

And it's ONE, TWO, THREE strikes

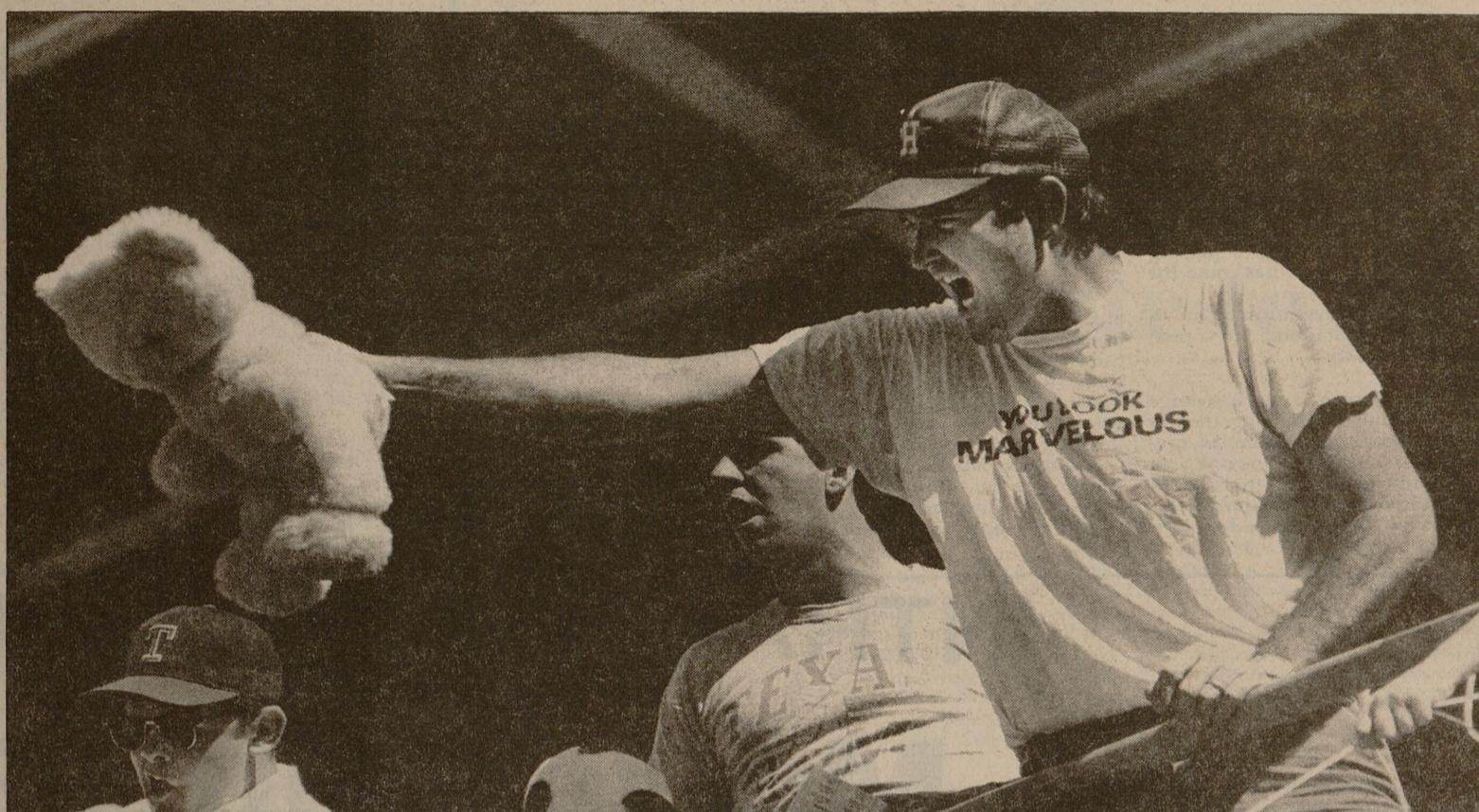


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

One of the hecklers in the second deck of Olsen Field tries to make the Baylor Bears' visit to A&M as miserable as possible.

you're out at the old ball game

The success of the No. 1 ranked Texas A&M baseball team has attracted droves of fans to the ballpark this season, making C.E. 'Pat' Olsen Field a popular springtime hangout for students this semester.

The Aggies tied an NCAA record for the best start with a 40-1 mark, set a school record for best start with a 26-game winning streak and recently won two of three games against archrival University of Texas, the No. 10 team in the nation.

The Aggies' fortunes continued to improve when Olsen Field public address announcer Derrick Grubbs decided to remain at A&M after earlier in the year saying that he had accepted a job at Ball State University.



