

B Street

by Jon Caldara



Waldo

by Kevin Thomas



Warped

by Scott McCullar



# Wax coating protects food, maintains attractiveness

By Jerry Bolz  
Reporter

The wax coating on supermarket fruits and vegetables may be the best guarantee for freshness of produce, as well as increasing its attractiveness.

"The two main purposes for the use of wax are for attractiveness and retention of moisture," said Sheryl Baylor, Food and Drug Administration consumer affairs officer in Houston.

Many kinds of substances are used to make the coatings, from food substances to oxidized polyethylene. All waxes are covered under FDA food additive regulations for safety, whether produced in the United States or abroad, Baylor said.

Marilyn Haggard, Texas A&M Agriculture Extension Service nutrition specialist, said Carnauba wax, a highly refined and edible palm wax, is used to keep fruits and vegetables fresh.

"The wax is most noticeable on cucumbers and peppers, things that tend to lose a lot of moisture," Haggard said. Common fruits, like

apples and oranges, also receive an application of wax, she added.

Larry Medearis, manager of Kroger at 2412 S. Texas Ave., said the wax basically presents a better-looking product.

A common misconception is that grocery stores are responsible for applying the wax.

Tom Longbrake, Extension Service vegetable specialist, said the wax is added before the produce is packaged.

"The producers wash, grade and size it, then wax the good produce and package it," he said.

Since the wax keeps quality high, it probably keeps the price down, Haggard said.

Longbrake said if the produce doesn't have the wax, it's hard to sell, especially if it travels long distances. For instance, fruit shipped from an orchard in the Texas valley to an Eastern state can travel for about 9 days, he said.

By the time the produce reaches its destination it is wilted. The consumer sees an inferior piece of produce.

"If we grew everything next door,

there wouldn't be any need for the wax," Longbrake said.

Some products that lose moisture quickly, like cucumbers and bell peppers, receive a heavier coat of wax.

"They are very tender and they'll just desiccate and wrinkle up," Longbrake said.

Consumers may find the wax annoying but it can be rinsed off easily with mild soap and warm water, he said.

## Officials say super collider not a threat

DALLAS (AP) — The proposed "super collider" project would be a good neighbor to Ellis County residents who could feel safe about its operation, energy officials said Monday as they prepared for a hearing on the Texas site.

Ira Adler, leader of a U.S. Department of Energy team that will conduct today's public hearing in Waxahachie on the 53-mile circular atom smasher, said community activities would be unaffected over portions of the underground facility.

The hearing will focus on environmental impact of the project, officials said.

Seven states, including Texas, are vying for the \$4.4 billion research laboratory, to be used to study the basic components of matter and energy. Texas' site is about 25 miles south of Dallas.

Other sites are in Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina and Tennessee.

Adler said about half of 16,000 acres necessary for the project will be reserved for the campus-like facility, but businesses and farms can remain on the rest of the land.

He said a preferred site will be designated in July and the winner will be officially selected next January.

## In Advance

### Faculty will discuss finals schedule

Faculty members will have the opportunity to discuss an alternative finals schedule at an open hearing **Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in 206 MSC.**

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee scheduled the hearing after the Student Senate approved a compromise finals schedule that was hammered out in a meeting of Faculty Senate and Student Senate officers.

The students' compromise will be presented for endorsement consideration at the next regular meeting of the Faculty Senate on March 7.

The speakers of both Senates

still hold out the hope that there might be time to change the finals schedule now in place.

The proposal would move finals this semester to May 9-13 for undergraduates and to May 7, 9 and 10 for graduating seniors. Graduation ceremonies still would be held May 13 and 14.

C. Richard Shumway, speaker of the Faculty Senate, said he does not know how many faculty members will participate in the open hearing.

However, he said he invited Student Senate representatives to attend to answer questions on the alternative finals plan.

## UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM MERIT AWARDS TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

For Juniors and Seniors, Fall 1988

**DESCRIPTION:** Stipend of \$1,500. One year to be used Fall 1988-Summer 1989 • Academic scholarships, awarded on a competitive basis • Financial need not considered • This scholarship is for students without major scholarship assistance

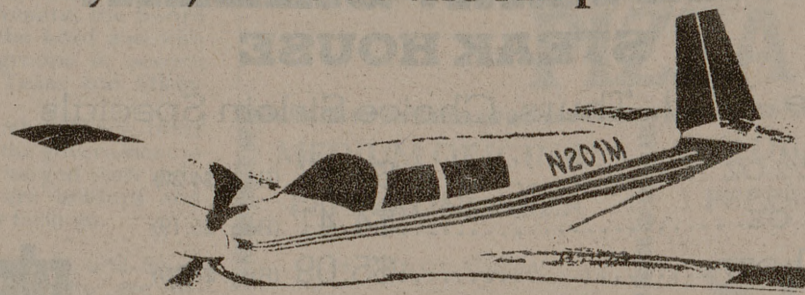
**ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION:** 3.5 GPR • Junior or Senior standing during tenure of award • Not currently holding a President's Endowed Scholarship, McFadden Scholarship, Lechner Fellowship or equivalent major academic scholarship

**TIMETABLE:** Application must be submitted by 1 March 1988 • Awards announced approximately late April

For further information and application forms, contact the University Honors Program office, Room 103 Academic Building

# Texas A&M Flying Club

Teaching the Best to Fly the Best  
Interested people are urged to attend our meeting  
February 16, 1988 at the Airport Clubhouse



For information  
Call Julie Scott 846-1279

7:00 p.m.

## LOCK IT UP OR LOSE IT

HOW YOU CAN PREVENT BEING THE NEXT VICTIM OF CRIME I  
SPEAKERS NIGHT

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 7 - 9 P.M. ROOM 201 MSC

This program will focus on the whole issue of theft as it applies to Texas A&M University, Students, Faculty, and Staff. The speakers are:

- |                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| BOB WIATT       | UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT |
| BERNIE KAPPELLA | COLLEGE STATION POLICE       |
| JIM KUBOVIK     | BRAZOS COUNTY ATTORNEY       |
| ROY KELLY       | CRIME STOPPERS               |
| TONY TAYLOR     | NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH           |

SECURITY EXHIBIT FAIR ROOM 212 MSC.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 4 P.M. - 10 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.



DOOR PRIZES!

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
C.A.R.E. WEEK FEBRUARY 15 - 18

Sponsored by Off Campus Aggies

# WE ARE EXPANDING TO BETTER SERVE OUR MEMBERS

The following departments are moving to new offices directly adjacent to our current location:

- Customer Service
- Loan Department
- New Accounts

All our offices will be closed on Monday, February 15, 1988 for President's Day, but on Tuesday, February 16, you will find us in our new location. Our teller operations, bookkeeping and collections department will remain in their present locations.

In the coming weeks we will be adding new services and looking for even more ways to better serve our members. Thanks to our members we are growing for the future based on a proud past.

Ask About Our New Preferred Membership Package



Insured by National Credit Union Administration (NCUA)

## MSC OPAS FOCUS ON THE PERFORMING ARTS

"IMPROMPTU" and "KALEIDOSCOPE-SCENES FROM THE MODERN THEATER"

presented by  
A&M Consolidated and Bryan H.S.

Wednesday, February 17  
8:00 p.m. Rudder Theater  
FREE ADMISSION