

TAMU WRESTLING CLUB HOSTS

1st Annual Arthur John Strom Memorial
WRESTLING OPEN

Sat. Feb. 14

Gym 351 GRW

Weighins Fri. 8-10 pm
Sat. 8-9 am Rm 260 GRW

Matches 3-2-2 \$5 Entry for Competitors

Wrestling will begin no later than 10 am

Spectators Welcome

Robert Simpton, 846-2852



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Buffet 3⁷⁹

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Sun., Mon., & Tues 5 pm-9 pm

includes pizza, spaghetti & salad

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MSC



ALL-NIGHT

FAIR

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Application deadline extended
to February 14

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SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE IS MARCH 2.

Litmus is a collection of the best efforts of TAMU students in the categories of Poetry, Short Story, Non-Fiction and Graphics. The *Litmus* magazine is published by MSC Literary Arts once each spring. Your work could be published in this April's edition, but only if you **SUBMIT**. For information, pick up a flyer in the Literary Arts cubicle in room 216 of the MSC, or call 845-1515. And **SUBMIT**.



MSC Literary Arts

'One-of-a-kind' gas station at home in College Station

Local Texaco has unique color scheme

By Sally Peterson
Reporter

Five years ago, Texaco began giving their service stations nationwide a new look. Every station in the nation was painted and remodeled — except one.

That one is located at 731 University Dr. in College Station and is painted maroon and white.

The station is leased by Hoover and Mary Alford of H&M Wholesale, Inc., a distributor for Texaco since 1960. The Alford's own six other stations in the Bryan-College Station area.

In the early 1970s, when the station was first painted maroon and white, Texaco did not own the property, but rather leased it to Bill Walding.

Walding was running the station when Texaco sent men to repaint it with the company colors of green and white, Mrs. Alford says. The workers asked Walding what colors he wanted it painted and, although Walding was not an Aggie, he admired the University and requested maroon and white. The painters left and returned weeks later.

The men asked Walding again what colors he wanted the station painted, but his answer had not changed — he wanted maroon and white.

But Texaco had something else in mind.

At the time, all other Texaco stations were green and white.

"Companies want their own colors," Mrs. Alford says. "In return, they loan out the signage and letters that otherwise would be a tremendous cost to us."

However, as the workers began painting the small station, a professor at Texas A&M drove in to purchase some tires. Immediately angered at the idea of anyone painting over maroon and white, he hastily proceeded to inquire about the change.

In reply, the workers suggested that he complain to Texaco headquarters if he didn't like the new look.

Not only did the professor call Texaco, but he gathered and sent thousands of signatures petitioning the change and encouraged local students and residents to write and phone in their disapproval.

Within two days, Texaco had repainted the station maroon and white.

Mrs. Alford says people used to comment frequently about the uniqueness of the station's colors.

"It was so different then," she says, "but so much has changed."

The station needs to be remodeled and upgraded, she says, and

that means a change in colors.

"It (the station) will probably be upgraded and become a food store," Mrs. Alford says. "There just aren't any regular service stations around here."

Since the automotive service stations have phased out, she says, need for retailers has plummeted and traditional gas stations are coming convenience stores.

Mrs. Alford and her husband opened their company in 1980, which time it was very small. Mrs. Alford did most of the work while her job was to keep the books.

But nine years ago, her husband had brain surgery on a tumor which was diagnosed as malignant. Now she does all of the work and she either will have to take over or sell out.

Mrs. Alford says that because of the radiation treatments her husband takes, his brain is slowly deteriorating and he is very forgetful, restricting his work to only half a day.

"He's not abnormal or anything," she says in her husband's defense. "He just can't handle the business end of it anymore."

What the future holds for the little maroon and white gas station is a question in Mrs. Alford's mind, she is sure that its colors will stand in the way of progress.

Bentsen: Cuts in store for Customs' budget

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — The border is under attack in Washington and its fragile economy stands to suffer the most, Sen. Lloyd Bentsen told Rio Grande Valley businessmen Wednesday.

Bentsen, D-Texas, said at a hearing that the Reagan administration plans to strip the U.S. Customs Service budget by more than \$100 million.

"I was born and reared on this border and I'm telling you, it's under attack," said Bentsen, the state's senior senator and the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Bentsen said the proposed Customs cuts could slow trade between the United States and Mexico and hurt both economies.

In addition to the threat of weakening the border trade with Customs' cuts, Bentsen said the future of twin plants, of growing importance to the economy of border cities, is also jeopardized by congressional opponents.

Under the twin-plant system, capital intensive goods are produced on the U.S. side of the border and cheap Mexican labor across the border is used to assemble and package the finished products.

Manufacturers with twin plants receive duty exemptions they could lose if they don't prove the twin

plants create jobs for U.S. workers, Bentsen said.

"I don't want just a billboard on our side and a plant on the other side," Bentsen said. "This has to be something that creates jobs. That objective must never be lost sight of and the Mexican government must understand that."

But businessmen from the Rio Grande Valley told Bentsen the border can't afford restrictions on commerce and jobs that would occur if Customs' budget is cut according to the Reagan administration proposal.

Reagan's proposed budget would reduce Customs' work force by 2,000. Additionally, \$93.7 million would be cut from Customs' drug-fighting budget, and \$27 million would be slashed in salaries and expenses.

"While the scope of the Customs Service mission along the border has been growing, they are being asked to do more with less," said R.M. Duffey, chairman and chief executive officer of Texas Commerce Bank-Brownsville.

Duffey said manpower reductions in the Customs Service would slow the movement of goods and people at border crossings, hurting tourism, industry, twin plants and the local economies.

Third-graders want to end cities' quarrel

AUSTIN (AP) — Austin, with its Australian sister city Adelaide is bringing suggestions from a third-grade classroom.

Students in Linda Kenner's language arts class had a project this week for Austin Mayor Eric Cooksey: Go to South Australia and mend fences with Adelaide.

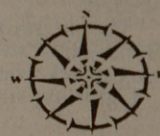
Officials in the Australian — especially Lord Mayor Jarvis — are upset over what they believe is an apparent lack of interest by Cooksey in preserving sister-city relationship.

The 8- and 9-year-olds in nedy's Wooten Elementary School class have been peering with youngsters in Australia several years. They want cards and letters from Down der to keep coming.

So they wrote letters to Cooksey with their opinions.

"I think the mayor should visit Australia and have a party with the mayor over there," said Wright, 9, said. "I like having Adelaide as our sister city. I'm mad if we lost that."

Cooksey said he had received the children's letters and plans to respond to their concerns.



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