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CS Council

Students may benefit from energy conservation plan

Page 4/The Battalion/Friday, September 13,1985

By JENS B. KOEPKE
Staff Writer

Texas A&M students will now be able to predict their utility costs more accurately since the College Station City Council approved an energy conservation program for apartment complexes at its Thursday.

day night meeting,
"We're trying to help the apartment complex owners, the tenants and the city save money," said Charlie Shear, College Station energy specialist.

The voluntary program will have three stages:

• Apartment owners and managers will be contacted by the city and those who choose to participate will be provided a free in-depth energy analysis.

Apartment complexes will be given time to implement the suggested changes.

• Changes will be evaluated and a energy efficiency rating system will be developed.

The rating system will be based on the improved unit and current electric billing histories, Shear said. Only those apartments that meet still-to-be-determined minimum qualifications will be rated. A booklet of these ratings will be compiled and available to the public.

The ratings allow tenants to lease an apartment with a better idea of utility costs, he said. Councilwoman Terri Tongco said, "Some apartment complexes tell students that their apartments are energy efficient, but then they find out that it costs \$300."

Master-metered apartment complexes will be benefited by lower utility costs, while single-metered complexes will be able to use their energy efficiency as a marketing

"The ratings will encourage those apartments with bad ratings to try to improve their apartments," Tongco said

The city also will benefit through a lower electrical demand charge from Gulf States Utilities, Shear said. He estimated that a minimum of \$69,000 will be saved annually.

The program will take a year and a half to complete and will begin in January or February, he said. The ratings should be ready by fall 1987. Shear estimates that 15 percent of

Shear estimates that 15 percent of the 7,000 apartment units will participate. Apartment complexes hold the top three spots in electrical consumption and apartment tenants represent one-third of the city's utility consumers.

Shear said the city has not decided exactly what will qualify as an "apartment."

College Station is the first city in Texas to use an energy rating system, he said.

Around town

Who's Who applications now available

Applications for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges will be available at boxes located at eight different campus locations from 8 a.m. today through 5 p.m. Sept. 27. Applications can be picked up at the Commandant's Office, Memorial Student Center, Student Activities Office, Zachry Engineering Center, Sterling C. Evans Library, Kleberg Center, the Office of the Dean of Veterinary Medicine and the Office of the Vice President for Student Services.

2,000 more inmates unlocked from cells

Associated Pres

HUNTSVILLE — Texas prison officials on Thursday released another 2,000 minimum-security inmates from a lockdown prompted by gang warfare, a spokesman said.

gang warfare, a spokesman said.

But 10,500 other inmates remain confined to their cells at 13 units, said Charles Brown, spokesman for the Texas Department of Corrections, the nation's second-largest prison system.

Prison Director O. Lane McCotter ordered 17,000 inmates locked in their cells on Monday after four prisoners were stabbed to death within a 24-hour period.

Brown said there have been by cidents of violence since the lad down began, but guards have out cated about 100 weapons, my knives made by inmates.

Wa

Prison officials say the entiretem, which includes some 38,000 mates housed at 27 separate unavery tense.

Most of the recent violenals

Most of the recent violence do been attributed to a recruiting a between two Hispanic gangs km in as the Texas Syndicate and har Texas Mafia.

Officials estimated about 800 mates belong to gangs, but says number is very conservative.

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