

RECKLESS RIVER RAFTERS

Public education, increased law enforcement key to safety

The Associated Press
NEW BRAUNFELS — Guadalupe River business owners and local authorities say stepped-up law enforcement this summer helped curb some of the chaos that has spoiled the popular stream. River proprietors also say a consistent and recently slow river flow has kept inner-tubers and others coming to town at a steady pace, rather than in large crowds during a brief span like last year. Still, drunkenness, trespassing, indecent exposure and litter weren't disappeared along a 22-mile stretch of the Guadalupe north of New Braunfels. As the Labor Day holiday arrived, the town braced for an estimated 60,000 river enthusiasts during the weekend. "We've made a lot of progress, but we've still got a ways to go," said Comal County Judge Carter

Casteel, who has floated the river surveying the situation. "It's much better than what I saw last year," she said. "The public awareness has certainly made a major dent in this all." Zero Rivers, owner of Rockin R River Rides, one of the largest outfitters on the Guadalupe, said increased law enforcement has helped. But he contends educating the public is the key to maintaining river quality. "The way to attack this is not, 'You slob, quit coming here.' It's education," Rivers said. Bill Perkins and John Guenzel, who have run the Rio Raft Co. on the Guadalupe since 1976, also said more education is necessary, along with more law enforcement. "The problem is there and it's going to be there, in my opinion, until we get a program of educating the people before they get on the river and enforcing the rules that we have," Perkins said.

After last summer's riotous ending, when tubers and rafters packed the river the final six weeks as water conditions finally were conducive to recreation, local officials pledged to clean things up this year. "There was a consensus that people had gone too far and gotten too rowdy," said Comal County Sheriff Jack Bremer, who this year set up checkpoints on a major road leading to river establishments. Officers checked for minors in possession of alcohol, drug possession and criminal backgrounds. The sheriff's department also increased the number of officers on patrol, Bremer said. From Memorial Day weekend until late August, those efforts had resulted in 330 public intoxication arrests; 182 criminal trespass arrests; 145 driving while intoxicated arrests; 108 possession of a controlled substance arrests; and 37 assault arrests.


San Antonio hosts chess championship

The Associated Press
SAN ANTONIO — The 59th Southwest Open state chess championships has attracted young and old players alike to a hotel that hosted Texas' first such event. More than 100 chess players, including about a dozen youths, competed this weekend for trophies and cash prizes from \$100 to \$1,000 at the Menger Hotel. It was the site of the first Texas chess championship on Feb. 27, 1892. Among the players was a blind man who used a special playing board that allowed him to feel pieces without moving them and a disabled player who reclined in his wheelchair as he made moves. Topping the tournament state and playing in the open section against chess masters Saturday was Florentino Garmendez of Linares, Mexico. The Mexican government pays Garmendez, who has a U.S. rating of 2,500 points, to teach chess to youths and compete in about 25 tournaments annually.

'There's a lot a dead person can do' Woman finds out she's been dead for 11 years

The Associated Press
AUSTIN — A Central Texas woman is dead serious about getting the record straight on her records. Late last month, a credit bureau told Madeline Cheney that computer records listed her as dead and asked her if she could prove she's still alive. Cheney told the Austin American-Statesman that convincing others of that fact may yet be the death of her. The Williamson County woman was shocked when she learned last fall that the Social Security Administration considered her dead — as of 11 years ago. In January, she walked into the Austin Social Security office and announced: "Hi. I'm here. And I just wanted to say I'm alive." She said a woman punched her number into a computer, dropped her mouth open and said: "You've been dead since April of 1982." Since that January day, "This has just mushroomed into a massive effort on our part and on theirs, too, in trying to make her alive again. It's not as simple as you'd think," said Madeline's husband, Gerry Cheney. Last fall, the Cheneys were moving from Massachusetts to Austin when a prospective landlord checked their credit and told Gerry: "We thought we'd let you know that your wife is coming up dead with her Social Security number." Then the Cheneys discovered that Social Security had accepted taxes on her behalf and had recorded a change of address and change of name when she married. "There's a lot a dead person can do," Cheney said. However, Social Security officials said they could not tell Cheney, a certified optician, whose account was credited with the employment taxes she paid through the years. The Austin Social Security office's manager, Carroll Ferguson, said such cases "happen from time to time," usually when people change their Social Security numbers.

STOP CLOWNIN' AROUND



IT'S A CIRCUS OUT THERE!!


Don't let the economy keep you walkin' on a *Tightrope*.
 Be the Ringmaster of your future, come see what we have to offer YOU this semester!

THE TAMU CAREER CENTER IS NOW FEATURING

**On-Campus
Interviewing**

**Job
Listings
Services**

**Career
Resources
Network**



**Career
Advising**


**Coop Education
Summer Jobs
Internships**

**Career
Resources
Library**


**DON'T MISS THE GREATEST SHOW IN AGGIELAND!
 REGISTER NOW!!**

BY SUBMITTING YOUR DISC RESUME!
 For more information call 845-5139 or come by Rm 209 SSB.

**AN Aggie WITHOUT A
 12TH Man Checking Account
 IS LIKE A
 Fish OUT OF WATER!**




OPEN AN ACCOUNT AND GET A **FREE** PRINT OF THE TEXAS A&M CAMPUS!



If you're new to Texas A&M, you'll need to know about First American Bank's 12th Man Checking Account—the best and most inexpensive way to handle your money while in Aggieland!

- No Minimum Balance Required
- 12 debits are allowed without fees every month. After that, each debit is \$1. The only maintenance fee charged to your account is a \$12 annual fee
- No Monthly Service Charge
- MPACT Automated Teller Card Provided
- 200 Aggie Checks Provided
- \$100 Opens Your Account



FIRST American BANK

University Center
 711 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
 ACROSS FROM TAMU — 260-4333

Longmire Center
 2202 LONGMIRE DRIVE
 OFF FM 2818, COLLEGE STATION — 260-4360

Main Office
 1111 BRIARCREST DRIVE
 BRYAN — 260-4300

Convenience Center
 1660 BRIARCREST DRIVE
 BRYAN — 260-4300

Downtown Center
 27TH ST. AT TEXAS AVENUE
 BRYAN — 260-4350

Plus Seven Convenient MPACT Locations! Member FDIC

CATCH THE RUSH

FRATERNITY RUSH BEGINS

WEDNESDAY
 SEPTEMBER 8
 10 a.m - 5 p.m.

MSC FOUNTAINS

FOR MORE INFO CALL 845-0112.