

What's up

Thursday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at 12:15 p.m. Call 845-5826 for location.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: will meet at 6 p.m. Call 845-5826 for location.

TAMU ROADRUNNERS: will meet at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

TAMU CYCLING TEAM: will meet at 7 p.m. in 105 G. Rollie White.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: will meet at 7 p.m. in 200 Heldenfels.

STUDENTS FOR SCIENTIFIC CREATIONISM: will meet at 8 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

LEBANESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder.

ECONOMICS SOCIETY: will meet at 5 p.m. at Interurban.

AGGNOG: will meet at 5:30 p.m. for a demonstration on squeezing and archiving files to save diskette space.

Friday

MANAGEMENT 481: Thomas O'Dwyer of Ling-Oliver-O'Dwyer Electric will speak at 10 a.m. in 114 Blocker.

LATTER-DAY SAINT STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Gordon Wright will speak at noon at the LDS Institute on 100 E. Dexter.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: will meet at 7 p.m. in 108 HECC.

CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: will meet at 7 p.m. in 156 Blocker.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY: will meet for a peanut-butter fellowship at 11:30 a.m. at Rudder Fountain and Bible study at 6:30 p.m. at A&M Presbyterian Church.

COMMODORE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP: will meet at 8:15 p.m. in 105 Horticulture Forestry Sciences.

AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: will meet at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder.

MARRIED STUDENT APARTMENT COUNCIL: will meet at 7 p.m. in the council room next to the garage.

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE: will conduct an informational seminar on studying in Britain at 10 a.m. in 251 Bizzell West.

TAMU BADMINTON CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 351 G. Rollie White.

CENTER FOR RETAILING STUDIES: applications for senior positions are available in the CRS office through Friday.

STUDENT "Y" ASSOCIATION: applications for chairmen are available through Wednesday.

CHANCELLOR'S STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD: applications are available in the office of the Vice President for Student Services, office of Student Affairs, Student Activities office, Corps Commander's office, MSC Director's office and Student Government office. Applications are due at 5 p.m. Friday in 110 YMCA Building.

MSC SCONA: applications for committee member positions are available in 216E MSC. Applications are due at 5 p.m. Friday.

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

A&M course takes place in Honduras

By Kent Hawes
Reporter

Honduras will be the classroom for a new course offered this summer by the agricultural education department.

The course will offer a chance for graduate students and faculty members interested in agricultural development to see the agricultural facilities of foreign countries.

Dr. Daniel C. Pfannstiel, professor of agricultural development, said that for three weeks students will see agricultural efforts of foreign countries while earning three credit hours.

After a week of preparation studies, the class will fly from Houston to Honduras where it will have a one-week visit of some of Honduras' educational institutions and agricultural-development projects.

Pfannstiel said students will get a chance to go out to farms and talk to native farmers as well as get an idea of what the U.S. government, foreign governments and charitable organizations are doing to help improve the agricultural conditions of Honduras.

The class is open to students in all majors, although it is tailored to those interested in international agriculture.

Students are given the chance to get "a feel for what they do or don't want to do as a profession," Pfannstiel said.

Students will be required to keep a diary during their trip to Honduras, he said, and write a paper analyzing the agricultural situation of the country the week after the course.

Round-trip air fare for the trip is \$313 if nine or more people go, and food and lodging in Honduras will cost about \$35 to \$55 per day, he said.

The trip promises to include a wide range of activities for the student, Pfannstiel said, but he stressed that the class is not a vacation or sightseeing tour. The trip, he said, offers more because it gives students a chance to actually see the kind of life people live in Honduras.

The class is listed as AGED 689 — special topics in field studies in agricultural development — and will be held from May 18 to June 5.

Professor says tariffs will hurt Texas agricultural exports

By RaeAnn Warmann
Reporter

A classic example of the battle agriculture has to fight concerning trade is the tariff the United States is imposing on Japan, says Dr. Mechel Paggi, assistant professor of international trade at the Texas A&M Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service.

The tariff will be imposed for two reasons, Paggi says. The United States has accused Japan of selling microcomputer chips in third markets — those in which the United States and Japan compete — at a price less than that in the U.S. market.

In July, the United States met with Japan to address the problem of market access for U.S. computer chips in Japan. At that time, the market was 8 percent, and an agreement was made in which the Japanese would try to expand U.S. access to Japanese markets by 20 percent, he says.

The current estimate is between 9 percent and 11 percent, so some progress has been made, but not what was envisioned in the July meeting.

"As a result of those two problems, we have the 100 percent tariff initiative that's supposed to go into effect April 17," Paggi says. "And it's

simply that the non-ag sector issues will tend to take precedence over agriculture issues."

If Japan wants to play a retaliatory game, an easy target would be agricultural exports and we need all the markets we can get," he says.

Paggi says it's even more significant when looking at Texas, whose major commodities of cattle, cotton, wheat, soybeans, grain sorghum and rice are the products Japan imports.

"Should the Japanese choose to retaliate, and should they choose to retaliate in agricultural commodities, U.S. agriculture would be the loser and Texas producers would suffer as bad a blow or worse than most other states because we do produce all those things," Paggi says.

This also is an example of what agriculture has to look forward to in the next three or four months, he says, since agricultural interests are negotiating with Congress to develop a trade bill or bills.

"The software industry wants intellectual property rights," Paggi says. "It wants to be able to protect those sorts of things. The countries that don't want that to occur read like a checklist for the top customers for ag exports."

"We stand to lose in arguments over steel, in arguments over automobiles and arguments over all the non-agricultural products," Paggi says. "In those battles we stand to be the losers if we get into a trade war with any of the competitors because it is an easy thing to retaliate."

"There's a lot of agricultural imports in Japan, and there's a number of sources for those imports," Paggi says. "So, it would be easy for them to look other places for those products."

This is important, since out of \$26 billion in agricultural exports last year, \$5.1 billion, or about 20 percent, went to Japan, Paggi explains, making it America's No. 1 market.

"We're in a period of declining ag-

District judge visits prison unit, looks for improved conditions

RICHMOND (AP) — U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice visited a prison unit Wednesday to get a first-hand look at what the state claims it has done to improve living conditions for disabled convicts.

The tour of the Jester III Unit near Richmond in Fort Bend County was part of the state's rebuttal to testimony presented earlier about conditions for handicapped inmates.

The tour concluded a contempt hearing that could cost the state up to \$800,500 per day in fines for failing to comply with Justice's orders on prison improvements.

Justice declined to talk with reporters Wednesday about his visit.

The hearing, which began Monday in Houston, was to determine whether the state should be ordered

to pay any fines for not complying with court orders.

Several inmates testifying in Houston complained about lack of medical care and poor working conditions.

Inmate Russell Bonham, who testified both in Houston and at another court hearing in the case last summer, said that some improvements had been made and he hoped that would continue. But Bonham said he believed prison officials were just trying to put on a show for the judge.

On Dec. 31, the judge found the state in contempt of an agreement to improve prison conditions and gave the state until April 1 to comply or face fines of some \$24 million a month.

The judge has ordered the state to

complete reforms it agreed to as part of the landmark April 1981 decision in what has become known as the Ruiz case, named after former state inmate David Ruiz, who filed a lawsuit in 1972 alleging poor security and living conditions and "excessive crowding."

Donna Brorby, an attorney for the inmates, said Wednesday that although conditions for handicapped inmates are better, improvements are still needed before the state is in full compliance.

"What we learned from this is that if the order has a price tag, the TDC will obey it," Brorby said. "But it took a pretty huge price tag for the state to become motivated to live up to the orders in the case that are years old."

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We the People
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