

STATE AND LOCAL

## Around town

### Soccer camp registration is open

The Bryan Parks and Recreation Youth Soccer Camp will be held August 19 through 23 for boys and girls ages 4 to 6. Camp is each day from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The fee is \$35. The fee is \$40 for 7 to 12 year olds. The session for that age group is being held August 26 to 30 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration deadline is August 1. To register, call the 779-5622.

### Science students must take exam

Any junior or senior in the College of Science who has not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to take the test August 6 unless they have completed English 301 with a minimum grade of C. Students in the College of Science are required to pass either English 301 or the test in order to qualify as a degree candidate. Students entering the College of Science under the College of Science under Catalog 107 or later must complete English 301 as required in their degree program.

The English Proficiency Exam will be administered by the English Department. Students in the Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics Departments should register for the exam in 152 Blocker before August 1.

### Safety belt effectiveness demonstrated

The Safety Education Program is sponsoring a safety belt "Convincer" demonstration Wednesday at Rudder Fountain. The Convincer is a device that simulates an automobile crash with a human rider. The rider, safety belted to an automobile seat, glides down an inclined plane to a crashing stop. The crash occurs at 10 mph. The demonstrations will be provided between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. In case of rain Wednesday, the demonstrations will be rescheduled for Thursday.

## Hospitals

### Panel finds improvement plan inadequate; blames budget

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A federal review panel says the state's plan for making court-ordered improvements in its mental hospitals is inadequate.

"The review panel is convinced that defendant's action plan demonstrates the inadequacies of the current operating budget to handle all of the requirements of this lawsuit," stated a report submitted Monday to U.S. District Judge Barefoot Sanders in Dallas.

As a result of a class-action lawsuit brought on behalf of patients in state mental hospitals, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation has agreed to numerous changes in the way it cares for the mentally ill.

Gov. Mark White said Monday he thought the recent Legislature gave the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation enough money to satisfy federal court orders.

"It's just a matter of using the resources efficiently and effectively," White said.

But, according to the review panel Sanders appointed to monitor the state's compliance with his orders and the agreement settling the suit, the MHMR budget isn't big enough to finance the reforms.

"This plan makes an effort at

achieving compliance," the report stated. "Unfortunately, this has required some compromising of the court orders and stipulated agreements which this review panel does not think supportable."

Among the changes Sanders has ordered is an improvement in the ratio of mental health workers to mental patients in state hospitals.

The recent Legislature gave MHMR \$64.4 million to meet the court order, principally to meet a goal of a staff-patient ratio of 1-to-5 for day shifts and 1-10 at night by September.

But David Pharis, head of the review panel, stated in the report that the panel feels the MHMR's plan does not comply "with major aspects of the settlement agreement and with subsequent agreements and court orders."

The report said the "major areas of noncompliance in this plan reflect defendant's current incapacity to fund all aspects of the settlement agreement."

In a recent interview, Pharis also said MHMR may have trouble meeting the court-ordered staffing levels because the rate patient discharges may be slowing down at the same time hospitals are losing employees.

## 2nd session figures unexpected says registrar's office

By BRIAN PEARSON  
Staff Writer

The tuition increase for the fall semester has caused an unexpected increase in Texas A&M's enrollment for the 1985 second summer session over the same 1984 period, an Admissions and Records representative said Friday.

Associate Registrar Don Carter said, "I feel like the increase (in enrollment) that we got, which is not that big of an increase, can be attributed to non-residents (students from other states) who are trying to get as many hours this summer under the lower out-of-state tuition."

Before the tuition increase, a decrease in enrollment over last year was predicted because of the way the enrollment cycle was going, he said.

Carter said 13,095 students were registered for the second summer session by the fourth class day. The enrollment was an increase of 61 students, 47 percent, over last year's second session enrollment of 13,034.

He said the tuition increase to \$120 per semester hour for the fall may cause a drop in enrollment of students who live in other states.

"I really feel like we may lose a large percentage of our freshman and sophomore students who have less than 60 credit hours and are non-residents," he said. "With less

than 60 hours, they can readily transfer to their home-state colleges."

Carter said the new tuition for non-residents ranks somewhere in the middle of the 50 states.

Also, the Student Information Management System was tested for the first time Wednesday during freshman summer conferences, Carter said.

"We've had a steady flow of students coming through registration with very limited problems," he said. "The terminals, equipment and programs are working out just as we had anticipated."

Carter said less than 1,000 incoming students have used SIMS which allows a student to leave the registration area with a confirmed schedule.

"We wanted to try it with the freshman because we're not rushed to get them registered," Carter said.

Students who use the system take their class requests to terminal operators in the Pavilion. Operators can determine whether a class section is filled and finalize the schedule immediately. This should eliminate the need for students to go through drop-add.

SIMS, which will continue to be used during freshman summer conferences, will go into full-scale operation Aug. 5 for open registration.

## Prof says praise keeps dogs trim

By RHONDA RUBIN  
Reporter

One way to keep your dog fit and trim is by rewarding him with praise instead of with food, a Texas A&M veterinarian says.

"Dogs are primarily motivated in two main ways: one is praise and the other one is food," Dr. Bonnie Beaver says.

Many dogs are responsive to praise no matter how much you give them, she says. Beaver says she gives a lot, but that's because she likes her dog.

"Five minutes of praise doesn't do any more good in a lesson than 30 seconds of praise," she says.

Beaver says to reward a dog successfully, reward him immediately after he has done what you have asked, because a dog's memory span is only about 30 seconds long.

"If you don't reward them instantly it's too late, because then you're rewarding them for what they are doing when they get the reward," Beaver says.

The same is true for punishment, she says.

Some dogs only will respond to food rewards, Beaver says, and this food reward should be considered in the dog's total calorie intake for the day.

Beaver says obesity in dogs is a major health problem. Dogs may develop the same symptoms as humans.

"The circulatory system is what suffers the most, but they may develop back and leg problems also," she says.

These problems can be solved through a modified diet and drugs to make the heart beat stronger.

Beaver says that in combating obesity, increasing a dog's exercise is helpful, but the easiest way to decrease his weight is by decreasing the amount of food available to him.

"We, in effect, have control over the dog's will power, and he doesn't get to run to the refrigerator for a snack, like we do," she says.

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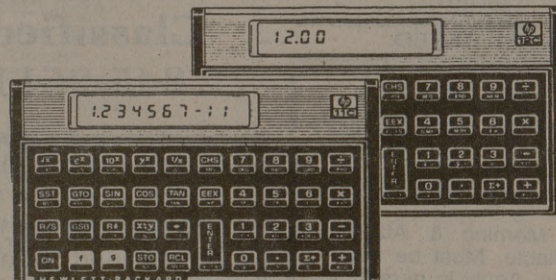
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