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Above: Olsen Field has experienced capacity crowds since the Aggies began Southwest

Conference play. The Aggies are in second place in the conference with a 13-2 record.

Left: Colleen McReynolds (left) and Sandy Hastings rake the area around home plate at

Olsen Field before an Aggie baseball game as part of their duties as Diamond Darlings.

The Rites of Spring

No one is safe from epidemic of spring fever at A&M

By Chuck Lovejoy

ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

An epidemic is at this moment plaguing our beloved Texas A&M campus.

Students in every academic department are abandoning schoolwork in brief but potent fits of reckless disregard for responsibility.

The disease is spring fever. Its cause is beautiful weather; its primary effect is GPR-devastation.

It is incomparably contagious. Recognizing the Disease

Webster's Third New International Dictionary defines spring fever as "a lazy or restless feeling often associated with the onset of spring."

A more perfect description of the condition couldn't be found. A walk around campus will fa-

miliarize anyone with the tragic realities of spring fever.

Persons suffering from the affliction can be found in every bird-stained and ivy-carpeted corner of A&M.

But wanderers beware — the fever is contagious, and the mere sight of the infected is enough to transfer the condition.

The most prevalently infected area is the northside residence halls and their immediate vicinity.

There, volleyball and basketball games, sunbathing sessions and similar recreational symptoms of spring fever can be witnessed.

On the Simpson Drill Field, larger groups of students exhibit more serious symptoms, playing lacrosse, softball, football and soccer, while the polo fields are overrun with the infected as they fly kites and model airplanes, throw frisbees and practice golf strokes.

The School — Sunshine Dilemma

The definition of spring fever includes both restlessness and laziness, two conditions that seem to contradict one another.

Nevertheless, students do seem to experience both in their bouts of the sickness, although the "restless" side is perhaps the more evident of the pair.

For example, what else but restlessness could make an average student want to go outside and mow the grass?

Cyndi Kraemer, a sophomore accountant-to-be, has just such impulses resulting from spring fever.

"To me, mowing grass is part of spring — it makes me feel like I'm actually doing something important," she said. "It also makes me sweat. I like that feeling."

Kraemer likes the smell of freshly mowed grass, although she couldn't place her finger on the exact cause of the attraction.

"I don't know — I just like it," she said. "It's the epitome of the outdoors, and in the spring you should be outdoors."

A recent and most serious attack of restlessness led Kraemer and some friends to Lake Somerville in the middle of the night, where they impulsively went skinny-dipping.

When asked why she and her friends didn't simply swim in their underwear, she replied that they wanted to keep their clothes dry.

"Besides, skinny-dipping is just more exciting — isn't it?" she said.

In another case, spring restlessness makes one student want to eat ice cream.

Sophomore Tami Hertel said the sunny spring days make her crave peanut butter and chocolate ice cream.

"I could eat a gallon at every sitting," the accounting major said. "But I haven't eaten any this spring — I'm on a diet."

Other than dreaming of dairy products, Hertel said spring fever mostly makes her want to be outside and to travel.

"I've been out of town every weekend since spring break, so spring fever hasn't hit me that badly this year," she said.

The desire to be outdoors seems to characterize many of the afflicted.

David Wilson, a senior business analysis major, said he enjoys volleyball games on nice spring days.

"There's a game going on every day outside my dorm," he said. "I don't play every day, but someone does."

Wilson also said he has been getting little studying done lately.

"Spring makes me want to not study — I'd rather stay up late and hang out than study," he said. "But I'm graduating in May, so I can do that."

Skipping class is one luxury Marcus Michna, a sophomore studying environmental design, can't afford, although he said he would love to be able to.

"I have to go to class, or I'll flunk," he said. "Skipping is good for the moment, but it catches up with you on the next class meeting."

