hearts and flowers this Valentine's Day — it may not be a bad strategy. That's the indication from research conducted by a Texas A&M psychologist.

Dr. Charlene Muehlenhard, assistant professor of psychology, has found women who have decided to make the first move in dating situations have nothing to lose with most men, as long as they can face rejection.

Muehlenhard's studies focus on woman-initiated dating, a fairly recent development in male-female relations and therefore relatively unexplored by researchers.

The studies have looked at a wide range of variables in woman-initiated dating, including the attitudes of conservative vs. liberal men toward a woman asking them for a date.

The study also looks at the ramifications on the relationship and the tone of the date when the woman does the asking.

"I feel that this is new territory I'm working in and I find that very exciting," Muehlenhard said.

After analyzing the results of several of her studies, Muehlenhard has concluded a woman can ask a man out with little risk as long as she can take it if he says no.

"Some men commented that 'I'm always the one to stick my neck out and I'd like it if someone else would do that for a change,' or 'I'd be really flattered,'" she said.

Men who tested out as conservative (traditional) and those who tested as liberal (non-traditional) both said they would respond positively to a woman who asked them out if they liked her and wanted to date her in the first place.

In fact, many said they would not ask out a woman they liked and wanted to date unless she gave them some kind of positive signal. If they did not want to date her, they would not ask her out, signal or no signal.

The studies, which were conducted at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and A&M, showed that about half of the men wanted the woman to ask them out and half wanted her to give them a hint that she would like to date them. Almost none wanted the woman to wait for the man to make the first move.

Only four percent of those same men said they would ask a woman out if she waited for them to take the initiative.

About 66 percent said they would respond by talking to her more often and 30 percent said they would not indicate any interest in a woman unless she gave them some kind of encouragement.

The only problem Muehlenhard has found with a woman taking the initiative is that some men may get too "turned on" by it.

## Suit filed against A&M over probation dispute

By JERRY OSLIN  
Staff Writer

Lawyers for a Texas A&M student filed suit against the University Feb. 4 charging the school unjustly punished the student for excessive parking tickets in retaliation for the student's outspoken support of Gay Student Services.

Tom Urban, vice president of Academic Affairs in the A&M Student Senate, was quoted in the Oct. 6 issue of the Bryan-College Station Eagle as saying, "We hope the resolution will make the Board (Texas A&M's Board of Regents) look beyond their own bigotries and accept GSS." His comments came after the

Senate passed a resolution supporting the GSS.

Urban, a senior aerospace engineering major from College Station, was placed on conduct probation by the University on Nov. 27. A letter from Brent Paterson, Judicial Affairs Supervisor for Student Services, informed Urban he was placed on conduct probation for accumulating "an excessive number of unpaid parking violations" and a failure to "register the vehicle with the U.P.D."

Bob Wiatt, director of Security and Traffic, said having more than nine parking tickets is excessive.

Urban said he received 16 parking tickets during the fall semester



Tom Urban

but paid them on Nov. 7 and bought a parking sticker on Nov. 14.

The suit also says Urban received

12 parking tickets during the Spring 1984 semester but paid them in March. It also says that no disciplinary action was taken against him.

"By putting Tom Urban on conduct probation for parking tickets, the University has chosen to punish him for his outspoken support of the Gay Student Services," said Urban's lawyer, Beatrice Mladenka-Fowler. "The University is denying Tom his first amendment rights."

This is the first time an A&M student has been put on conduct probation for having too many parking tickets, Mladenka-Fowler said. She said the University was using the

parking tickets as an excuse to get back at Urban.

Under Article 50 of the University regulations, a student on conduct probation is considered "not in good standing with the University."

The student also is ineligible to hold any elected or appointed office of the University and is ineligible to receive a University administered scholarship. Notice of the probation is also included in the student's permanent file.

Also, a student on conduct probation who further violates any of the

See Suit, page 7

## Parking a problem for Southwest schools

Editor's Note: This is the first article in a two-part series on parking problems and solutions at Texas A&M and other Southwest Conference schools.

By TRENT LEOPOLD  
Staff Writer

Traffic officials at Southwest Conference universities agree parking problems exist partially because people don't like to walk from outlying parking lots to the inner-campus area.

And the biggest parking problems of all SWC schools seem to be at Texas A&M and the University of Texas.

Texas A&M has issued more traffic tickets than any other school in the SWC during the past two years. Texas A&M also has a lack of close-in spaces, but recent improvements such as the intra-campus bus route has helped alleviate the parking problem.

Ray James, the head of parking and traffic at UT, says he hears complaints too often about the parking there.

"One of the biggest parts of my

job is hearing all of the complaints from everybody who isn't satisfied with the parking situation," he says. "Of course our bus system helps alleviate much of the problem, but when you have 45,000 students, you will have problems."

"It's just that people are basically lazy and don't want to walk very far."

Traffic officials at Texas Tech University in Lubbock feel they have one of the better parking facilities in the nation and plan to continue improving their current parking situation.

Bob Sulligan, traffic and parking coordinator at Texas Tech, says the school is fortunate because all of its parking spaces are strategically located. Texas Tech has 4,764 reserved parking spaces, 3,799 dorm parking spaces and 5,129 commuter parking spaces.

"It is less than a five-minute walk for faculty and staff from anywhere on or around campus," Sulligan says. "The traffic flow is pretty good, although we do have some bottleneck areas."

See Parking, page 5

### Parking comparisons for Southwest Conference

	A&M	Texas	Rice	Baylor	SMU	Houston	Tech	TCU	Arkansas
Student enrollment	33,859	45,281	3,500	10,800	8,845	31,095	21,633	6,503	13,982
Number of parking spaces	16,292	10,308	8,000	4,600	6,500	11,851	13,692	5,000	17,000
Average price per year for student permits	\$69	\$11	free	\$35	\$40	\$38	\$22	\$10	\$10
Average price per year for faculty/staff permits	\$83.40	\$38	free	free	\$40	\$63	\$38	\$40	\$60
Approximate number of traffic tickets issued per year	108,000	78,000	20,000	25,000	no record	91,000	45,000	55,000	54,000
Shuttle bus system	yes	yes	yes	night only	special events only	yes	yes	no	yes