

Council bans laborers from seasonal housing

LAKE PLACID, Fla. (AP) — Come sunup, migrants work the vast fields of citrus, flowers and vegetables in the fertile Florida heartland. But come sundown, they aren't welcome in this small town.

Within four days and without dissent, the town council passed an emergency ordinance that bans migrant labor group housing inside the town's 1-square-mile-limit.

The intent of the ordinance is to control density and preserve "family-type living" in the town of 1,000 — not to banish itinerant workers, insists Mayor Dixie Scott. Not everyone is convinced.

In fact, the law is being challenged in court as unconstitutional by Jerry Whitaker, a group home operator who claims the hurried council action discriminates against Mexicans, denies them equal protection and violates state law.

"People don't know where their bread is buttered by trying to knock off the camps," says Dick McLaughlin, a Lake Placid resident.

Another resident, Joyce Wright, agrees. "They're the only people coming here to do this work," she said. "If they don't have a place to live, they'll go elsewhere."

At the heart of the controversy is Whitaker's two-story, pastel-colored group home, which opened last year in what used to be a heavy construction yard. He charges \$25 a week to seasonal workers, the largely Mexican group of laborers who migrate up the Eastern seaboard each year following the crops at harvest time.

Whitaker says fewer than 20 live in the building's three apartments, although the state has approved it for 33.

No matter what the number, it's too many under the new law, which prohibits all "migrant labor camps" — defined in state law as five or more unrelated laborers living together temporarily.

"What Mr. Whitaker is trying to do is put a large number of people into a small place," says council member Dal Hall. "This affects

density, infrastructure and family-style living. It's not the normal family — mother, father and children — living together.

"They've tried to throw in a racial issue, but they're wrong. It's not an issue of prejudice," Whitaker disagrees. "It's nothing but prejudice."

Local officials say they don't object to farm worker families who live in Lake Placid and point to crew chiefs who can afford to own homes. They readily acknowledge the economy depends on seasonal workers who come to the central Florida town, 70 miles east of St. Petersburg.

"This whole community would fold if we didn't have migrants picking our fruit and working in our fields — doing the work other people wouldn't do," said Scott.

But while the workers need a place to live, Scott doesn't think that necessarily has to be in the city. "Why ask for trouble? High density housing taxes your facilities."

Recreational Sports
TAMU

Rec Sports Highlights

sponsored by



McDonald's Mickey D's Arcade™

Monday, February 4, 1991

This Week's Game Plan

Monday, February 4

- Entries for Pre-Season Softball, Softball, and Sweetheart Run open today at 8:00 a.m. in the Recreational Sports Office.
- Wallyball plays begins tonight.

Tuesday, February 5

- Registration closes for Schick/SOA 3-on-3 Basketball and Handball Doubles.
- Sport Club Meeting tonight at 6:00.

Friday, February 8

- Handball Doubles brackets posted at 1:00 p.m.

New Intramural Event This Spring!

The Department of Recreational Sports has a new intramural event, the Sweetheart Run. This event is approximately 2 miles and is open to all TAMU students, faculty, staff and spouses. Each team consists of a male and female member who must turn in a predicted race time BEFORE the race begins. The team with BOTH members finishing closest to their predicted time will be winners. The winning team will receive a floral arrangement from University Flowers, dinner for 2 at Red Lobster and a male and female "Cut-N-Style" from Benefield & Company. No watches will be allowed during the race. CoRec teams can enter starting today! There is no entry fee, but T-shirts will be available for purchase.

Acknowledgements

McDonald's® Rec Sports Highlights is sponsored by your local McDonald's® Restaurant at University Drive, Manor East Mall, Hwy 21, Texas Ave. at SW Parkway and Post Oak Mall. This ad is a creation of Jason C. Rogers and Judy Steffes. Photographs are by Rec Sports photographers.

