

Groups plan events to boost Alcohol Awareness Week

By Denise Thompson and Juliette Rizzo
Staff Writers

"Choices of a New Generation," the theme for this year's Alcohol Awareness Week, illustrates the idea of responsible drinking and partying. Ann Coombes, assistant coordinator for Texas A&M's Center for Drug Prevention and Education, said.

Coombes, head of the Alcohol Awareness Week Planning Committee, said responsible decision-making is the message being sent to students.

Dr. Dennis Reardon, coordinator of the Center, said A&M is taking an active part in promoting alcohol awareness.

"This year's scheduled events are probably the largest number of events ever scheduled at A&M for Alcohol Awareness Week," he said. "It is our main purpose to reach the entire campus and promote responsible decision-making to students, faculty and staff."

A&M organizations have prepared a week of activities to promote responsible decision-making while drinking.

One of the groups promoting Alcohol Awareness Week is BACCHUS, or Best Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students. BACCHUS was founded at the University of Florida in 1976, and has grown to include more than 200 chapters on campuses across the United States and Canada.

BACCHUS, a student organization that advocates responsible decision-making about drinking, accepts both drinking and nondrinking members, Coombes said.

Education is a major part of the A&M awareness program. The chapter is responsible for making the college community aware of the effects of alcohol on the body and making understood the appropriate ways to use alcohol. The group promotes alcohol awareness on campus by planning fun social events that apply the principles of responsible decision-making.

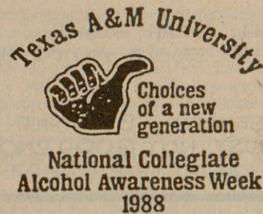
Beginning the week's activities will be "mooztails." Mooztails are non-alcoholic beverages designed to look and taste like mixed drinks. Mooztails will be served at the MSC, Blocker Building, Zachry and Sbsa and Commons Dining Halls from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Three events are scheduled for Tuesday. To emphasize the dangers of driving while intoxicated, a wrecked car will be on display outside Rudder Tower Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Although the car was not wrecked in an alcohol-related accident, it symbolizes the effects of drinking and driving.

Coombes said, "I want to emphasize that the car wasn't involved in an alcohol-related accident, but we're portraying it as a consequence of what irresponsible alcohol use might produce."

Specifically designed for the social chairmen of all student organizations,



The Social Chair Carnival will be held in 225 MSC Tuesday from 6-7:30 p.m.

"Invited participants will go through the carnival, which is an alcohol-education event," Coombes said. "Five educational booths — party foods, alternative beverages, party themes, games and activities and party music — are available to ask questions and teach responsible party habits."

"Anatomy of a Party," which will be held Tuesday from 8-9:30 p.m. at Rudder Theater, is a dramatization of a fraternity party. A five-person panel will address issues raised during the drama to explain responsible partying and drinking.

"A lot of the points the panel will bring up will be applicable to anyone having a party," she said. "It just happens that the skit used is at a fraternity party. Some of the issues brought up might be under-age drinking, liability, date rape as it applies to alcohol abuse, peer pressure and responsible partying."

A mock DWI trial is scheduled for Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. in 108 Harrington. Bob Wiatt, director of University Police, will be the mock defendant who has been accused of DWI.

"We will actually go through the whole trial," Coombes said. "We have a local attorney acting as the mock prosecuting attorney, and a campus attorney will be the defending attorney. A local community judge will preside over the trial, and there'll be an arresting officer from the University Police. They'll go through the whole trial in about an hour, and they'll demonstrate the intoximeter and how it works."

An open house for the Center for Drug Prevention and Education is scheduled for Thursday from 2-4 p.m. in Room 222 of the A.P. Beutel Health Center. Community leaders in alcohol and drug abuse prevention, faculty, staff and students will have the chance to view the center.

"Hall-Y-Wood Squares" also is scheduled for Thursday, from 4-6 p.m. outside of Spence Hall. Windows facing the Quadrangle will serve as the "squares" from the television game show. Yell leaders, redpots, Reveille and other campus leaders will answer questions about drinking myths.

