

In Advance

Annual Fite Nite planned for weekend

It's a night at the fights with Sigma Phi Epsilon. The 11th annual Fite Nite will be **Friday and Saturday at the Brazos County Pavilion** in Bryan.

Fite Nite is a boxing tournament that consists of a Greek and an open division, Don Saustad, Fite Nite chairman, said. Ten fraternity teams will be participating: Sigma Phi Epsilon, Kappa Alpha and Phi Delta Theta, Tau Kappa Alpha, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Pi Kappa Epsilon, Alpha Tau Omega, Sigma Nu and Beta Theta Pi.

Saustad said most of the open teams are either boxing clubs or Corps teams.

Each team consists of four or five people in five different weight categories.

Preliminary matches begin at 6 p.m. Friday. Semi-finals will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and finals from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets are on sale for \$3 at the

Texas Aggie Book Store and the MSC Box Office, and for \$4 at the gate.

Saustad said Sigma Phi Epsilon will donate all proceeds from Fite Nite to Mothers Against Drunk Drivers.

One difference between this year's Fite Nite and previous fights is that Sigma Phi Epsilon will not sell beer, as its national organization does not allow it, Saustad said.

"We had a meeting to decide if we should have Fite Nite without beer," he said. "We decided that everyone was expecting it (Fite Nite) and decided to go ahead with Fite Nite. I think attendance will be just as strong."

Other attractions at Fite Nite include pillow fights by sorority teams and a taekwon do exhibition. These will occur between the Saturday night fights.

Team and individual winners will receive trophies for first, second and third place.

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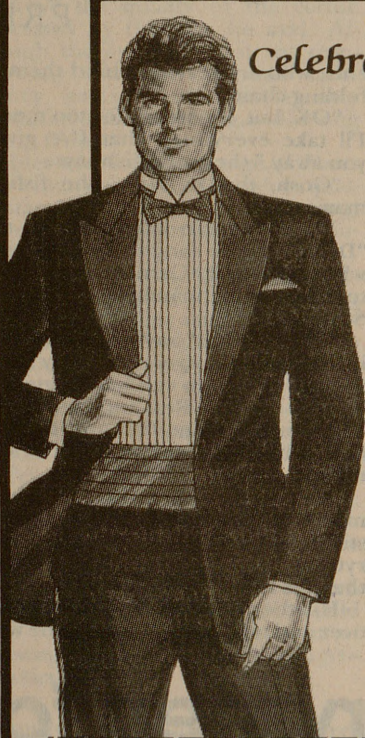
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New endowment for the birds — and for \$1 million

By T. Dawn Gorman
Reporter

Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine has garnered the largest endowed chair granted by the University for a center to study and research the "fastest-growing area of veterinary medicine" — pet bird medicine.

Dr. Ian Tizard, head of the veterinary microbiology and parasitology department, says the \$1 million endowment will fund expansion of A&M's pet bird studies.

"We're going to have a whole team of people, and we wanted an administrative structure that would identify them as involved in the exotic bird program."

— Dr. Ian Tizard

Tizard said. "Word was out that A&M was interested in pet birds."

The center will occupy recently renovated facilities at the Veterinary Medicine Complex, as well as new aviaries to be constructed at the veterinary college farm.

Although no approval was necessary to establish the endowed chair in exotic birds, only the A&M Board of Regents can establish a center, which it did in mid-April.

Tizard said that because of the size of the donation — \$1 million which the University will match — the center was created to maintain a unique identity for the program.

"We're going to have a whole team of people, and we wanted an administrative structure that would identify them as involved in the exotic bird program," he said. "The Schubot Center for Exotic Bird Health will be a distinct administrative entity that will run on its own budget."

"Separating them from the microbiology and parasitology department will assure that their activities will not be confused with what the rest of the department is doing."

The addition also will make A&M the premier institution for pet bird studies.

"We're the largest," he said. "There's no question. A&M is now the No. 1 university for studies in pet and exotic birds," Tizard declared.

Dr. David Graham, a veterinary pathologist from Cornell, will become head of the center in midsummer.

"Our primary concern is disease control — how to prevent disease and produce vaccines for pet birds to minimize losses," Tizard said. "We also have an interest in conservation. We want to study populations in the wild and perhaps advise governments about the best way to handle them."

The Schubot Center for Exotic Bird Health, named for a Florida donor, will provide a top-notch facility to educate veterinary students about the expanding field of pet birds, Tizard says.

"A survey of vet students one year after graduation has indicated (over) the last several years that their No. 1 concern — what they didn't know enough about — was a lack of pet bird medicine," Tizard said.

The college's present pet bird program includes a colony of 150 macaws 10 miles from College Station. The macaws, however, are expensive — worth thousands of dollars apiece — and too valuable for research use.

"The macaw colony was one reason we received the endowment,"

New rates, contracts complicate search for student housing

By Stacey Babin
Reporter

New University housing contracts and increasing apartment rates are two obstacles Texas A&M students must hurdle when looking for housing this year.

The new dorm housing contract requires students wishing to live on campus to sign up for two semesters instead of one, as in the past. In addition, many College Station apartment complexes are increasing their fall rates for various reasons.

Brownstone Apartments manager Alda Shaw attributes their rent increase to the increase in utility rates for College Station.

"We have been suffering the loss in the last year because of (utility) increases," Shaw says.

Shaw will try to compensate for some of that loss by adding \$5 a month to the nine-month lease price. Five dollars is a small amount, she says, and the year-long lease rate will not increase.

"Many people don't realize that we have to pay for things such as water, electricity and security lights," Shaw says.

Debbie Fiske, assistant manager of Plantation Oaks Apartments, says high demand is the primary reason for the \$10 monthly increase in Plantation Oaks' two- and three-bedroom apartments.

Fiske says she leases mainly to college students and the new A&M housing contract has increased the number of dormitory students who are leasing apartments.

Fiske also attributes the increase to the closing of three women's dorms on campus.

Spence, Briggs and Gainer halls will be closed for renovation in the fall, and their residents will have to find other housing accommodations, either on campus or off.

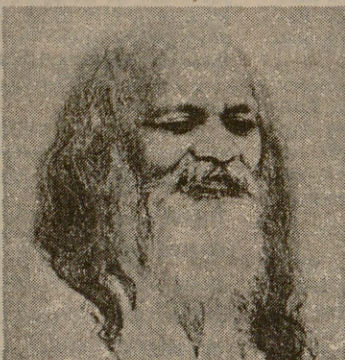
The assistant manager of Timber Creek Apartments, Katie Harnitz, says the \$5 increase in monthly rates for that complex was based solely on a decision by the manager.

Harnitz adds that she has seen a big rush in leasing, but it is difficult to tell if it is because of the housing contract.

Tom Dwyer, a sophomore at A&M, has been looking for a two-bedroom apartment for more than a month and has seen prices ranging from \$350 to \$450 for a year-long lease.

"Some people who have seen the same apartments after I did are coming back and telling me they were already quoted higher prices," Dwyer says.

"I was considering living on campus for another semester, but the new housing contract made me decide to move off campus now," he adds.



His Holiness Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, Founder of the Transcendental Meditation Program

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The date and time of the free lecture are listed below. I hope you'll be there, and I guarantee you won't be sorry!

Wishing you all success,

Fred Poneman
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