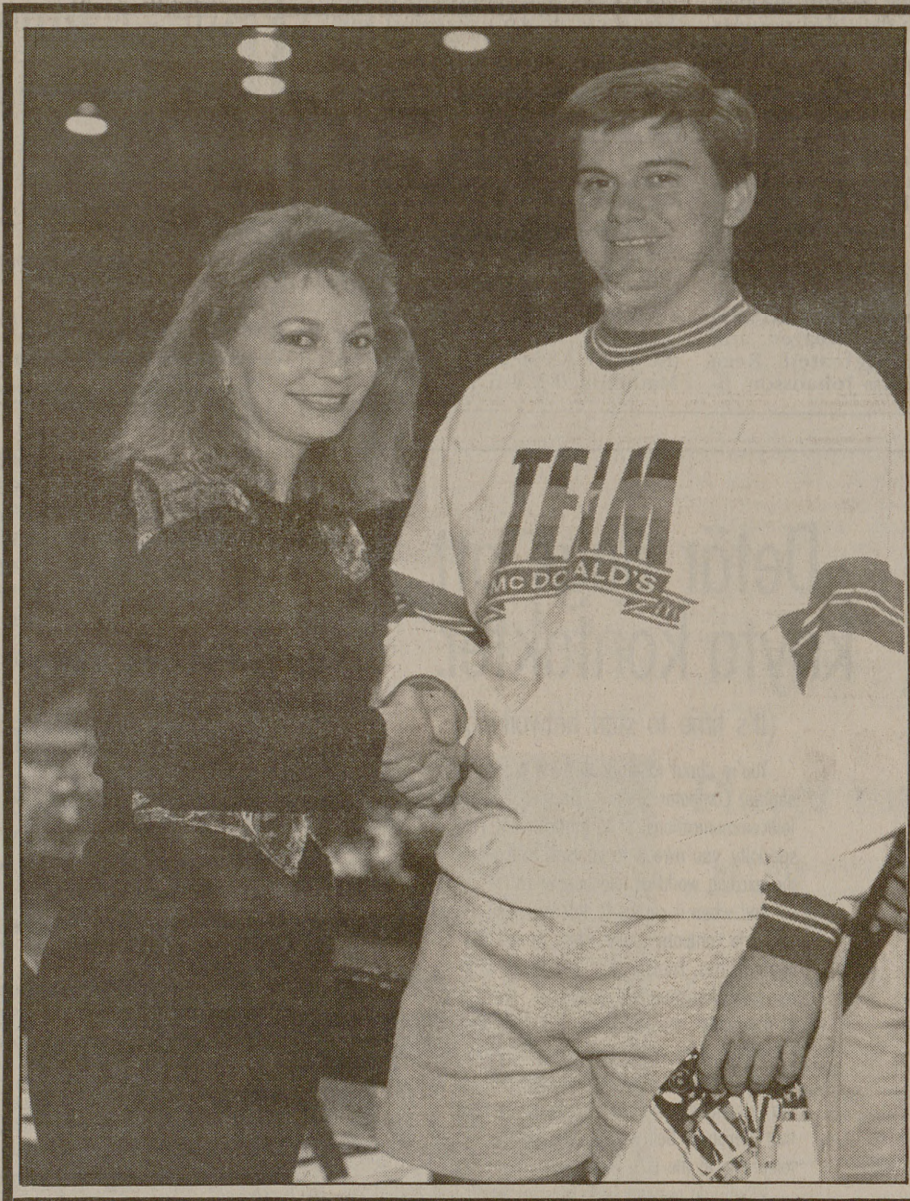
Next Week...

The following events are **OPENING on Monday, February 11!**

Free Throw Free! Slam Dunk Free! 8-Ball Doubles Registration Fee: \$4.00

The following events are **CLOSING on Tuesday, February 12!**

Pre-Season Softball Registration Fee: \$10.00 Sweetheart Run Free! Softball Registration Fee: \$30.00



TIM BYRD/Rec Sports

Katey Jones congratulates Brad Heles, the Intramural 3-Point Shot Champion. The final round was held at half-time of the Texas A&M - Houston basketball game on January 29. Ms. Jones represents local McDonald's® Restaurants, who sponsored the event.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN WORKING AS AN INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL OFFICIAL

There will be a meeting **TONIGHT** at 6:00 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White. For more information, call 845-7826 and ask for Mark Ritter.

