

RHA, STOP raises money to fulfill holiday wish lists

By ELIZABETH TISCH
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M residence halls will raise money to fulfill holiday wish lists for local needy families. RHA Vice President of Operations Jennifer Wylie says this is the third year the halls will "adopt" families for the holiday season. Students Together Opposing Poverty (STOP) will begin the program by soliciting funds from hall residents and end by donating the money or completed "wish lists" to their families on Dec. 7. "Families have requested food, toys, clothes, space heaters and mon-

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— Jennifer Wylie, RHA vice president of operations

ey," she says. "And the students of the halls have requested for more families than any year before." Although students will never personally meet their adopted families, a profile providing information

about the families is provided to STOP members.

"The students will know if they are donating gifts for a single mother of two or a larger family," she says.

Wylie says the majority of the halls are participating.

"The halls are anxious to participate," she says. "They think it's a great way to serve the community and it doesn't take a lot of time either — and that is important, especially during finals."

Halls are asked to solicit about \$50 from residents. If more is raised, the money will be placed in a general STOP fund to be used when needed by the local families, Wylie says.

Number of U.S. rigs rebound, ends decline

HOUSTON (AP) — After two weeks of declines, the number of working oil and gas rigs in the United States rebounded with a healthy 72 additional rigs operating this week to bring the total to 1,175 nationwide, Baker Hughes Inc. reported.

"Some of that clearly is improvement of the weather that had been bad for the past two weeks, particularly in Oklahoma," Ike Kerridge, a vice president at Baker Hughes, said Monday. "But it also relates to the seasonal upturn expected during the last quarter of the year."

The number of rigs had plummeted by 41 rigs over the past two weeks, following heavy rains in the Oklahoma area. A year ago this week, the number of working rigs was 1,037.

Kerridge said he could not forecast changes for the count, but believed it would grow in December because drillers will be using any remaining funds in calendar-year budgets.

"I still expect to see a rig count around 1,250 in December, but whether that will be at the beginning of the month or the middle or the end, I can't say," Kerridge said. "The weather and the random movement of rigs that can effect it makes it impossible to predict on a week-by-week basis."

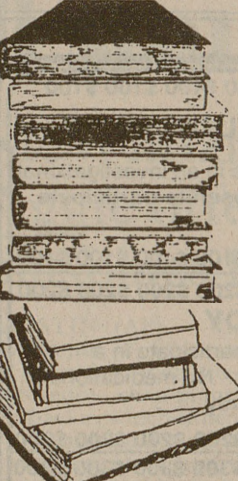
Decreases in the previous weeks came on the heels of a milestone earlier in the month when the number of working rigs reached 1,144 — a high figure not seen since Dec. 28, 1987.

Baker Hughes has kept track of the rig count — the widely watched index of drilling activity — since 1940.

At the height of the oil boom in December 1981, the count reached a peak of 4,500. But the rig count plunged to a low of 663 after oil prices collapsed in the summer of 1986.

Texas led the major oil producing states for the week, by adding 23 rigs to the count, followed by Oklahoma, whose count increased by 16, and Louisiana, which added 11 rigs.

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Man threatens clerk with club

Brazos County Crime Stoppers is asking for information regarding a Nov. 15 robbery at Patel's Pantry in Bryan.

A surveillance camera revealed the suspect was covering his face with his shirt when he rushed to the counter, threatened the clerk with a long club and took money from the cash register.

The suspect is described as a white man in his 20s who is about 5-feet-8 inches tall with long brown hair. He was last seen wearing a soiled, yellow and black plaid long-sleeve shirt and blue jeans.

The Bryan Police Department and Crime Stoppers need help identifying the person responsible for this robbery. If you have information that could be helpful, call 775-TIPS.

When you call, Crime Stoppers will assign you a special coded number to protect your identity.

If your call leads to an arrest and grand jury indictment, Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 in cash. Crime Stoppers also pays cash for information on any felony crime or the location of any wanted fugitive.

Bush meets Salinas; discusses trade policy

AGUALEGUAS, Mexico (AP) — President Bush conferred with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari Monday in a state visit expected to focus on U.S.-Mexican trade barriers and the Persian Gulf crisis.

Making his first official visit as president, Bush said maintaining excellent relations with Mexico was one of his "most important foreign policy objectives." But even before his guest arrived, Salinas signaled difficult talks, accusing the United States of trade protectionism.

"Today, American products can enter the Mexican market without restriction," he told the Monterrey daily El Norte. "But our are detained at customs, and there are always many restrictions."

Bush, in a statement coinciding with his arrival, noted that he'd visited Mexico "more often than any other country" and said he had "developed especially deep ties and respect for its people."

On landing at the airport in Monterrey, about 60 miles southwest of this small farming and cattle community that is Salinas' ancestral home, Bush got a red-carpet greeting. He then accompanied Salinas by helicopter to a charro — or rodeo — in the Mexican president's hometown.

The pair put pleasure before business, sitting side by side in shirtsleeves under a glaring sun and watching Mexican dancers frolic before proceeding later to a luncheon and talks.

It was the fifth time Bush and Salinas have met since they were both elected in 1988, but Bush's first trip to Mexico as president.

Bush wants a free trade agreement with Mexico akin to the pact the United States reached with Canada two years ago — one which lifted trade barriers between the two countries. But even as the United States and Mexico worked toward achieving such an accord by 1992, trade frictions remained.



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Wednesday, November 28, 1990 room 230 MSC 7:30 p.m.

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December 2, 1990



Entries may be picked up in the Student Programs Office (Room 216 of the Memorial Student Center), the Parks Department (in Central Park), or the Manor East Mall parking lot (event day only).

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