

## Around town

### Writing contest deadline is Friday

The Texas A&M Writing Contest will be accepting poetry and short stories from graduate and undergraduate students through Friday. Entries can be sent through the campus mail or delivered directly to the English Department mailroom. Address entries to The Texas A&M Writing Contest. Students may submit up to three poems and/or one short story. All entries must be typed and must not include student's name on the poems or short stories. A 3x5 index card should include name, address and phone number. The contest will publish up to 15 poems and up to five short stories.

### TAMU Overseas Day held today

Sponsored by the Study Abroad Office and MSC Travel Committee, TAMU Overseas Day offers a chance to find out about international opportunities. Other organizations participating include the College of Business, Peace Corps, International Students Association and MSC International Programs Committee. Representatives will have tables set up in the MSC Main Lounge from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please stop by and feel free to discuss the merits of cultural and educational international travel.

### After Hours offers driver safety course

The TAMU After Hours Program will sponsor a Driver Safety Course Friday and Saturday. This course may be used to have certain traffic violations dismissed and to receive a 10 percent discount on most automobile insurance fees. Registration is held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in 216 MSC. For more information, call 845-1515.

### Duchesses needed for Cotton Pageant

Applications are now available for duchesses to the 51st Annual Cotton Pageant. Any campus organization is invited to enter a contestant, as well as sororities and fraternities. The winner receives a \$500 scholarship to TAMU. Entry fee is \$40. The pageant will be held March 29 and 30. For applications and information, call Patrice at 764-7133.

### College of Science offers scholarships

Three scholarships are now available for undergraduate health science majors of high academic achievement. Application forms are available at the Scholarship Office in the Pavilion, the Biology Advising Office at 101 BSBW and from the Dean of Science in 313 BSBW. Deadline for application is March 1.

### Defensive driving class begins Friday

Uniontech, Inc. is sponsoring a defensive driving course at the Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest, on Friday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. The course may be used for traffic ticket dismissal or a 10 percent reduction on most automobile insurance policies. The fee is \$20 (cash) and registration is at the door. For more information, call 693-1322.

### Blood drive begins next week

The Aggie Blood Drive, sponsored by APO, OPA and Student Government will be held Feb. 18-21. Blood donation locations will be at the Pavilion 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Commons 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and mobiles at Sbisa and Ruder Fountain 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Everyone is urged to donate.

### Women's club offers CPR courses

Two courses in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) will be held by the Women's Club at 1200 Carter Creek Parkway in Bryan this month. The morning course will be given on Feb. 18 and 19 from 9 a.m.-12 noon on each day. The evening course will be given on Feb. 19 and 21 from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. on each night. Certification from the American Heart Association and the Red Cross will be given upon successful completion. The cost is 50¢ for the instruction booklet. To register, call the American Heart office at 775-1970.

## House OKs statewide water plan

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Texas House voted 105-17 final approval Wednesday to its version of a statewide water plan. Hours later, a Senate committee went to work on a more expensive proposal.

The differing plans are on a collision course that probably will lead them to a House-Senate conference committee.

House members on Tuesday approved a proposed constitutional amendment that would authorize the state to sell \$800 million in bonds for water projects. The Senate version, subject of a committee hearing Wednesday, has a bottom line of \$1 billion.

If approved by lawmakers, the proposed amendment would go to Texas voters this November.

Wednesday's House vote sent to the Senate the legislation needed to implement the plan.

Among the differences in the House and Senate plans are sections concerning environmental protection. Sierra Club spokesman Ken Kramer said the Senate plan offers better protection for bays and estuaries along the Gulf Coast.

The organization fears the House version would lead to inland dams that would cut needed fresh water flow to the bays.

The Senate version also would give the state control over ground water pumping in some areas if local voters did not enact controls.

After Wednesday's House vote, Speaker Gib Lewis said he favored tighter restrictions to guarantee environmental protection, but he said he compromised to get the bill moving.

"I'm more of an environmentalist than other people," he said. "At the same time, I'm more of a realist. I think what we worked out is a pretty good compromise."

