



### WEATHER

FORECAST for FRIDAY:  
Partly cloudy and hot with a slight  
chance of afternoon showers.

HIGH:87

LOW:65



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Fans, like these pictured outside Olsen Field at the Baylor series earlier this year, will no longer be allowed to watch games from the railroad tracks outside right field.

## UPD bans seats by tracks after UT series incidents

By Andrea Warrenburg

REPORTER

Aggie baseball fans will be prohibited from watching games from the railroad tracks behind the right-field wall of Olsen Field following several incidents at last weekend's series.

The decision was made by Texas A&M officials because of the unruly behavior of the hundreds of people gathered along the tracks Sunday for the double-header with the University of Texas.

"With such great potential for injuries, arrests and for lawsuits to be filed against the University, we decided to nip the problem in the bud," Bob Wiatt, director of security and the University Police Department, said.

Wiatt made the recommendation to ban students from the tracks to Robert Smith, vice president for finance and administration. Smith, who attended the games and witnessed people walking on top of boxcars from his seat in the stands, agreed, and President William Mobley was informed of their decision.

"The drinking, rowdiness and

stupidity of people who want to play chicken with trains helped precipitate our decision," Wiatt said. "It started on Saturday, but it got out of hand on Sunday."

Wiatt said people were jumping onto the ladders of the boxcars as they slowed, running on the roofs of boxcars, and standing on the tracks when a train was approaching and jumping off at the last minute.

"Their behavior was preposterous," Wiatt said. Although possession of alcohol is prohibited on A&M's campus, the 15-foot right-of-way next to the tracks belongs to Southern Pacific Railroad and is not owned by A&M.

It is this 15-foot right-of-way that gives the crowds gathered to watch the games an extra inducement to be there, Wiatt said.

Signs asking spectators to stay 15 feet from the tracks were ignored, he said, and therefore the owners of the tracks have given A&M officials permission to keep students out of the area.

People backed-up their vehicles so the tailgates were hanging over the tracks and the owners had to move them each time one of the 10 to 12 trains passed, he

said. Wiatt also said Union Pacific, who leases the tracks from Southern Pacific railroad, called Monday expressing their concern.

"One engineer Sunday had to stop his train because one pick-up didn't move," Wiatt said.

Union Pacific also told Wiatt it would be willing to press criminal trespass charges against people who entered the 15-foot area.

Two people were injured Sunday, but neither injury was related to the trains.

One man suffered a broken jaw when a fight broke out and the assailant was arrested for public intoxication. Another man broke his ankle after slipping on spilled beer in the back of a truck.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission called Wiatt offering to help by ticketing minors in possession of alcohol during the games.

Wiatt said officers will be patrolling the tracks during the sold-out A&M-Arkansas series May 5-6, forbidding people to enter the area.

The new rule does not affect people who watch the games from the other surrounding fences, Wiatt said.

## University Inn to open as private dormitory

By Becky Weisenfels

EDITOR

University Inn will have a new look next Fall — and a new clientele.

University Inn will become University Tower beginning in September. The new privately-owned, co-educational dormitory will offer maid service, a private shuttle to campus, an indoor pool, a weight room and 24-hour security, Jamie Sandel, leasing manager, said.

The hotel is now being remodeled to have more storage space, new furniture, new carpet and dorm-size refrigerators, Sandel said. The rooms will have private bathrooms, television and telephones.

About 300 rooms will be available to house more than 700 students. A cafeteria will be built in place of some meeting rooms on the ground floor, and will be equipped to serve more than 500 students at each meal. It also will be open to the pub-

lic, and meal plans will be available.

Students who live in the dormitory, which is on the corner of Texas Avenue and University Drive, will be paying between \$3,600 and \$7,600 for nine months, including meals.

The most expensive rooms on the A&M campus, in modular residence halls, cost \$954 per semester or 1,908 for nine months. A seven-day meal plan costs about \$800 for a semester. For nine months on campus (modular dorm) with meal plan, a student can expect to pay about \$3,500.

The cost of University Tower rooms is contingent on the number of occupants in a room and the type of room. Sandel said rooms will be larger than the current on-campus residence hall rooms.

Payment plans are available. Students are required to sign a nine-month lease upon moving into the new dormitory.

The meal plan, included in the price of the rooms, includes three

meals on each weekday and two meals on Saturday and Sunday.

Sandel said students will be the first priority of the owners, even though hotel rooms and convention services still will be available. The firm that manages Dobie Center and another dormitory at University of Texas will be managing University Tower.

The new dorm will require an expanded staff, with cooks, secretaries and student resident advisers being hired, but Sandel did say the firm would try to purchase as much as possible locally.

Sandel is accepting applications through April 26 for 10 resident advisers for next year. The advisers, who should be students, will get free room and board at the dorm.

