

Monday, February 26, 1990

UPD alerts truck owners to rash of tailgate thefts

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

A recent rash of tailgate thefts has prompted the University Police Department to warn owners of late model trucks to secure their property.

Quick release tailgates, standard equipment on all new trucks, can be stolen in about five seconds, Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, of the UPD Crime Prevention Unit, said. They are worth about \$100-400 each.

Seven tailgates were stolen last week from Parking Area 89. The lot is behind the tennis courts and south of Kyle Field.

Kretzschmar said truck owners can secure their vehicles by engraving their driver's license numbers on the bottom inside of the tailgate, switching the quick release bolts or welding the right bolt closed.

To switch quick release bolts:

- Remove the tailgate from its bottom hinges as suggested by the owner's manual.
- Take the bottom hinges off the truck body by unscrewing the bolts.
- Switch the left hinge to the right, and the right hinge to the left. Put into place on the tailgate.

• While one person lifts the tailgate with the hinges in place, the second person will screw the hinges back into the truck body. Depending on the truck and the year model, the rear bumper may have to be removed to get the hinges back in place on the truck. If the hinges have a center alignment pin, the pin may have to be cut back slightly.

This may not work on all makes and models with quick release tailgates, but Kretzschmar said it is effective on most models.

Kretzschmar said the only way the tailgate can be removed after this process is to unscrew the hinges at the body of the truck again.

This procedure will prevent opportunity theft only, but, Kretzschmar said, between 80 and 90 percent of on-campus crimes are opportunity thefts.

"If they (thieves) have to spend time to steal it, they will go somewhere else and look for a better opportunity," Kretzschmar said.

Truck owners can also take their vehicles to any local body shop and have the right bolt welded shut for about \$20.

Engravers can be obtained from UPD or from any resident adviser.



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Lt. Bert Kretzschmar removes a tailgate on a chevy pickup truck with the new "quick release" mechanism. Kretzschmar said a stolen tailgate can sell for up to \$400.

Section of Lewis Street closes to traffic today

Beginning today, the west-bound section of Lewis Street between Spence and Bizzell streets will be closed to all traffic.

The street is being closed so that brick can be put on the south side of the parking garage, and it will remain closed until the project is completed prior to the start of the fall semester.

Bizzell Street will remain closed. Access to the area will continue by way of Throckmorton and Coke streets.

Subcommittees take first steps to examine advising problems

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

A presidential advisory committee on student advising and counseling at Texas A&M formed four subcommittees Friday in its first act of business.

Dan Robertson, associate dean for academic programs in the College of Business and chairman of the committee, split the 19-member committee into four subcommittees to study the problems and inadequacies of student advising at A&M more closely.

The four subcommittees will analyze ad-

vising and counseling for high school students, current A&M students, graduate students, and students with special needs.

Robertson said he wants each subcommittee to prepare skeletal outlines on the different areas by March 23.

Each subcommittee is expected to prepare outlines concerning the current status of advising and counseling in the different areas, where advising and counseling

should be, how to make it better, and an estimate of the financial and non-financial resources to get advising where it should be, Robertson said.

"In some departments, there might be a small gap between what they are doing now and what they should be doing, but in others, there might be a rather large gap," he said. "That's what we need to find out by

March 23."

The committee was formed at the request of the Board of Regents and A&M President William H. Mobley after members of the Chancellor's Student Advisory Board told the regents in December about inconsistencies and lack of coordination in advising and counseling services.

The full committee includes faculty, students, and staff from offices that deal with

student services, admissions and records, financial aid and other advising offices.

Robertson, who is expected to name chairpersons for the subcommittees later this week, said the committee realizes the time limit that Mobley placed on the committee. Mobley said he wants the committee's findings by June 15.

"Everyone observed that we don't have a lot of time," Robertson said. "The reason we're not holding our next meeting for almost a month is because it will give everyone the time during Spring Break. I imagine that's when most of the work will get done."

Election Commission of
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

STUDENT BODY ELECTION SIGN-UPS

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
Student Body President, Yell Leaders, Residence Hall Association offices, Off Campus Aggie offices, Student Government Legislative Chairs, Student Senate positions, Graduate Student Council, Class of 1991, 1992, & 1993 Class Council offices.

filing

monday, 26 february - friday, 02 march

214 pavilion, 9:00am - 5:00pm

There will be a \$5.00 filing fee. Other information and details concerning mandatory candidate meetings will be available during filing week.

1121 Briarcrest Drive #302
(409) 776-1555

BUDGET OPTICALS
of America, Inc.

\$39.95 Complete
ANY PLASTIC FRAME AND SINGLE VISION LENSES

Specialty Lenses and Metal Frames Slightly Higher

\$69.95 Complete
ANY PLASTIC FRAME AND BIFOCAL LENSES

EYEGLASSES ONE LOW PRICE

Ask About our...
"Designer Series"

INTERNATIONAL WEEK 1990
Feb. 26 - March 2, 1990

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990, 10:00 a.m., MSC FLAGROOM
OPENING CEREMONY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
MSC FIRST FLOOR
CULTURAL DISPLAY AND ART EXHIBIT

Tuesday, February 27, 1990, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
MSC FIRST FLOOR
CULTURAL DISPLAY AND ART EXHIBIT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990, 7:00 p.m., MSC SECOND FLOOR
BUFFET INTERNATIONAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1990, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
RIGGER TOWER, ROOM 701
ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1990, 8:00 p.m., RIGGER AUDITORIUM
TALENT SHOW AND TRADITIONAL DRESS PARADE

TICKETS PRICE:
BUFFET INTERNATIONAL - \$8.00
TALENT SHOW AND TRADITIONAL DRESS PARADE - \$3.50
COMBINATION TICKET - \$10.00

TICKETS ARE SOLD AT MSC BOX OFFICE AND TICKETRON OUTLETS
INFORMATION, CALL 845-1825

BROUGHT TO YOU BY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Advantage is yours with a Battalion Classified. **Call 845-0569**