

# Remodeled Faculty Club receives first guests before official opening

By Jeff Pollard  
Staff Writer

The newly remodeled Faculty Club lounge, formally the Rudder Tower dining facility, received its first guests Monday evening even though it is not scheduled to be open to members until next week. Enough work had been done, though, to allow the club to play host to a small group of researchers and educators who were attending a conference sponsored by the Space Research Center at Texas A&M.

Carol Evans, manager of the club, said work was progressing on time toward the grand opening celebrations set for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights. Evans comes to the Faculty Club from Houston where she managed the Doctors' Club there.

"We have too many members to have the celebration all in one night," Evans said, "so we split the membership up alphabetically and will have a three day grand opening."

The Faculty Club is an independent corporation founded in October to support to faculty at A&M. Evans said the current membership is about 930 people, but, "... new memberships are coming in every day." She said the club is also a member of the Association of Faculty Clubs, which includes about 90 clubs across the United States and Canada.

"The association allows club members here at A&M to go to other member clubs at other universities," Evans said. "There's even one at the University of Jerusalem."

Shortly after its founding, the Faculty Club Board of Directors, led by Chairman Jaan Laane, signed a long-term lease for the top two floors of Rudder Tower and began renovation, which meant the closing of the Tower dining room to students without an invitation.

Recently this policy stirred up controversy among students, and now several student groups are circulating petitions against the club.

In an article run in *The Battalion* on Feb. 9, Mason Hogan, student body president, said the petition got more than 5,000 signatures the first time it petition was circulated. The student government started its second circulation and Hogan said they expect to get another 10,000 names. "No one is against the faculty

club," Hogan said, "but we have a problem with them taking away what we had."

While Laane, who is acting as spokesman on this matter, was out of town and not available for comment, a newsletter sent out by the Board of Directors on Jan. 28 said they have always been mindful of the students' desires not to be excluded from the tower, but their policy in no way implies student usage on anything other than special occasions like graduation or parent's weekend.

The club will open for regular business on Monday for lunch only. Lunch will be served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and dinner will be served Thursday through Saturday from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

# Former minister accuses two doctors, associate of causing mental breakdown

FORT WORTH (AP)—The former senior minister of Fort Worth's First Christian Church is embroiled in a bitter dispute with an associate minister and two doctors he accuses of causing his mental breakdown.

Robert Lee Bond, 61, is suing for \$1 million, alleging the two doctors isolated his confidence by discussing his mental condition with church members. He accuses St. Joseph Hospital physicians of falsely imprisoning him and forcibly giving him drugs.

A district court jury is expected to rule in the case this week. Jurors will decide whether Bond was the victim of an alleged conspiracy involving an associate minister, her physician-husband, a psychiatrist and the hospital.

The legal issue in the trial is psychiatric malpractice, Bond attorney's said.

The deteriorating relationship between Bond and First Christian Church leaders has dominated nine

days of trial testimony as well as hundreds of pages of court documents.

Bond contends a handful of church leaders, including Associate Minister Jane McDonald, conspired to get rid of him because they disagreed with how he was running the church.

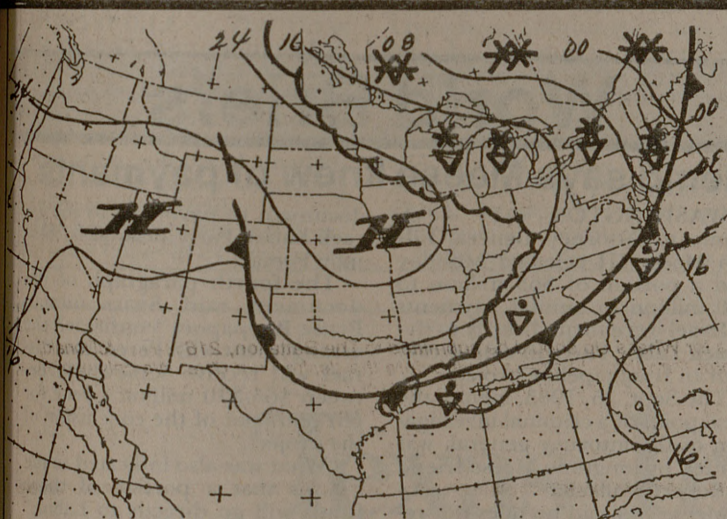
Bond says the doctors and minister tricked him into admitting himself to a psychiatric ward, where he experienced a mental breakdown.

