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Continued from Page 1

age per capita consumption among smokers some 466 packs per year, or about one and onefourth packs per day. Cigarettes come 20 to a pack.

Blaine's earlier studies were based on assumptions that prices would increase only by some 4 percent per year, equal to the expected annual inflation rate, while real income would increase 2 percent a year.

He had said per-capita consumption was steadily declining at just under 3 percent a year, p. imarily because of health concerns. Income growth and an aging population were expected to increase consumption, but not enough to offset larger losses caused by health concerns.

If the proposed tax passes, however, those projections could go up in smoke. Smokers likely would begin cutting back as soon as the higher tax is assessed, Blaine said.

Consumption could immediately fall to a pack a day among smokers with a 75-cent increase and to 16.5 cigarettes a day if the \$1.25 raise is adopted.

Last fall's substantial price decrease may have impacted consumption, but it's too early to tell because federal government figures on cigarette use won't be available until mid-summer. Blaine added.

"In general, however, we're still trending down about 4 packs per year per adult, or a little less than 3 percent," he said. "The health concerns will continue to be the major factor in that steady reduction.

"But with this tax, the government could do in one fell swoop what the health trend would take 10 or 15 years to do. If some people are hoping we get to a smokeless society, this tax may just help do it."

Blaine cautioned that one consequence of a tax hike might be some increased risk from substances in the cigarettes.

"While consumers purchase fewer cigarettes when prices rise, there is substantial reason to believe they will also smoke each cigarette to a lower point, where tar and nicotine are in the highest concentration," he explained.

'This may be the most compelling argument against using taxes to reduce smoking.

Astros to close door on Williams, Sit 'Wild Thing' content to go home

HOUSTON (AP) — Mitch Williams, who recently predicted he would soon be released, will be put on waivers Tuesday by the Houston Astros, The Associated Press learned Monday night

Williams met with Astros' management on Monday and was told of the team's decision, sources told the AP.

"He's still here," Houston general manager Bob Watson said after Monday's 4-3 victory over the Florida Marlins. "We met and I have a decision, but I'm not going to divulge it. We'll announce it tomorrow.

We met and came to a conclusion. It's been a distraction. We're here to win games. As of

today, he is a Houston Astro," Watson said.

Williams was not in the clubhouse after the game for comment.

Williams was traded to Houston last Dec. 2 for pitchers Doug Jones and Jeff Juden, a deal that came slightly more than a month after he gave up a gameending home run to Joe Carter that won the World Series for the Toronto Blue Jays.

With the Astros, Williams lived up to his reputation as "Wild Thing" and was unable to match the success he had last season with Philadelphia, when he set a team record with 43 saves.

Instead, Williams got off to a

slow start in April and never got better. He is 1-4 with six saves and a 7.65 ERA.

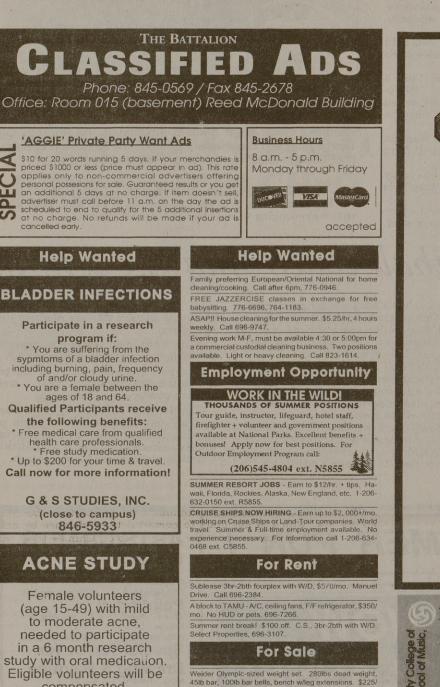
Williams has given up 21 hits and walked 24 in 20 innings. He lost his role as th Astros' lone closer early in the season, and recently had watched as rookie John Hudek took over as the relief ace.