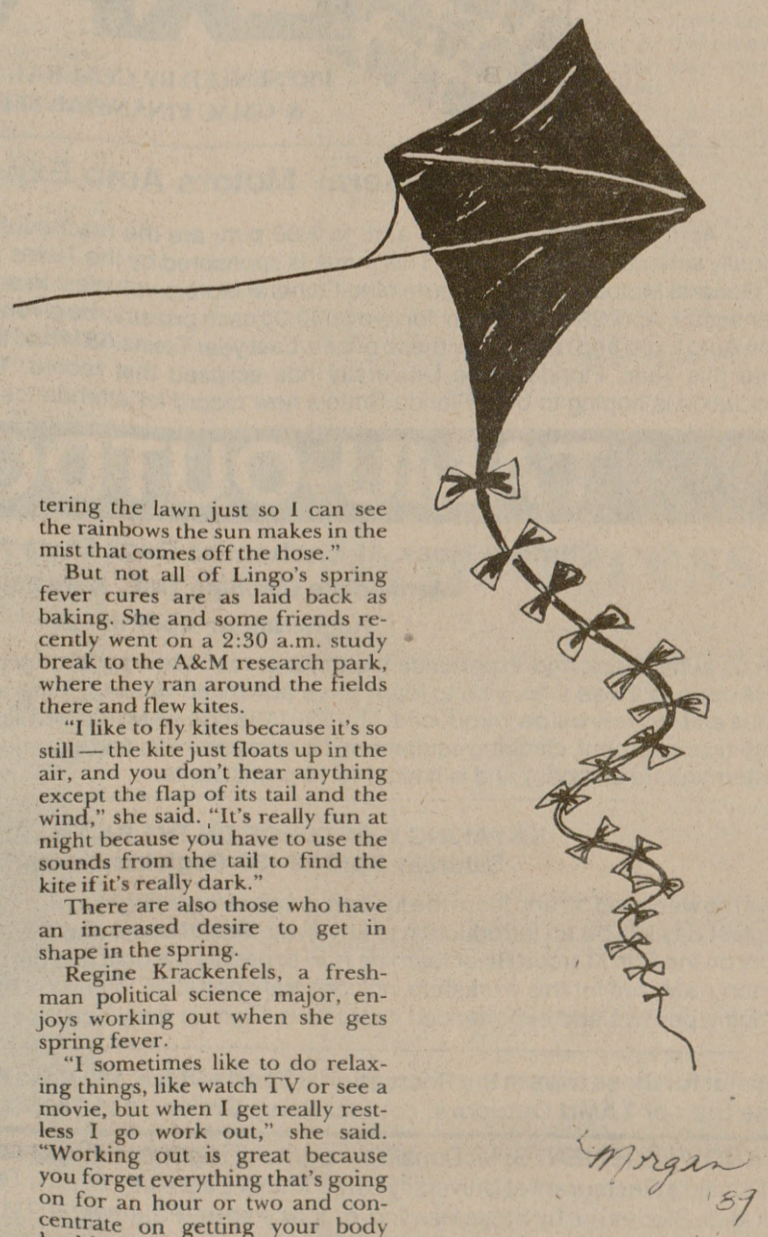
When he can find time to get away, Michna said he likes to go to theme parks, such as a zoo or amusement park, to cure spring fever.

"I'd love to be locked in an amusement park for a weekend," he said, "but I would settle for a fishing trip."

"I also like to take long, scenic drives, but since the price of gas keeps going up I don't think I'll be doing that much."

While Michna may prefer active pastimes, sophomore Michelle Lingo likes to do more relaxing things when spring restlessness hits her.

"I like to do things like make cakes in the shape of bunny rabbits and color easter eggs in the spring," she said. "I also like wa-



tering the lawn just so I can see the rainbows the sun makes in the mist that comes off the hose." But not all of Lingo's spring fever cures are as laid back as baking. She and some friends recently went on a 2:30 a.m. study break to the A&M research park, where they ran around the fields there and flew kites.

"I like to fly kites because it's so still — the kite just floats up in the air, and you don't hear anything except the flap of its tail and the wind," she said. "It's really fun at night because you have to use the sounds from the tail to find the kite if it's really dark."

There are also those who have an increased desire to get in shape in the spring.

Regine Krackenfels, a freshman political science major, enjoys working out when she gets spring fever.

"I sometimes like to do relaxing things, like watch TV or see a movie, but when I get really restless I go work out," she said. "Working out is great because you forget everything that's going on for an hour or two and concentrate on getting your body healthy."



Photo by Kathy Haveman

Desha Woodall, 6, of College Station has a set of balloons painted on her face Saturday at the springtime jazz festival.

teners
PUTNIK
ESS FOR
XCESS
K CORP. - THIS TIME IT'S MUSIC
uitar)" is another semi-
that pokes fun at ine
nd.
r Excess is not a serious
e's no evidence of incred
It's an album meant to
ditions to and just hav
ne. It's crazy and sp
ommand it to anyone
in.
Music Express for les
um for review.
d art
most like a collage.
he more interesting
displays in the exhibit
pages by Brian Taylor
eno, Calif. Using a sen
colored, electronically
ographs, Taylor look
ess of early comput
s show early comput
battered typewriter
nected to second-ha
and held together w
ing tape and more th
uity.
orks on display in the
e black-and-white ph
John Burris of Brook
ome colorful, comput
graphics by Victor
s Angeles.
abit will be on displ
ord Architecture Cen
ough April 28. The h
to 5 p.m. Monday-Fri
to 5 p.m. Saturday.
ps in town.
One's just
a little
smarter
than
the other.