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Driver education teaches avoidance

By **Jamie Conley**
Reporter

Driver's education is now being taken one step further through the Emergency Reaction Driver's Training Course.

Terry Kline, safety education lecturer and project organizer, said the course is being offered by the Texas A&M Safety Education Program.

The course surpasses the basic skills learned in drivers education and teaches drivers proper accident avoidance skills, Kline said.

"Most people in an accident situation react with a 3P-technique," he said. "They panic, pray and pass out."

"We want to teach drivers the 'proper' steps to follow when avoiding an accident and how to react in a critical situation."

When educating the drivers it's important that they are aware of their car's full driving potential, Kline said.

"People don't fully understand the extent of their vehicle's driving capability," he said.

"With control braking and proper steering techniques, cars can be safely maneuvered out of potential accidents."

One of the steering techniques that drivers learn in the course is a nine-and-three hand position style. They place their hands parallel to each other on the wheel and even when turning, they do not remove their hands from this position, Kline said.

"The driver's arms should literally cross each other," he said. "By keeping both hands on the wheel, the driver will have better steering control."

The drivers also learn to move with the steering wheel alone, without using the brakes, Kline said.

"When people slam on their brakes while driving, this causes them to go into a skid," he said. "That could increase their risks of an accident."

The main group that attends the driver's training course are chemical salesmen.

Chemical companies receive reduced insurance rates if their drivers attend the course, Kline said.

Cynamid, a large chemical company, sent 14 of its employees to take the course.

Joseph Mascavage, sales manager at Cynamid, said the course is beneficial for the company's salesmen.

"The course provides the drivers with a systematic approach for improving their perceptual driving skills," Mascavage said. "It will also help them choose the best response in critical situations."

Mark Tapio, a salesman at Cynamid, said he took the course a little too late.

"I was recently in an accident," Tapio said, "and the accident avoidance skills I learned in the course are exactly the things I didn't do."

Hunt brother refuses bankruptcy

DALLAS (AP) — One of three Hunts facing a \$134 million federal court judgment did not follow the lead of his brothers in filing personal bankruptcy petitions because he did not have as much potential exposure in the claim, a spokesman said Thursday.

Heirs to one of the world's greatest fortunes, Nelson Bunker and William Herbert Hunt, two of the multimillionaire Dallas brothers, 01301702filed bankruptcy Wednesday.

But attorneys say the filings won't affect previous Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings involving the brothers' Placid Oil Co., owned by their trust estates.

Jurors in a New York federal court decided Aug. 20 the two Hunts, their brother Lamar and three other defendants must pay damages for conspiring in the late 1970s to corner the world's silver market, and ruining the investments of Minpeco SA, the Peruvian government's mineral marketing company.

"They are very upbeat," said Tom Whitaker, executive vice president for the Hunt Energy Corp. "There is not anybody hanging their head over this."

He said Lamar Hunt did not file a personal bankruptcy petition because he does not have the exposure of the other two brothers, Whitaker said.

But the spokesman did not rule out the possibility of a later filing.

"It was his (Lamar's) option not to file," said Whitaker. "He does not have the involvement in the potential silver litigation that Bunker and Herbert have. He does have some exposure, but not nearly as much."

Whitaker declined to discuss why Lamar Hunt may be less involved in silver lawsuits than his brothers.

The Hunts are optimistic about chances of getting a new trial or having damages reduced in their legal fight with the Peruvian government's mining company, said Whitaker.

"This (reorganization) was a business decision, but they realized the

In Advance

Army ROTC cadets march to training

By **Timothy J. Hammons**
Staff Writer

More than 400 Army ROTC cadets will march out to training sites near Easterwood Airport this weekend for their annual field training exercises.

The exercises are designed to teach the cadets leadership and teamwork and to help them find and improve on weaknesses.

The cadets will go through different exercises depending on their class, Army ROTC officer Capt. Mark Johnson said. Juniors will set up tents and stay out all weekend, while sophomores and freshmen will go out only on Saturday.

Seniors planned and developed all of the exercises, Johnson said. They also will be in charge of training and instructing the other cadets.

The junior cadets will leave Friday night and set up camp near the Brayton Fireman Training Field. They will learn how to

MSC Town Hall arranges concerts

MSC Town Hall has put together another semester of concerts, starting Oct. 14.

Country music star Randy Travis performs that night, with Gene Watson opening the act. About 2000 tickets still are available at the Rudder Box Office and Dillard's in Post Oak Mall.

Robert Palmer will perform Oct. 25. Tickets go on sale Saturday at the same locations.

Both concerts will begin 7 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum. Tickets are \$14 apiece for each show. For more information on either show, contact the box office at 845-1234.

Report: Texas tax system needs repair

AUSTIN (AP) — The state's tax system is troubled with some antiquated levies, hard-pressed local governments and an inability to keep pace with a changing Texas economy, a special committee reported Thursday.

"The Texas tax system served the state well for two decades . . . But after 25 years, the system has developed serious problems," the report, adopted unanimously by the Select Committee on Tax Equity, said.

"The state economy has changed, but the tax system has not always kept pace," the report said.

The committee, which has worked for more than 16 months, won't issue recommendations for improving the system until late November or early December, officials said.

And although Thursday's report on the problems lacked some of the strongest language contained in a proposed version made public last month, committee chairman Dan W. Cook III of Dallas defended it.

"We think the problems are serious or we wouldn't have drafted this," Cook, a partner in the investment banking firm of Goldman, Sachs & Co, said.

"When we come up with the recommendations addressing these problems, I think it'll underscore where we think the serious problems are," he said.

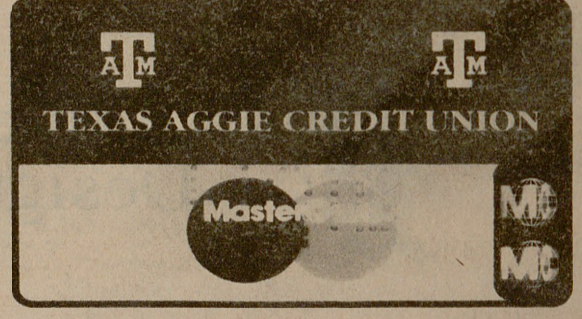
In last month's proposed version, the state system was described as a building in need of repair. "Some of the structure is still sound; most of it is not," it said.

That description was missing from the report adopted. "I think the house does need repair. Badly? I don't know," Cook said. "I'm not trying to develop an inflammatory statement. The most important thing we are trying to achieve is to put a bright light on what we think the problems are."

Also missing was a proposed conclusion that had said, "The Texas tax system needs to be fixed, and the repairs should begin now."

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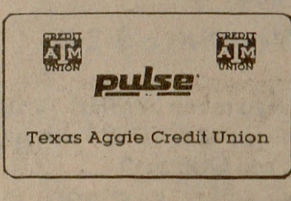
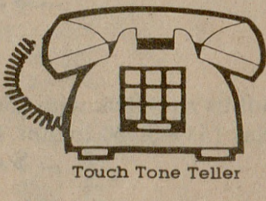
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