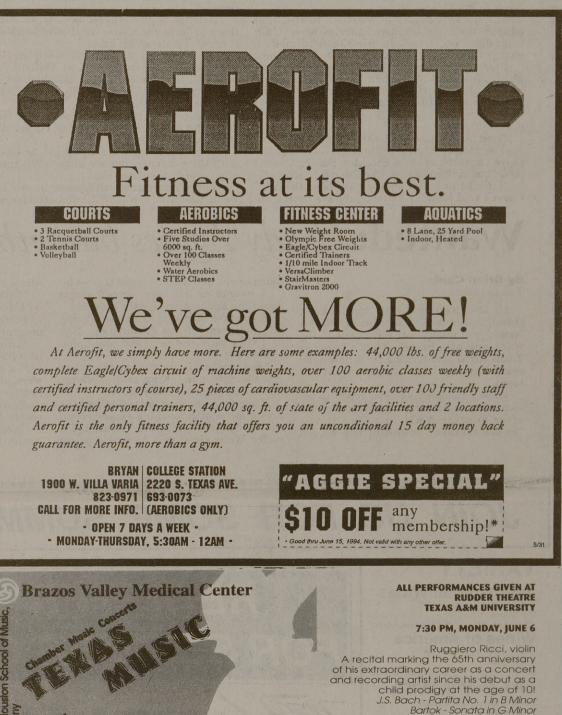
Last week, as Williams prepared to return to Philadelphia for the first time since the World Series, he said he thought the Astros would soon release him. He originally said he believed the move would be made Monday, but then revised that prediction to Tuesday.

Please see Williams/Page 6

SPORTS

EFS







the College World Series as the NCAA Central Regional champion. Mark Redman won his second game of the regional to earn top-

seeded Oklahoma (46-17) its ninth CWS trip and first since 1992, when Oklahoma finished fifth.

Pacers split series, face Knicks at home

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)- The Indiana Pacers won again at home Monday Now comes the challenge of winning at New York. Reggie Miller played the decisive

role in the fourth quarter as the Pacers evened the Eastern Conference finals 2-2 with an 83-77 victory. But the Pacers still must win at Madison Square Garden to advance to the NBA Finals for the first time, and their first of two chances comes Wednesday night in Game 5.

It's a daunting task for the Pacers, because the Knicks, just 1-6 on the road in the playoffs, are 8-0 at home.

Memories 10 **Continued from Page 3**

5,300 rowdy fans? That was so cool. Magaz

That gives me an idea. While we are on the subject, let's take a trip down memory lane. I present you with my favorite, most memorable, or just down-right most motivating Aggie sports moments of the last four to five years.

The first moment occurred on a cold November night in 1991. The place was Fort Worth, Texas. The television station was ESPN. On that night Stephen Shipley, a wide re-ceiver for TCU, learned the meaning of the word "pain" He is probably still eating jello through a straw with a prosthetic jaw, thanks to Quentin Coryatt. "Q" hit Shipley so hard, I hur. You knew it was a great hit when ESPN showed it on "SportsCenter", breaking their longstanding "never show a Texas A&M highlight" policy. Another great Aggie sports moment occurred in California. I am referring to the "Bucky Show." might be more familiar with it's official name — the Holiday Bowl. There is simply too much to write about, except to say it was pretty darn close to perfect football. I wonder if BYU still thinks they deserved a higher-ranked opponent Ty Detmer's shoulders were hanging around his ankles after that game. Didn't he win the Heisman? The final great moment occurred this year when the Lady Ags beat the defending national champion Texas Tech Lady Red Raiders in basketball. That game moved mountains for the Lady Aggie Basketball program. It showed what they are capable of. We are about to see some incredible things in women's sports at A&M, mark my words. There have been other great moments. The list of great Aggie sports moments is long and impressive. Next week if I still do not have anything to write about, I'll tell you all the reasons I hate the University of Texas. That list is also long and impressive.

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7:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 13

Philippe Bianconi, piano Silver Medal Prizewinner: 7th Van Cliburn International Competition Fredell Lack, violin William Pu, violin Kerry O'Hare, viola Owen Lee, double bass Stravinsky - Duo Concertani Ravel - Miroirs Schubert - "Trout" Quintet in A Major, D. 667

7:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 20

Esterhazy Quartet Eva Szekely, John McLeod, violins Kate Hamilton, viola Carleton Spotts, violoncello Western Arts Trio William Pu, violin David Tomatz, violoncello Werner Rose, piano Peter Lieuwen - Romance (Premiere) Turina - Piano Trio No. 2 in B Minor, Op. 76 Michael Horvit - (Premiere) Webern - Lanasamer Satz Villa Lobos - String Quartet No. 1

SPECIAL CONCERT 7:30 PM, FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Texas Music Festival Orchestra Maxim Shostakovich, conductor with the Winner of the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Young Artist Competition Tchaikovsky - Capriccio Italien, Op. 45 Concerto performance Copland - Rodeo: Four Dance Episodes Dmitri Shostakovich - Symphony No. 9

7:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 27

Leon Spierer, violin Concertmaster, Berlin (Germany) Philharmonic Orchestra William Pu, violin Allyson Dawkins, viola Allyson Dawkins, viola Anthony Elliott, violoncello Robin Hough, oboe Ruth Tomfohrde, piano Mozart - Oboe Quartet in F. Major, K. 370 Mozart - Piano Quintet in G Minor, K. 478 Schubert - "Death and the Maiden" String Quartet in D Minor, D. 810

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