"The game show will be a competition between residence halls and individu-

als," Coombes said. "A Night at Graffiti — Think Before You Drink" will be the final event for Alcohol Awareness Week. It will be held at Graffiti's Thursday, beginning at 8 p.m. The cover charge will be \$1, and free food and alcohol and non-alcohol drinks

will be served. Door prizes will be awarded as well.

"This will promote the whole idea of being responsible toward drinking and taking the choices of a new generation," Coombes said. "That's our whole message — to make responsible choices."

Beer drinkers encourage safe partying with 10 tips

The Beer Drinkers of America, in an effort to encourage safe and responsible drinking behavior, have developed 10 tips for "Smarter Partying and Hipper Hosting."

- Know your limit — stay within it.
- Know what you're drinking. What drinks a person has is as important as how many drinks he or she has.
- Designate a driver. If going out with a group of people, designate a non-drinking driver.
- Don't let a friend drive drunk.
- Call a cab. If there is no safe way to get someone who has been drinking too much home, call a cab. You may have to pay for it yourself, but the alternative may be far more painful.

• Food for thought: Food slows down alcohol absorption. If hosting a party, serve plenty of food — the heavier in protein and carbohydrates, the better.

• A good host is a good friend. If you care enough to invite someone to your home, you should care enough to make sure he gets home safely.

• Last call for alcohol. . . but the party isn't over. Close the bar at least an hour before the end of the party and provide a new round of food and coffee to guests before they leave.

• Care enough to save a life.

• The kids are watching you. Be responsible for your own actions. Think about what you're doing and how it affects those around you. Remember that children and peers imitate the behavior of older people.

Police statements, autopsies differ in fatal shootings

DALLAS (AP) — At least nine of 80 fatal police shootings since 1980 were erroneously reported by Dallas officers who said the victims were shot in face-to-face confrontations, while autopsies said the victims were shot from behind.

Six of the victims died of a single gunshot wound to the back, the Dallas Morning News said Sunday.

Three others suffered wounds shot from behind, as well as chest wounds.

Initial offense reports in the nine cases indicate officers either believed they were confronting armed suspects or feared for their own or another's safety.

Police officials acknowledged discrepancies in the reports, but said the inconsistencies were corrected in subsequent in-depth investigative reports.

But investigative files fail to include explanations on why the initial reports vary from autopsy findings and later reports.

Former Acting Chief of Police Lou Caudell said, "From our point of view the strict accuracy of that report is not important." The sole purpose of the initial report was to begin an investigation and that, until last year, those reports were sometimes done by officers not at the scene, he said.

Capt. John Holt of the Crimes Against Persons division, which conducts criminal investigations of the shootings, said, "I know the thing that I will put the most

stock in is my investigation (that) myself and the people that work with me do, and not necessarily what an officer who has been given this information second and thirdhand writes down in an original report."

But Dallas County Chief Medical Examiner Charles Petty said his review of the nine cases showed even subsequent statements from officers were inconsistent with the autopsies in two of the cases. In three other cases, Petty said the shooting officers' statements were vague and difficult to compare with the autopsies.

The department's use of deadly force was the subject of congressional hearings following the controversial shootings by Dallas officers of a 70-year-old disabled woman and an undercover Addison police officer.

Autopsy reports obtained by the Morning News during a four-month investigation show one of every three citizens fatally shot by police since 1980 suffered wounds in the back or from behind.

Grand juries failed to indict any officers involved in the 80 shootings. All 13 officers involved in the nine cases with conflicting reports still are employed by the Dallas Police Department, the newspaper said.

Pakistan: Sabotage caused crash

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Sabotage or another criminal act caused a plane crash that killed President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq, the U.S. ambassador and 28 others, a report released Sunday by a U.S.-Pakistan investigation team said.

The 365-page report ruled out mechanical failure in the Aug. 17 crash of the Hercules C-130 transport plane, Pakistan air force Cmdr. Abbas Mirza, said. He gave a 27-page summary to re-

porters at a hastily called news conference.

"The board believes that the accident was most probably caused through the perpetration of a criminal act or sabotage," the summary by the 10-member U.S.-Pakistan team said.

The summary did not blame any person or group for the crash but called for a separate criminal investigation.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Nancy Beck said U.S.

officials received a copy of the report and "we are studying it." She made no further comment.

Mirza, who led the four Pakistani representatives and six U.S. Air Force officers on the team, said they found no conclusive evidence to determine the method of sabotage.