The 17-floor hotel was previously considered by A&M officials for conversion to dorm space, but was eventually dismissed because of, among

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## TAES chief reassignment not demotion, ag dean says

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Rumors that the director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station was demoted when he was reassigned by University System administrators are false, the dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences said Wednesday.

Neville Clarke, director of TAES since 1977, has been reassigned to a newly created position, associate deputy chancellor for federal initiatives, said Charles Arntzen, dean of the agriculture college. Arntzen said the reassignment is not a demotion, but did not say the position was an advancement for Clarke.

"Most people think of promotions in terms of a large salary increase," he said. "I don't have the right to say when a person should get an advancement or a raise. That's up to the Chancellor (Perry Adkisson) and the Board of Regents."

Clarke was unavailable for comment Wednesday night. Adkisson was out of town, but members of his office referred all calls to Arntzen.

Arntzen said a search will be conducted by the regents to fill the space vacated by Clarke as director of TAES. The Bryan-College Station Eagle Wednesday cited anonymous sources saying Arntzen would be named director. The move would have Arntzen serving as dean of the college, deputy chancellor of agriculture and life sciences and director of TAES.

Dr. Herbert Richardson, dean of the College of Engineering, holds a similar position. Richardson serves as deputy chancellor of engineering and director of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station.

"We're reorganizing the composition of the Agricultural Experiment Station, and that includes getting an associate dean," Arntzen said. "The associate dean will be selected in a joint appointment with the ag experiment station director. It's up to the regents to consider who will fill those positions."

All personnel decisions must be approved by the regents before becoming official. The next Board meeting is the third weekend in May.

Arntzen said Clarke will be responsible for bringing revenue to the agricultural program from the national level. He said Clarke will be leading a federal research initiative that will attempt to obtain \$500 million from the federal government for agricultural research.

Clarke was working primarily on the state level before the reassignment, Arntzen said.

He said Clarke was informed of the decision on Monday. The decision to make the change was reached by the consensus of System administrators, including Chancellor Perry Adkisson and the various deputy chancellors, Arntzen said.

Decisions will continue to be made by using the consensus format among agricultural administrators, Arntzen said, and Clarke will still be involved in all decisions. "I don't think this can be seen as something negative," Arntzen said. "I think this is something positive on the part of the agricultural program."

In addressing the rumors, Arntzen said it likely was much ado about nothing.

"I think people are trying to generate intrigue over what should have been a normal operational change," Arntzen said. "As you restructure a program, there might be somebody who regards a decision as something negative."

## Explosion on battleship kills sailors

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A huge gun turret packed with gunpowder exploded in flames on the battleship USS Iowa near Puerto Rico on Wednesday, killing at least 47 sailors in one of the worst naval disasters since the Vietnam War.

The death toll from the accident, which happened during a gunnery exercise, "could go higher, but we don't know at this point," said Lt. Cmdr. Steve Burnett, a spokesman for the Atlantic Fleet, based in Norfolk.

He said the number of crewmen injured had not been determined. Two ships participating in the same exercise collided Wednesday afternoon about 500 miles east of Jacksonville, Fla.

## Buchman fills Student Government posts

By Kelly S. Brown

STAFF WRITER

Beth Ammons, Kristin Hay and Craig Sandlin were appointed by Student Body President Kevin Buchman to be his executive vice presidents in the Student Government.

The Student Senate approved Buchman's nominations in Wednesday night's meeting.

Buchman said he is confident with his selections, and believes "they will be a successful and solid group."

Part of a vice president's job is to keep the student body president abreast of issues on campus and of student's concerns.

Ammons, a sophomore political science major, will serve as executive vice president for programs. Her experience with Student Government

includes being a senator, a COSGA delegate, a committee member of project visibility, executive assistant for development, external affairs committee sub-chairman for the community, a public relations committee member and a freshman aide to the Student Senate.

Hay, a junior psychology major, will fill the position of vice president for administration. Hay's student government involvement includes being a senator, co-chairman of the election commission and a member of the Class of '90 council.

Hay has served on five Senate committees including external affairs, student services, academic affairs, rules and regulations and the faculty senate academic advising subcommittee.

Sandlin, a sophomore management major, will serve as the executive vice president for devel-

opment. He was an executive assistant to 1988-89 Student Body President Jay Hays. Sandlin also was vice chairman of project visibility, a COSGA delegate and served on the traffic appeals committee and student services committee.

Four other executive positions also were filled during the meeting.

Ty Clevenger, a sophomore political science major, was elected as Speaker of the Senate.

One of the goals he presented is to increase communication between

the administration and the student body, and to increase Student Government's credibility.

Mark Werner, a senior accounting/finance major, was elected Speaker Pro-tempore.

