

## What's up

Monday

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** Pictures with the Aggie Reindeer and Christmas elves 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by Rudder Fountain. Holiday Fashion Show at noon in MSC Main Lounge presented by Ladies and Lords and MSC Hospitality.

**MSC INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:** will have a panel discussion at 7:30 p.m. in 206 MSC: "The Importance of Second Languages in International Business."

**PHI THETA KAPPA ALUMNI:** will have a Christmas party at 7:30 p.m. at Kevin Carreather's house (map in Pavilion booth).

**STUDENT AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 123 Kleberg.

**BEAUMONTHOMETOWN CLUB:** The Aggie Moms will be giving out TLC books in the MSC 2 to 5 p.m.

**TAMU SNOW SKI CLUB:** will have a 1986 Ski Wear Fashion Show at 6:30 p.m. in MSC Main Lounge.

Tuesday

**CO-OP STUDENTS REGISTRATION:** Students scheduled to work on co-op in Spring 1986 must register now for their co-op course in the Central Co-op Office (107 Harrington). For students who do not yet have their co-op job assignments finalized, co-op registration will continue through Dec. 13.

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** Pictures with the Aggie reindeer and Christmas elves 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by Rudder Fountain.

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** Christmas Can Drive for needy families in B/CS. Bring cans to 216 MSC through Dec. 13.

**FRESHMAN EMERGING LEADERS SEMINAR:** Applications available in 208 Pavilion through Dec. 11, due Dec. 12.

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** Kappa Pickers will be performing as part of the Christmas program at 12:30 p.m. in MSC Main Lounge.

**TEXAS AGGIE MAJORITY FOR CLEMENTS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder to hear Bill Clements speak.

**INTRAMURALS:** Entries close for outdoor soccer at 6 p.m. in 159 Read.

**MSC HOSPITALITY:** CAMAC presents a Posada and Luminarios at 6 p.m. as part of the Christmas Program.

**TAMU HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 7 p.m. in Dick Freeman Arena. Demonstration of "Hitching and Driving Mules."

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 203 Zachry to hear Jack Whiteside speak on "Engineering Contracting."

**AGGIE DEMOCRATS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

**FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES:** will meet at 8 p.m. outside 145 MSC to go caroling.

**AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION — STUDENT CHAPTER:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 110 C.E. Bldg. Speaker: Dr. Wayne Jordan.

**RHA FRESHMAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 607 Rudder to hear a speaker on finals preparation.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to desired publication date.

## Texan claims chinchilla fur beats all others

Associated Press

ATHENS — Jerry Fullingim's ranch has no fences to mend, no rustlers and very few worries, except the East Texas heat.

Fullingim raises chinchillas, and he considers it more profitable than other kinds of ranching.

"Chinchilla fur is more valuable than mink," said Fullingim, 36. "It lasts longer and the hair pops back when you blow on it. It doesn't lay down like rabbit."

"It takes 120 pelts to make a full-length coat," he said. "That coat will go for \$20,000 to \$50,000, depending on the quality. Obviously, there are a lot of middlemen along the way."

He said he was looking for a line of business that would be unlike his current occupation and that would require little travel. Fullingim bought his first breeding stock nine months ago — 35 females and five males — for his 12-acre spread outside Athens.

The main operation for Fullingim and his wife, Brenda, is C&J Hydro-Mulchers, which plants grass on highways and dams, primarily for government agencies.

Previously, the couple owned and ran a chain of convenience stores and are now developing a pump maintenance company.

"But, I really want to raise chinchillas," said Fullingim.

Hot and humid conditions in Texas are not conducive to raising animals with high-quality fur, experts say. Chinchillas, originally from Chile's Andes Mountains, are cool-climate rodents.

Fullingim's pelting stock — composed of gray standards, black standards and black velvet animals — live in a room set at 60 degrees. His breeders live in a 70-degree room. Young are born wet and survive better in warmer air, he said.

He feeds his animals alfalfa hay cubes and rabbit-food pellets.

Females, with a life span of five to six years, average three litters per year with from one to four "kits" per litter. If there are four in a litter, there's usually not enough milk to go around, so one is "loaned out" to another female with only one or two young, Fullingim said.

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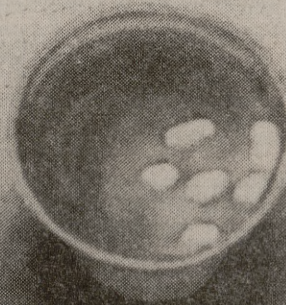


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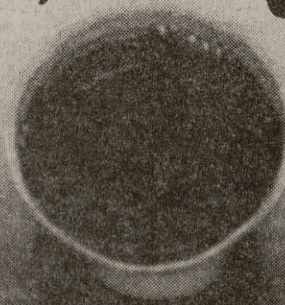
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## High school students write extraterrestrial constitutions

Associated Press

LUFKIN — With the advent of space travel, it appears that extraterrestrial colonies could soon become a reality.

While scientists and researchers have found ways to overcome zero gravity and other astrophysical phenomena, a group of Lufkin High school students have addressed yet another aspect of space colonization — how to maintain law and order.

In the classroom of U.S. government teacher Charlene Lively, constitutions from faraway countries such as "New America," "Universal Republic," and "United Territories" dorn the wall. Like the U.S. Constitution, they provide for a leader, legislative branches, and other points of government.

But these constitutions were written by a handful of high school students, many of whom are not old enough to vote.

"We think the people's rights are the most important thing," said Cathy Moore, who helped draw up the constitution of New America, because we don't want the government to have complete control."

The group also chose to have their president elected by popular vote and serve a six-year instead of a four-year term.

"Sometimes they will be trying to get things done and in four years there isn't enough time," said Buddy Timme.

Moore also said the group "firmly believes" that capital punishment is a deterrent to crime and included it in the document. Another member, Brent Alexander, said the death penalty "saves tax dollars."

A unicameral legislative body was selected because the students "felt it would be more effective in one house," said Timme. He said there is often too much opposition between the Senate and House of Representatives in our bicameral system.

In the Universal Republic, "The people are the only source that will have any and all governmental authority," said Jon Bassinger, who helped write the laws for that mythical colony. "The power is vested in the people in our government."

The students strayed from the electoral college voting system because "it's kind of outdated," said Kristi Baker, and provided for checks and balances in the three legislative branches of their country.

"If one branch doesn't like the way another branch is doing something, they have the power to correct it," said Bassinger.

At the top of the constitution a symbol in each point of a five-

pointed star represents a trait of the Universal Republic. Scales equate to justice, an eagle stands for freedom, a torch equals knowledge, a peace symbol means peace and a circle represents unity. The star's colors, blue and white, stand for loyalty and hope.

Lively said the group chose a unique way to present their constitution to the class.

The students stood in a star formation around the classroom and explained what the various points stood for.

In the United Territories, the government is led by a superior instead of a president. Nicole Brewer, a student who helped write that constitution, said the group had a little trouble deciding on how long the superior should serve but finally decided on a six-year term with no limit on re-elections.

A lawmaking body, known as the "reins of government" consists of 250 elected representatives who serve two-year terms. Each state of the territories sends 25 reins to the "star chamber" where all legislation takes place.

Lively said the students had not yet studied the U.S. constitution before the project.

## Yearbook photos for Juniors, Seniors, Vets, Meds and Grads will be taken through December 6 at Yearbook Associates Studio above Campus Photo Center at Northgate.



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