All 30 aboard were killed, including U.S. Ambassador Arnold Raphel; a U.S. defense adviser, Brig. Gen. Herbert M. Wasson; and five top Pakistani generals.

Mirza said investigators sifting through the debris found chemicals often used in explosives but no remnants of a detonator, which would have indicated a small explosion aboard the plane.

He said the phrase "criminal act" referred to the possibility that the pilot or co-pilot could have disrupted cockpit controls intentionally, causing the crash in an open field.

Because there was no voice recorder aboard the aircraft, he said, it was impossible to determine what the crew said before the crash.

"After a thorough analysis of the available evidence, the board has been unable to substantiate a technical reason for the accident," the summary said.

"In the absence of the technical reason, the only other possible cause of the accident is the occurrence of a criminal act or sabotage leading to the loss of aircraft control and the (crash)," it said.

Phosphorus was found on mango seeds found in the wreckage, the report said. Earlier reports speculated that an explosive device was hidden in a box of mangos offered as a gift and placed aboard at the last minute.

Mirza made no comment on the theory.

The plane took off from Islamabad, which doubles as a military air base, to Bahawalpur, where Zia watched a demonstration of the U.S. M-1 Abrams battle tank. The four-engine turboprop crashed after takeoff on the return flight from Bahawalpur, 330 miles south of Islamabad.

Zia, 64, a military strongman who imposed eight years of martial law during his 11 years in power, was viewed as a bulwark of stability in the volatile region.

Furlough figures shock Clements, other leaders

AUSTIN (AP) — Nearly 5,000 felons, including 517 convicted of murder or voluntary manslaughter, have been furloughed from Texas prisons since Gov. Bill Clements took office in January 1987.

The Republican governor was shocked by the figure, which also prompted the chairman of the Texas Board of Corrections last week to order a freeze on week-long furloughs for murder convicts, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday.

In a copyright story, the Star-Telegram said at least one prisoner has been convicted of committing a felony while on furlough, and 14 furloughed Texas inmates are now missing and listed as escapees.

However, none of the 517 murder or voluntary manslaughter convicts have been arrested or charged while on furlough.

Clements, co-chair of the Texas presidential campaign of Vice President George Bush, has blasted Bush's opponent, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, for a similar furlough program in that state.

In Massachusetts, convicted murderer Willie Horton Jr., 36, robbed and raped a woman in Maryland after he left the state while on furlough.

That incident is cited repeatedly by Bush and his supporters as an example that Dukakis is soft on crime.

A Bush television ad that talks about the Massachusetts furlough program depicts

prisoners walking through a revolving door.

"The presidential campaign did bring it to light because that's what made me ask questions myself, back in September," Charles Terrell, chairman of the Texas Board of Corrections said.

Clements' spokesman Rossanna Salazar said Friday the governor was shocked when he was informed of the situation.

Prison records show that about 200 inmates are furloughed each month from the nation's third largest prison system under a 1977 law that allows emergency and discretionary passes without restriction.

Texas prison policy since 1987 has almost guaranteed rejection of furlough requests from inmates convicted of capital murder or sex offenses.

Still, some of those offenders were granted four-day, unescorted emergency furloughs to attend funerals of relatives.

Others nearing the end of their sentence were granted seven-day "appropriate-reason" furloughs to visit families or seek jobs.

After a two-month investigation, the Star-Telegram reported most of the Texas convicts from January 1987 through Aug. 31, 1988, have returned to prison without incident.

But one, Jesse Oliver Gephart, 34, of Burnet, is now serving 99 years for an aggravated robbery he committed while on furlough in May 1987.

He also was suspected, but not charged, in the beating death of his brother-in-law.

"You just can't predict human behavior; I've given up trying," said S.O. Woods, director of the prisons' bureau of classification and records, and overseer of all Texas furloughs.

Gephart was one of 23 prisoners furloughed in 1987 or 1988 that had troubles. Most of the temporarily freed inmates were accused of committing minor and usually unprosecuted offenses, such as driving with expired car insurance.

But seven were tried on more serious charges, including aggravated kidnapping, assault, aggravated drug possession, burglary, auto theft, shoplifting and — in Gephart's case — aggravated robbery.