Werner said his goals are to motivate and unify the Senate, while dealing with its "biggest problem of lack of communication."

Chuck Keffer, a sophomore electrical engineering major, won the nomination as rules and regulations committee chairman.

## MADD urges action on bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Mothers Against Drunk Driving on Wednesday urged state lawmakers to act on an open-container bill they say is being held in committee while liquor interests lobby against it.

Representatives of the anti-drunk driving group called a news conference to say the measure by Rep. Bill Blackwood, R-Mesquite, has been in the House Liquor Regulation Committee several weeks without a hearing.

## Student Senate calls for change in A&M's health insurance plan

By Kelly S. Brown

STAFF WRITER

By a small margin, the Student Senate approved recommendations made by the student health insurance committee, that Texas A&M return to a cumulative deductible on its health plan.

Debate on the issue, however, did not center on whether the school should return to a \$100 per year deductible instead of the current \$100 per incident deductible; instead, discussion concerned what insurance company A&M will contract next year.

For the past 15 years A&M has done business with United Group Insurance, but concerns over the past three years have been voiced by the committee as to whether United Group Insurance is the best buy for the student.

The committee recommended two features be applied to whatever company is chosen — a cumulative deductible and a one-year contract guarantee, rather

than a two year guarantee. The committee said a shorter contract period is necessary because of volatile medical service and insurance costs.

Leanne Rogers, the senator who introduced the resolution, said the five member committee, comprised of administrators and students, came to the Senate for an opinion after arriving at a 3-2 decision to switch to a new firm.

"Obviously, the three wins," Rogers said. "But the committee didn't want to return the recommendation to Dr. John Koldus without knowing exactly what the students want, and what will be absolutely the best."

Although the committee has been unable to reach a clear consensus on which insurance carrier to select, it narrowed the number of companies from six to two. In competition with United Group Insurance is Pearce & Pearce, which has the lower cost of the two.

The committee's report stated that Pearce & Pearce has aggressively sought to insure A&M's students, and

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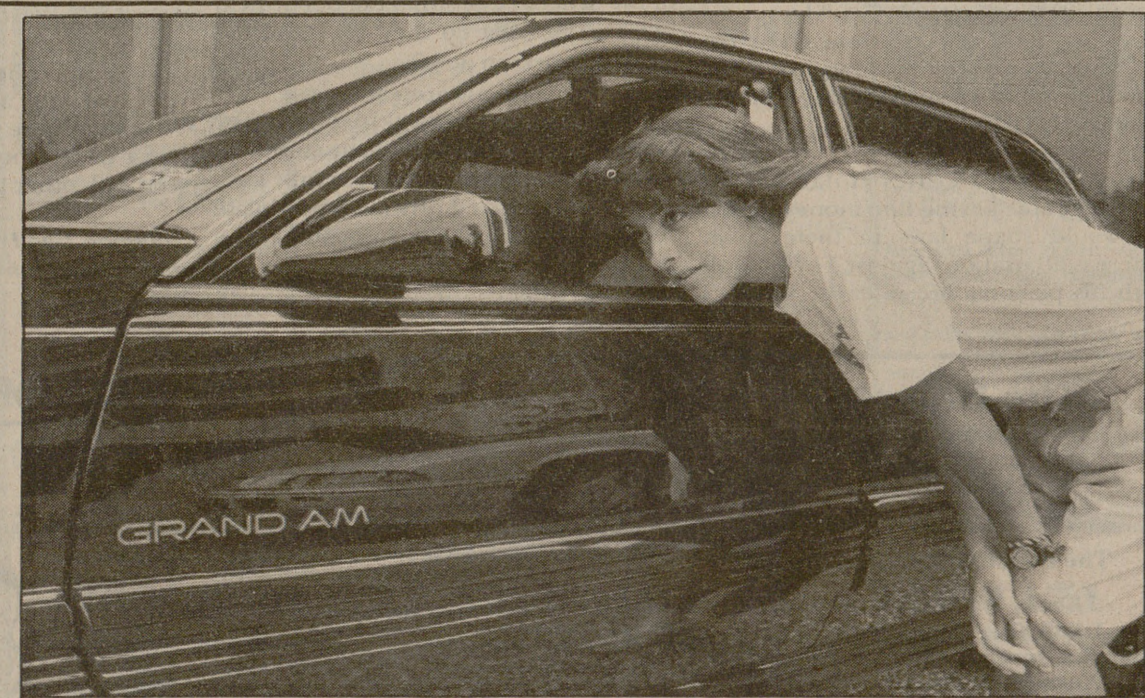


Photo by Frederick D. Joe

### Mirror, mirror

Tamara Joyce, a sophomore physical education major from Grapevine, takes a closer look

at one of the entries in the sports car show, part of this weekend's Aggiecross XXIII.

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