

Friday, August 31, 1990

Insignia not a sacred seal Hidden mosaic concerns student

By TROY HALL
Of The Battalion Staff

The decision to place a round conference table over a Texas A&M seal in the Coke Building concerned a recent BATTIPS caller who believed it was wrong to cover the in-laid insignia.

The A&M emblem, on the first floor in the Coke Building foyer, was added in the early 1950s when the building was constructed.

The building houses the fiscal office and Office of the Provost.

Dr. Jerry Gaston, associate provost, made the decision to place the table in the foyer to improve the building's surroundings.

"That area is terribly drab, and a floral arrangement on the table would cheer up the place," he said.

In the past, the environment was enjoyable to walk into, he said, but he hopes this addition will make people feel better.

"There has been no dedication of the insignia to my knowledge, and I did not intend to offend anyone," he said. "To my knowledge, the insignia is not a sacred seal."

"Unlike the Academic Building, where we would form human links to protect it, the Coke Building does not contain the same historical significance."

The Coke Building eventually will be demolished, he said, because it does not fit into the University masterplan. This most likely will not occur for several years.

The Coke Building was completed in January 1952 and originally housed the registrar and fiscal offices.

It was dedicated in honor of Richard Coke, the Texas governor who pushed a legislative act to establish Texas A&M College.

Coke is considered the "father" of the A&M College of Texas. He also served as president of the first A&M board of directors.