The mental breakdown led to his firing, Bond claims.

Drugs prescribed by Fort Worth psychiatrist Robert Coffey induced the mental breakdown, Bond alleged.

But doctors argue Bond has a history of depression, medication and some previous hospitalizations. Testimony and court documents show Bond's physical and mental state was out of control in the summer and fall of 1983 leading to the hospitalization and mental breakdown.

## Weather Watch



**Key:**  
 ☁ - Lightning      ☁ - Fog      ⚡ - Thunderstorms  
 ☔ - Rain      ❄ - Snow      ☂ - Drizzle  
 ❄ - Ice Pellets      ☔ - Rain Shower      ❄ - Freezing Rain

Sunset Today: 6:19 p.m.      Sunrise Tuesday: 6:56 a.m.

**Map Discussion:** Most of the active weather today will be in association with the strong polar front from extreme Eastern Texas to the Carolinas and from South-Central Canada, across the Great Lakes and into New England. The west will be fair and mild under the influence of the Pacific high over Utah. The polar high over Omaha will produce quite cool temperatures through the Eastern U.S.

**Forecast:**  
 Today: Partly cloudy and mild with the cold front passing during midmorning. High 88, winds northerly at 12 to 25 mph.  
 Tonight: Fair and cool. Low near 45. Wind northeast seven to 12 mph.  
 Wednesday: Fair and mild with a high temperature in the mid to upper 60's. Wind east-northeasterly at 10 mph.  
**Weather Fact:** Ekman Layer - The layer of transition between the surface boundary layer, where the shearing stress is constant, and the free atmosphere, where the atmosphere is treated as an ideal fluid in approximate geostrophic equilibrium.

Prepared by: Charlie Brenton  
Staff Meteorologist  
A&M Department of Meteorology

# Three panelists agree environment's safety should be top priority

By Stephen Masters  
Reporter

Panelists at a discussion Monday night agreed that environmental protection is the biggest priority for both industry and government.

The on-going conflict between environmental protection and increasing technology was the topic of a discussion at Rudder sponsored by Tau Beta Pi's Greater Interest in Government Program.

Dr. Karen Shewbart, manager of Texas Operations for Dow Chemical Company; Dr. Frances E. Phillips, former Deputy Director of Region 6 of the Environmental Protection Agency and current environmental law professor at Southern Methodist University; and Dr. Gerald Schlapper, associate professor of nuclear engineering at Texas A&M, participated in the discussion. The program was moderated by Dr. Alberto Gonzales, assistant professor of communications and theater arts at A&M. Dr. Paul Thompson, an A&M philosophy professor, was scheduled to attend but canceled.

"The public interest is served by a regulatory process that promotes safety," Schlapper said. "On the other hand, a problem we face in nuclear engineering is a situation where the public interest is not served by a cumbersome and inefficient regulatory policy that unnecessarily increases costs and keeps electricity from being made available."

Schlapper also said that although the public believes that not enough

money is spent on nuclear radiation research, approximately \$10 million is spent per fatal cancer averted from nuclear power.

Shewbart concentrated on the fact that regulatory agencies are too strict in the wording of their regulations.

"When technology is specified, there is no incentive to improve," she said. "If only the goal of the regulation were specified, innovative research could be done to solve the problem. What we should do is let the creativity of engineering come up with the solutions."

Shewbart continued with the hope that regulations would allow for an increase of technology that would result in solutions to other problems while maintaining environmental protection.

Phillips agreed that technological advances are important to economic stability, but only when they are not at the expense of environmental problems.

"We have learned that the advance of technology cannot occur uncontrolled," she said. "There is 'good' technology and 'bad' technology, with a large gray area in between. What seemed to be a good solution yesterday may not look so good today."

The panelists made opening statements for the first half-hour of discussion before the floor was opened to questions from the sparse 50-member audience.

A short reception followed in the MSC for a more informal question and answer session.



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