TAMU Outdoors

To sign up for any of the TAMU Outdoor adventures, stop in at the Recreational Sports Office in 159 Read Building. If you have any questions concerning the TAMU Outdoors program, feel free to call Patsy at 845-7826.

Rock Climbing Clinic: Join Recreational Sports for an introduction to the exciting sport of rock climbing. Experienced guides will teach basic knots and rope handling techniques, protection and belaying systems and a variety of climbing techniques at the TAMU Climbing Wall. The \$15 (\$18 for non A&M) fee includes experienced instruction and all equipment. The clinic is limited to 10 participants. Sign up in the Recreational Sports Office, 159 Read Building. For more information, call Patsy at 845-7826.

Backpacking: Join TAMU Outdoors in exploring Turkey Hill Wilderness located near the northeastern corner of Angelina National Forest. Enjoy the wild beauty of East Texas, its striking terrain, diverse plant life, and forestland. The \$45 (\$50 for non A&M) fee for this backpacking adventure includes transportation, rental of camping equipment, backpack, food and experienced guides. This trip is geared for the beginning and intermediate backpacker. Sign up in the Recreational Sports Office, 159 Read Building. For more information, please call Patsy at 845-7826.

See Next Week's McDonald's® Highlights For A Spring 1991 TAMU Outdoors Schedule

Intramural Champions!

3-Point Shot Champions			Pre-Season Basketball Champions	
First	Brad Heles	16 points	Men's Ind. A/B	Pummellers
Second	Craig Adair	14 points	Men's Ind. C/D	ICE
Third	Robert Givens	11 points	CoRec A/B	TKE-ZTA
	Jon Redding	11 points	CoRec C/D	Fubar
			Women's Open	Rapids II

Wrestling Champions

134 Pound Class	James Allen
150 Pound Class	Ryan Adams
158 Pound Class	David Minor
167 Pound Class	Thomas Grundy
177 Pound Class	James Bell
Unlimited Pound Class	David Sattory

EXERCISE CLASSES

Offered by the Department of Recreational Sports

Exercise classes are open to all students, faculty and staff, and their spouses. recreation ID or student ID is required to participate. All classes must have 10 people in order to be offered.

Registration will be held in Room 159 Read Building, 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday. Late registration will be offered there are openings in any of the classes. There will be no classes March 11-15.

For more information, please contact Paula Opal at 845-7826.

CLASS	DAY	TIME	ROOM	FEE	CLASS DATES
Intermediate	Mon, Wed & Fri	Noon-1p.m.	266 GRW	\$35.00	Jan. 28 - Apr. 19
Intermediate	Tue & Thu	5 - 6 p.m.	266 GRW	\$30.00	Jan. 29 - Apr. 18
Beginners	Mon & Wed	5 - 6 p.m.	266 GRW	\$30.00	Jan. 28 - Apr. 17
Intermediate	Mon. & Wed.	6 - 7 p.m.	266 GRW	\$30.00	Jan. 28 - Apr. 17
Beginners	Tue. & Thu.	6-7 p.m.	266 GRW	\$30.00	Jan. 29 - Apr. 18

Attend unlimited number of classes for \$45.00!

COURSE CONTENT

Beginners: The class is a low impact class and is designed to meet the needs of people who are planning to start an exercise program. Emphasis is on toning and stretching. The aerobic section is approximately 7-10 minutes long. Heavy hand equipment will be incorporated into some of the workouts.

Intermediate: The emphasis is on cardio-vascular endurance and the aerobic section is approximately 15-22 minutes in duration. Warm-up periods and stretching and toning exercises are also included.