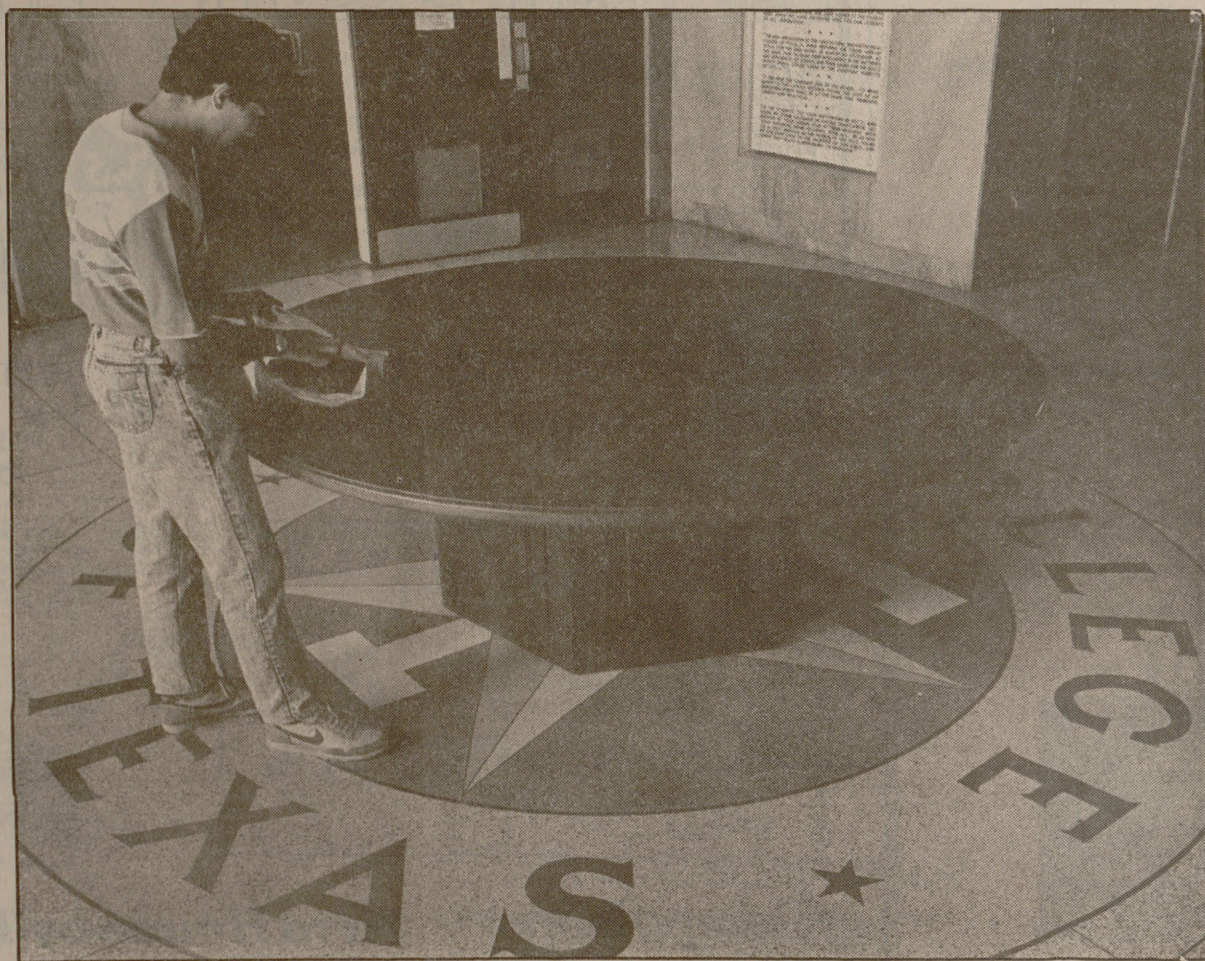


Photo by Jay Janner

Kali Buhariwalla, a computer science graduate student from Bombay, India, gathers his belongings while running an errand inside the Coke Building Monday.

A&M creamery processes, sells milk products

By KATHERINE COFFEY
Of The Battalion Staff

Only four places in the United States process a rare German lowfat cheese, and the Texas A&M Dairy Products Laboratory Plant happens to be one of them.

Known as the Creamery, this small plant has been processing many of A&M's richest milk products for almost 35 years.

In recent years it has produced Quarg German cheese, one of the most popular cheeses in Europe.

"We manufacture all our products from milk we receive from the Dairy Cattle Center into pasteurized-homogenized milk, ice cream and other varieties of cheeses," said Production Superintendent Frank Chase.

The Creamery also processes but-

ter and recently started making frozen yogurt, he said.

Chase, Class of '83, said about 3,000 or 4,000 gallons of milk processed a week are supplied to campus dining halls.

And with its two full-time employees, one part-time employee and three student workers, this plant also is able to sell products such as ice cream and cheese to student organizations, restaurants and retailers, he added.

Most products are sold at the retail store in the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center, he said.

The various cheeses include Quarg German, Aggie Cheddar, jalapeno and bacon cheddar cheese spread.

Chase said all cheese is sold in two-pound blocks and wrapped in

ter with the A&M seal.

During the Christmas season, about 3,500 pieces of cheese are ordered by and sold in great numbers to A&M alumni, he said.

"This is a good way to promote the Department of Dairy Science and also A&M," he said. "And the cheeses all sell for less than \$10."

Ninety-nine percent of the ice cream the plant produces goes to the retail store on the west side of campus next to Kleburg in the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center. The center is open to everyone.

"Everyone gets confused where the creamery plant is," he said. "(It) is on Spence Street next to the Pavilion."

He said confusion comes into play because many think the plant is where the retail store is, near the

Meat Science and Technology Center next to Kleburg.

The plant also serves as a teaching research and extension service for students.

Student worker Scott Blackery, a range science major, said he needed a job to keep himself busy and found work at the Creamery to be helpful in his field of study.

"The Creamery gives me good work experience and has helped me expand (my knowledge of) the agriculture industry," Blackery said.

The plant was built to be functional and easy for students learning its various operations, Chase said.

Also, the Creamery gives about 3,000 tours a year.

Those interested in orders can contact 845-5652 for retail sales and 845-4828 for wholesale orders.

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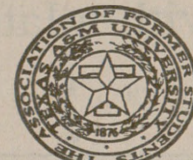
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