

Monday, March 27, 1989

A&M takes award for RHA legislation, improved programs

By Juliette Rizzo

STAFF WRITER

The Texas A&M Residence Hall Association was recognized for its outstanding improved hall programming earlier this month at a conference for residence hall associations of the Southwest.

SWACURH, the Southwest Affiliation of College and University Residence Halls, meets yearly for representatives of residence halls to gather, report and share ideas about their school's hall programming.

Among other activities, representatives submit annual reports compiled by hall councils on residence hall programming and legislation.

The top residence hall association must develop the best policies for so-

cial and academic hall programming and pass legislation pertinent to the whole campus.

Merindra Condra, public relations committee member for RHA and president of Briggs Hall, said A&M won based on its achievements in its residence halls in comparison to other represented schools.

A&M came in first place at the local, state and national levels not only for its hall programming, but for the legislation RHA has passed. Texas A&M's RHA was singled out for the University's passage of their proposed bill for on-campus co-ed housing and the passage of a new loft policy to allow lofts to be put up in newly renovated halls.

RHA will represent A&M at the National Affiliation of College and University Residence Halls in May.

Lawmakers OK train signal after 2 teens die in collision

WALLER (AP) — An auto-train collision that killed two teenagers has spurred lawmakers to help local officials remove some of the dangers of living along a railroad track.

By July 1, federal, state and railroad authorities have promised a \$100,000 warning signal at the major intersection in this Waller County community of 1,400 where the teens were killed.

The city of Waller must pay 5 percent, or about \$5,000, matched by 5 percent from the state, while federal funds will finance the remaining 90 percent.

It might have taken longer to get the crossing arms and flashing lights had the fatal Jan. 31 accident not occurred.

"For the past several years, we've asked for a signal at that

crossing," said Danny Marburger, who has been mayor for nearly 17 years.

"We'd just get a letter back saying it wasn't top priority. Then it would fizzle out. It's sad that had to happen before somebody could put pressure on the higher-ups."

Waller High School students Sheila Henley, 16, and Shana Deniston, 15, died when a train struck the car Henley was driving. Another student, Allen Dismuke, 17, was critically injured and underwent several surgeries. He continues to receive therapy.

The Texas Department of Public Safety report said the car apparently tried to beat the train, but the local consensus is that the teens never saw it coming.

Protesters march on Burger King Organization boycotts Icelandic fish because of illegal whaling

By Fiona Soltes

STAFF WRITER

About 40 sign-toting protesters chanting "Let the whales live" marched in front of Burger King Saturday afternoon, protesting the company's use of Icelandic fish because of the Icelandic fishing industry's with illegal whaling.

The protesters presented a non-Icelandic fish to Kevin Wilson, restaurant manager, and urged him to write a letter to his company head asking for the discontinuation of use of the Icelandic fish.

Wilson refused to accept the fish and asked that questions be directed to Tim Hermaling of the Burger King Corporation. Hermaling was not available for comment.

The protest is part of a nationwide effort organized by Greenpeace, an environmental protection group. A Greenpeace newsletter said the intent of the protest was to put economic pressure on the Icelandic fishing industry to stop killing nearly extinct species of whales by refusing to buy Icelandic fish.

Mary Albert, public relations chair for the Texas Environmental Action Coalition, said many environmental groups across the country boycotted businesses Saturday that use the fish.

"We want to send a signal to Iceland that it can't continue illegal whaling," said Albert, who graduated from Texas A&M two years ago. "By saying that we won't buy their fish, we can affect them."

She said many of the protesters, who call themselves the Marine Mammal Conservancy, were members of the coalition, an environmental protection group formed about five weeks ago for University students, faculty, staff and the community. The Burger King protest was the group's first major event.

Albert said the group also intended to protest at Red Lobster Saturday, but didn't because the cor-



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Members of the Marine Mammal Conservancy march in front of Burger King on Texas Avenue Saturday afternoon. The group protested

the purchasing of Icelandic fish by the fast-food chain because of the Icelandic fishing industry's connection with illegal whaling.

poration broke a contract with an Icelandic company last week because of threats of protests. Officials from Red Lobster were unavailable for comment.

According to the newsletter, protests such as this have worked in the past. Wendy's restaurants are switching to a Canadian supplier, Long John Silver's has cancelled a \$9 million contract with an Icelandic company and Burger King has cut back on use of Icelandic cod by 20 percent. The protesters said they are hopeful that Burger King will cut use of the fish completely.

"It will take a while for Burger King to stop (using the fish)," Albert said. "This particular company is a little more difficult. But I'd say pressure from demonstrations like this will work."

Patrons of Burger King, at 1719 S. Texas Avenue, seemed to take little notice of the protesters.

Paul Culbertson, a freshman wildlife and fisheries sciences major, said he eats at Burger King often.

"This doesn't change my feelings about Burger King at all," Culbertson said. "I don't usually eat fish here anyway."

"We just hope a little of this will rub off," Worsham, an environmental engineering graduate student, said.

Elizabeth Edwards, a freshman natural resource conservation major, said she thought the protest was worthwhile.

"To me, whales are some of the most important animals on the earth," Edwards said. "Not only in an ecological sense, but also because

of what they represent. They've had to come so close to extinction before people would do something about it."

"The fact that Burger King still buys from Iceland is hard to believe. I couldn't pass up the opportunity to tell them how I feel about it."

Edwards said that in her opinion, Burger King would be ignorant not to follow the precedent set by other restaurants of ceasing to use the fish.

Worsham said if people want to get involved, they should write to managers of restaurants such as Burger King who use Icelandic fish. He said another nationwide protest tentatively has been planned for June 12, shortly before the next meeting of the International Whaling Commission, a group formed in 1946 to regulate the industry.

24 Hr. Gyms of Texas Attention Members

Lifestyles Fitness Center to the rescue!

If you still want to get in shape for summer, Lifestyles will help you.

Lifestyles is a complete fitness center offering everything from raquetball to aerobics with the best weight training program in the state.

Due to the Grandopening of our second club Lifestyles will make available to the first 100 Gyms of Texas members a special fantastic discount. But Hurry! You have two locations to choose from. Lifestyles I co-ed club located at 903 Harvey Road or Lifestyles II exclusively for ladies at 3710 E. 29th Street.

For more information call Armando at Lifestyles I 764-6000 or Leslie or Tabitha at Lifestyles II 846-8000. But hurry this offer is limited.

Summer Freeze option available.



Lifestyles II
EXCLUSIVELY FOR LADIES

Lifestyles

903 HARVEY ROAD
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77840 / 764-6000



The MSC Wiley Lecture Series

presents



**THE MIDDLE EAST:
Peace or Powder Keg**

THE PROGRAM SYMPOSIUM

Dr. Clement Henry

U.S. Policy in the Middle East

March 28, 7 p.m.

Room 701 Rudder



We would like to thank the Middle East Institute and the MSC Jordan Institute for their support and funding