Critics of the program, like Harris County Sheriff Johnny Klevenhagen, say they have been blind-sided by furloughs of inmates.

"I have never found anybody who has ever served on a jury who ever felt in their wildest dreams that an inmate would get two vacations a year. I think it's a mockery of justice," Klevenhagen said.

Terrell said he wants a full investigation of the merits of the program and will recommend policy changes to the prison board next month.

Shuttle buses get re-routed in construction

On-campus shuttle buses may seem to be going in the wrong direction today. However, because of construction, their routes have been modified.

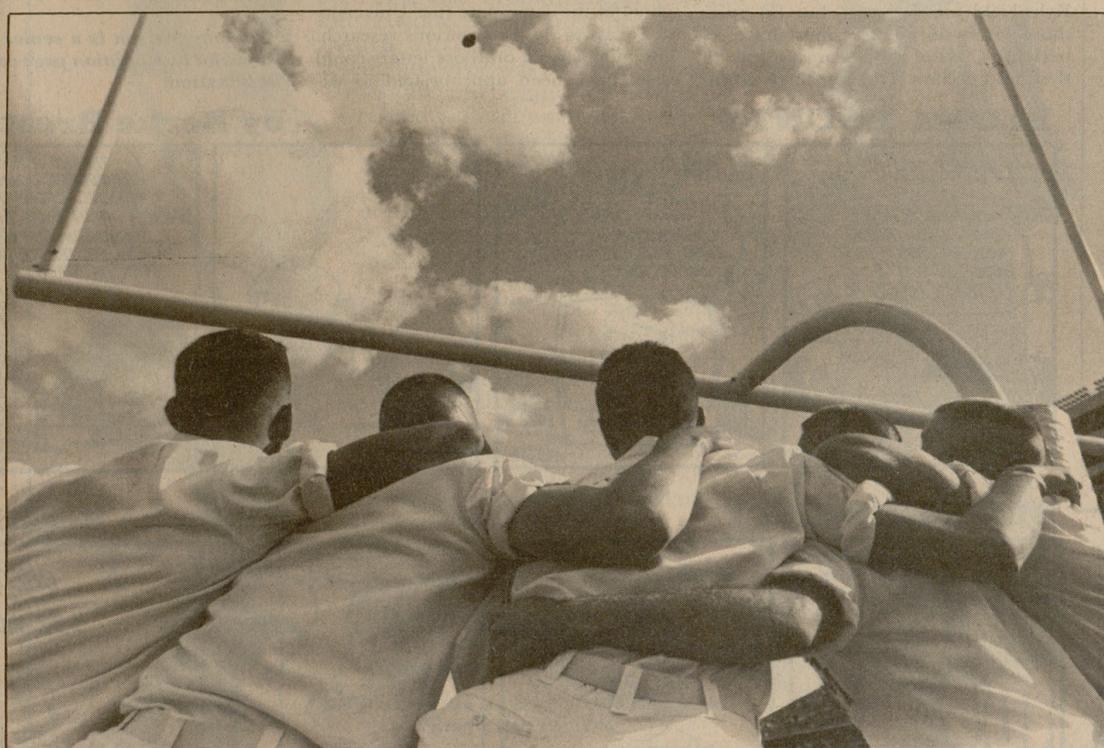
Effective today, Academic East, Academic and Express routes will be closed for the next few weeks. The Cotton Bowl and Rudder routes will be unchanged.

In place of the closed routes, Bus Operations has designed four new routes: Coke, Green, Blue and Red.

Maps of the new routes are posted in all on-campus buses. The routes are expected to return to normal when Houston and Hogg streets re-open. The streets will be closed while modules for north side residence hall construction are delivered.

Elsewhere on campus, construction will begin on a satellite utility plant within the next few weeks. A fence will be put up today around the site, the former Parking Annex 21, located behind the Military Sciences Building. Those with parking stickers for that lot have been issued stickers for Lot 60, near Rudder Tower, Tom Williams, director of Parking Transit and Traffic, said.

The utility plant will be used to support the air conditioning in the new residence halls.



Squeeze!!

Aggie yell leaders squeeze together in hopes of making the extra point during the third quarter of the Baylor game. The Aggies won the game 28-14.

Photo by Mike C. Mulvey