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What's up

Friday

ASSOCIATION OF AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS: will host a presentation on the 1987 supernovae, a star that exploded in February, at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder. Ronald A. Schorn, technical editor of Sky and Telescope magazine, will highlight a discussion of new findings and ideas on supernovae with a slide presentation. For more information call John West, 845-5841.

Tuesday

AGGIES FOR JACK KEMP: will meet at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder. For more information call Scot Kibbe, 260-4587. Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days before desired publication date.

In Advance

Faculty Senate will meet

By Karen Kroesche
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Faculty Senate will open the year with a short meeting agenda Monday at 3:15 p.m. in Rudder 601, but some debate could center around a measure that would delay implementation of the agriculture and engineering requirement in the core curriculum, said Richard Shumway, speaker of the Senate.

The revision, in the form of a resolution from the Academic Affairs Committee, calls for the postponement of a "technology, renewable resources and society" requirement which students would potentially fulfill with an engineering or agriculture course.

President Frank E. Vandiver approved the whole core curriculum except the technology and renewable resources component, which was sent back to the Academic Affairs Committee for refinement.

Peter J. Hugill, chairman of that committee, says the philosophy behind the technical component in the curriculum is sound, but that the time is just not ripe for such a requirement.

"This was a genuine attempt on the part of the Senate to encourage students who are not in

technical degree programs have some idea of how technical thinking involves them," he said. "However, after a great deal of discussion, we felt that we were just not ready to refine the technology and renewable resources section. There were no courses existing in the current catalog that clearly met the intent of that component of the core curriculum."

Dr. Bill A. Stout, the Senate caucus leader for the College of Agriculture, agreed that the delay might be a necessary one.

"This postponement is designed to give us time to either modify existing courses or to develop some new ones that would be suitable for that category," Stout said.

But Stout expressed regret that the course requirement is being placed on the back burner, as he emphasized the importance of technical courses in creating well-rounded students.

"We live in a highly technical society, and we have many students that are majoring in technical things," he said. "The liberal arts side of A&M is growing rapidly, and the idea is that every student should be at least introduced to technical considerations, and what the impacts are

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RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD PART II

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Farmers occupy grain warehouses to protest prices

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP) — Farmers in the northern border state of Chihuahua occupied Tuesday more than two dozen government-owned grain warehouses in a growing protest over prices paid for beans and corn.

About 80 members of the Chihuahua Peasant Organizations' Front, meanwhile, were on a 65-mile protest march to the state capital of Chihuahua to call attention to their movement and demand price increases.

The farmers involved in the occupation of 25 warehouses belonging to the government's Conasupo food chain say the guaranteed prices paid to them for beans and corn are too low.

Farmers now earn 245 pesos, about 11 cents, per kilogram of corn and 525, about 23 cents, per kilogram of beans.

A kilogram equals 2.2 pounds. "They're getting 245 pesos a kilo for corn," said Rev. Camilo Perez, organization spokesman and priest of the Roman Catholic parish in Anahuac, about 60 miles southwest of the capital city. "That will only buy one soft drink."

Perez said in a telephone interview from his parish Tuesday that farmers are demanding prices be increased by 43 percent immediately and that they then be increased the same percentage as gasoline, which recently went up by 85 percent.

"They're paying us better now but everything costs so much," communal farmer Marco Gutierrez said. "It didn't seem so bad four or six years ago but now we're just struggling to make ends meet."

Gutierrez, 44, said by telephone from Anahuac that his family harvested 20 tons of corn this year and earned 4.9 million pesos, or about \$2,130 at the current exchange rate of 2,300 pesos to \$1.

"It sounds like a lot," he said. "But

we're a family of 10 people and a cheap pair of shoes cost 40,000 pesos" or about \$17.

"We can't even buy the most necessities," said Gutierrez, who he had just completed his guarding the warehouse in huac.

Angel Torres Perea, Chihuahua state communications director, Gov. Fernando Baeza was in Mexico City Tuesday to discuss the farmers' demands with federal representatives, who would have to approve price increases.

"The state government doesn't buy corn from the farmers," Torres said by telephone. "The government is only speaking for the farmers."

"This (increase) would not be the rich producers," Torres said.

On Dec. 27 farmers took over a Conasupo warehouse in Anahuac and slowly have been occupying more, largely on communal farms in northwestern Chihuahua, the main corn- and bean-producing zone.

"They are allowing corn beans to come in but not for Perez said.

State police are monitoring warehouses but have not intervened, authorities said.

Chihuahua Archbishop Adolfo Almeida and 65 of the 90 priests of the diocese recently came out in support of the movement.

"The peasants aren't asking for demanding privileges," the church leaders wrote in a paid advertisement published in Chihuahua newspapers. "They're asking for manding and struggling subsistence, the first of all Chihuahuans and human rights."

Organization members on Monday began a march from the agricultural town of uauhtemoc about 100 miles from the city of Chihuahua. Perez said will end Thursday in Chihuahua in front of the state capital.

Judge rules man insane, clears him of murder charge

BEAUMONT (AP) — A state district judge ruled a man was insane when he shot his parents, clearing him of murder charges but sentencing him to a probable term in a state hospital.

Judge Larry Gist made the ruling in the case of Andrew Weller, 37, during a brief hearing Monday.

Prosecutor Bruce Smith said he had not found contradicting evi-

dence to three medical experts' termination that Weller was insane April 25, 1986, when he shot and killed his parents, retired law George Weller Sr. and Elizabeth Weller, in their Beaumont home.

Gist ordered Weller committed to Rusk State Hospital for further psychiatric examinations and ordered he be returned to Jefferson County for another hearing Feb. 8.