

State and Local

Center to collect blood on campus next week

By Richard Williams
Senior Staff Writer

The Wadley Blood Center of Dallas will hold a blood drive on the A&M campus next week. Carol Hill, Wadley's A&M representative, said Wadley has been holding blood drives on campus since 1959 and a total of 58,215 units of blood have been donated by A&M since then.

Individuals who donate to the Wadley blood drive also will be able to donate to the Red Cross blood drive in April.

Margie Boswell, A&M's blood drive committee chairman, said the dates had been set to allow both groups on campus and to allow students to donate to both.

Next week students will be able to donate blood at any of the following campus locations:

- The Commons, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.
 - Rudder Fountain, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.
 - Sbisa Dining Hall, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.
 - Zachry, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.
- The blood drive will continue all week.

A challenge to see which school can donate the most blood has been issued by A&M to the University of Texas, but UT has not replied to the challenge, Boswell said.

Last November A&M collected 2,608 units of blood and UT collected only about 1,900 units, Boswell said.

Hill said A&M's biggest competition comes from North Texas State University.

In November NTSU, with only 28,000 students, collected 2,200 units of blood and the school will be trying to collect more than A&M, she said.

Wadley will be giving T-shirts to donors and they also will hold a contest for campus groups, Hill said.

The contest will have residence halls, Corps squadrons and Greek organizations competing in different categories, she said. The winner will be determined on the basis of the largest percentage of members donating and will receive a trophy, Hill said.

Four Hams on Rye will play again in CS before breakup

By Hadden Binion
Reporter

"We fought so many battles, defeats and victories; your spirits have grown restless, now it's time to set them free."

— from a song about the breakup of local band Four Hams on Rye. The local band known as Four Hams on Rye has decided to break up after nearly four years of playing everywhere from Dallas to Corpus Christi to Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Four Hams on Rye will be playing once more in College Station tonight at Eastgate Live, and their final performance will be in Houston Saturday.

The band's music — which has been labeled as "punkabilly" by Houston music reviewers — is influenced by rockabilly, punk rock and rhythm and blues.

Guitarist Dru Wilson said the band members have been playing original pop rock, but they decided to split because their interests have begun to divide.

"We're breaking up because of economic reasons and outward growth in different directions," Wilson said.

The band, which made its decision to quit in mid-January, played mainly in Houston and College Station. It first started playing locally in the spring of 1984.

Four Hams has opened for bands such as the Ramones, X, Joe King Carrasco and Omar and the Howlers, drummer Jeff Zwolinski said.

"At one point we were playing three and four nights a week," Zwolinski said.

All four of the musicians — Scott Oldner, vocalist/guitarist; Wilson, vocalist/guitarist; Erik Kline, vocalist/bassist, and Zwolinski, drummer — grew up in Bryan-College Station and went to area high schools. Oldner and Zwolinski graduated from Texas A&M.

Kline said he already has begun a new project forming a heavy-metal band to be based in

Houston. Oldner has plans to move to California to study music, while Wilson and Zwolinski are planning to continue playing original pop rock locally under a new name with bassist Brian Lippman, owner of Lippman Music Company in College Station.

Wilson said the name of the new band hasn't been decided yet.

The new band will be playing some of the original Four Hams songs and some more progressive power pop, including one song about the breakup of Four Hams that was quoted at the beginning of this story.

The band expects to be playing locally in late March or early April.

The band members said the breakup was a friendly one and that there were no hard feelings between them.

"We would like to thank the cities of College Station and Houston for all of their support," Wilson said.

Clements: Texans don't want centralized school districts

AUSTIN (AP) — Centralizing public school operations in Texas to satisfy a court order would be foolish, Gov. Bill Clements told the Select Committee on Education Thursday.

"The people of Texas are very proud of the fact that they have independent school districts, and this idea that we're going to have some great big consolidation and we're going to centralize control in Austin

is nonsense, in my opinion," Clements said. "The people of Texas are not going to stand for that."

State District Judge Harley Clark of Austin ruled last year that the school finance system is unconstitutional because it discriminates against students in districts that have low property wealth.

Public education programs are funded through local property taxes and money from the state and federal government. Among the preliminary options discussed for resolving the constitutional issue is consolidation of school districts.

The state is appealing Clark's decision to the 3rd Court of Appeals in Austin.

The education committee, which includes citizens and lawmakers, met for the first time Wednesday. It was created to examine the school sys-

tem, including finances, and report to the 1989 Legislature.

Clements urged committee members to keep an open mind as they look for ways for the state to address the court order and to avoid being influenced by special interest groups.

"For example, the question you must answer is not whether the state can pump more money into education," he said. "The question is whether the money now spent for education can be used more efficiently."

The issue addressed by the committee will be a central part of the next regular legislative session, Clements said.

"Without question, public education funding and local control will represent the most important and sensitive issue in the next session of the Texas Legislature," he said.

Off-duty Dallas officer shoots man after being taunted during robbery

DALLAS (AP) — A man who taunted an off-duty officer after reaching for a weapon during a robbery attempt was killed Thursday, becoming the sixth victim of police shootings in this racially tense city in less than two months.

The black officer fired twice at the black man in Denny's restaurant after the suspect told two waitresses to empty the register, officials said.

It was the fifth shooting involving Dallas police this year. Six people have died in the shootings, including a black transient gunned down by off-duty police after he killed a white

officer in a downtown parking lot while a street-corner crowd watched and some members cheered the deranged man on.

"Go ahead and shoot me, shoot me," the latest shooting victim told the off-duty officer as he reached for a weapon, police reports said.

Officer Cloyce Addison Shannon, 29, shot the man twice in the chest, Police Lt. Ron Waldrop said. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Dallas County Medical Examiner's office identified the victim as Robert Keith Johnson, 30, of Dallas.

Police Chief Billy Prince issued no statement on the shooting, spokesman Carol Everhardt said.

Prince was criticized by city officials last month for blaming the death of Officer John Chase, shot in the face with his own gun by a homeless man, on council members who had repeatedly chastized the department's deadly force policy.

Price was criticized Wednesday by Mayor Annette Strauss and City Manager Richard Knight for comments concerning the department's affirmative action program, implemented following Chase's death.

Correction

A story in Monday's *Battalion* incorrectly reported that an aggravated sexual assault took place Feb. 19. The assault actually occurred Feb. 20.

February 29, March 1, 2, 3, 4

Commons: 10 am to 8 pm
MSC: 10 am to 6 pm

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