The House on Tuesday gave 134-11 approval to a proposed constitutional amendment allowing the state to sell \$800 million in bonds to pay the water program.

## Couple waiting on sentencing in baby's death

Associated Press

WACO — A Fort Hood couple faces up to 10 years in prison after being convicted of injuring their 11-month-old daughter, who was scalded to death in 1982.

The girl, Laurie Fesler, died in December, 1982, after she was dipped in a bathtub of scalding water, officials said.

Sgt. Richard Lee Fesler, 24, and Deborah Ruth Fesler, 27, were found guilty Tuesday of "recklessly causing serious bodily injury" to the girl.

The couple also was found guilty of recklessly injuring their son Carl, 2.

A federal district court jury returned the verdict Tuesday after deliberating for six hours. Sentencing is expected within 30 days.

Mrs. Fesler sat expressionless as the verdict was read. Fesler leaned over the counsel table and rested his head on his hands.

During testimony in the seven-day trial, a physician and two pathologists testified that distinct burn patterns covering 32 percent of the girl's body indicated the child intentionally had been dipped into scalding water.

But in returning its verdict, the panel of nine men and three women determined that the Feslers did not intentionally cause the death of their daughter.

The parents had explained the girl was burned after her brother accidentally turned on the hot water while she was kneeling beneath the spigot.

Witnesses testified Fesler told them he repeatedly struck his son in the face and neck after the boy admitted turning on the water. Other witnesses testified they were told the boy was injured when Fesler knocked him out of the way to rescue his daughter.

In defense testimony, a Waco emergency room physician, a Baylor University physics professor and a Dallas County medical examiner each testified the burns suffered by the girl were consistent with the parents' explanation.

# the big kiss



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## Inmates deny bets on Autry's death

Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — Texas death row inmates vigorously denied Wednesday that executed prisoner James Autry ran a betting pool on his own death, but the inmate who revealed the bets last week stood by his story.

Death row inmate Wayne East said on Feb. 6 that Autry, hoping to cash in on a second, last-minute stay of execution, organized a betting pool that would have paid him \$280 if he had avoided the death chamber last March.

"They are really upset," Billy Hughes, a death row inmate, said of his colleagues. "A whole bunch of people are upset. There's no denying that there is betting on the ball games and things such as that."

"But they're not that callous down there."

Another inmate, Charlie Bass, who described himself as Autry's "best friend," said Autry very seldom had money.

"All the time I lived in cells next to Autry, he didn't gamble, everybody would know about it," Bass said.

East, however, said he saw the betting slip that was passed around on Autry and said he "understood" that Autry himself had organized the pool.

"I could care less what other people say about me," East said. "Everybody's entitled to their own opinion."

At the time of Autry's execution last March, East was among general population inmates. Bass and Hughes insisted that if a betting pool

existed, there was no way Autry could run it from death row and get it circulated among the general population.

No death row inmates would participate, they said.

But East said James DuMouchette, a death row resident, won the \$280 pool. DuMouchette's involvement could not be confirmed Wednesday because he refused all requests for interviews.

East characterized the affair as a "misunderstanding."

Prison officials have said they could have no way of confirming existence of such a pool.

Death row inmates are available to reporters for a two-hour period each Wednesday and reaction to East's comments had been simmering for a week.

"This last thing is wrong — out and out wrong," Hughes said.

Bass said Autry's mother wrote him a note, enclosing a newspaper clipping of East's comments and asking if it were true.

"First, she loses a son, and then she finds out they are gambling on his life," Bass said.

Bass did not have the letter with him when he spoke with reporters Wednesday.

"Anytime any pool is going around, we all know about it," Bass said. "People don't play with each other's lives."

Hughes said that because Autry was not around to deny the story, "We're here to defend him."

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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese- Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing—Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS</p>		
<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Fried Catfish Filet w/Tartar Sauce Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of One Vegetable Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b> Roast Turkey Dinner Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And Your Choice of any One Vegetable</p>

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