

MSC TOWNHALL

new member informational meeting

concerts • club • special events • comedy • coffeehouse
 you like songs? ... or the people that sing them?

well... we bring all the concerts to A&M, and you can too... if you're interested in joining MSC Town Hall, check us out

tonight

rudder 301 8:30 pm

BRING THIS AD FOR \$2.00 OFF

DANCE

- * BEG. JITTERBUG *
- * ADV. JITTERBUG *
- * DANCE WORKSHOPS *
- * PARTIES *
- * BEG. C & W: 2-STEP POLKA WALTZ
- * BEG. 2-STEP *
- * ADV. 2-STEP *
- * EAST COAST SWING *
- * WEST COAST SWING *

* CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4TH *

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST IN DANCE INSTRUCTION!

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Texas juries awarding less in damage settlements despite state's reputation

□ Last year, Texas plaintiffs won 42 percent of the time, compared with 46 percent in 1991.

DALLAS (AP) — There's at least one thing plaintiffs lawyers and defense attorneys agree upon: Texas jury awards aren't what they used to be.

The state's reputation — deserved or not — for outlandish awards in lawsuits appears to be suffering a backlash in some jury rooms.

This summer, jurors hearing a case where a woman was sued over a 1991 Dallas traffic accident tried to award her damages because it considered the lawsuit frivolous.

In late June, a jury found Occidental Chemical

Corp. grossly negligent for releasing potentially toxic irritants into the air in Robstown near Corpus Christi. But the first 12 of almost 8,600 people who sued didn't get the \$120 million they were seeking. Instead, jurors said seven plaintiffs should get nothing and gave five others only \$300 to \$1,000 in actual damages.

Rather than let that same panel reconvene to consider punitive damages, the two sides settled everything — about 15 separate cases — for \$65.7 million. That's far below some predictions, given the number of plaintiffs.

Last year, Texas plaintiffs won 42 percent of the time, compared with 46 percent in 1991, according to Jury Verdict Research, a Pennsylvania-based legal data firm. Across the nation in 1994, plaintiffs won 55 percent of the time, about the same as in 1991.

REGENTS: McClure moved to table the measure

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McClure said. "After reflecting over 18 years and having served on the Board of Regents, I think differently now."

The tabling is the latest obstacle in the 20-year struggle by A&M Student Government members to have a student regent. Two years ago, Student Government leaders changed their strategy, instead asking for a liaison rather than a regent.

The liaison would have all the powers of a full regent, except the power to vote or attend closed sessions.

Regent Robert H. Allen said the issue of a student liaison is not something to take lightly.

"We must keep in mind the magnitude of this subject," Allen said. "The regents are appointed

by the governor of the state of Texas, and the enabling power is in the constitution."

Allen said agreeing to a liaison would be beyond the right of the the Board.

"It would be a circumvention of the spirit of the legislation and the constitution to appoint a sort of quasi-member," he said. "We ought not adopt the proposition presented to us."

Huddleston said the Board members were too worried about impressions to actually bring the measure to a vote.

"I was extremely disappointed that they tabled this instead of just giving us a vote," he said. "I think they were politically motivated. I think they're trying to show a bleeding heart."

West said she attempted to find a way of bringing the bill out to the full Board for a vote, but said parliamentary procedure prevented her from doing so.

The rejection of a student liaison does not mean the Board is

"We ought not adopt the proposition presented to us."

— Robert H. Allen
 Texas A&M System Board of Regents

shutting out the students forever, she said.

"My door, as long as I am here, is always open to any student who wants to come by," she said. "You will have time on the Board agenda as long as I am here — always."

CENTER: Dial-A-Nurse implemented on trial basis

Continued from Page 1

day," Carman said.

Several students, however, said they think the decision to make health care services available only during the day is a mistake.

Kristi Edwards, a sophomore kinesiology major, said she used the health center's urgent care service last year when she spilled boiling water on her leg late at night.

The health center was the only place for Edwards to receive treatment because she was alone,

did not have ice in her dorm room and was in too much pain to drive.

"I'm not sure that Dial-a-Nurse would have been much help," she said. "Access to things like ice isn't something you can get over the phone."

Rhonda Wheeler, a senior kinesiology major, said she thinks elimination of urgent care services will hurt the reputation of the health center.

"People don't stop functioning after 5:00," Wheeler said. "Lots of accidents happen at night. Dial-a-Nurse is a good idea, but not as a replacement for emergency care."

TAMU

REC SPORTS

Highlighters

Intramurals • Sports Clubs • Outdoor Adventures • Fitness • Aquatics



Outdoors with Patsy

When I was growing up, my family didn't spend much time in the outdoors. It wasn't until I was in college that I became hooked on nature.

I went to school at Southwest Texas State and as a P.E. requirement I was looking for something different. I noticed they were offering canoeing. I think that class is what made me realize that there is something more to do, recreational wise, than just sports.

College students have so many opportunities to try things. The TAMU Outdoors program has a good variety of activities. We offer backpacking, canoeing, rock climbing, kayaking, and even hang gliding. Ninety-five percent of TAMU Outdoors activities are geared to beginners. We teach what you need to know to have a great time. It's to get away from school

Go For Fitness At The Rec

Untameable energy flowing through their bodies, a determined look in their eyes, and an excited grin from ear to ear is the way many Aggies are eagerly sculpting away the dreadful freshmen 15. The opening of the new Student Rec Center, also begins Rec Sports' new diverse aerobic and fitness programs. Currently, Rec Sports offers 78 classes a week. "The Rec Sports facility is now large enough that we are able to offer a variety of exercise classes at many times during the day that will meet everyone's schedule," said DeAnn Woosley, Rec Sports Fitness Coordinator. "People will be able to cross train by using strengthening apparatus for muscular endurance or taking classes in high level, slide, step or water aerobics. We have it all!"

Rec Sports hires well qualified fitness instructors who undergo a vigorous Rec Sports training orientation. All instructors are nation-

ally certified or have prior teaching experience. Woosley stressed that Rec Sports will adhere to the high quality of their programs and staff.

"Our facilities are the best!" Woosley said. "We have state-of-the-art (low-impact) floors, brand new slides, steps, weights, and tubing. We have great sound equipment, and we are committed to be on top of every fitness trend."

Woosley said that Rec Sports aerobic and fitness classes are affordable. Rec Sports classes are a \$1.50 a class, and students can buy as many classes as they feel they can afford.

"If students can afford ten classes for now, they pay for ten," Woosley said. "If they can afford \$50, then they can go to an unlimited number of classes seven days a week."

Students can try out one class with the aerobic One Day Pass. Woosley added that one free class is offered every day, including a

water aerobic class during the weekend.

Rec Sports schedules most classes during prime time, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. Rec Sports also offers a 6:30 a.m. early bird, and noon class every day, and a 10:00 a.m. class three days a week. Woosley feels that Rec Sports offers a class to fit everyone's needs.

"I hope to see many males take advantage of our new Total Body Conditioning, and Power Hour classes," Woosley said. "These classes increase muscular endurance through a variety of exercises like slide and step. In other cities across the country, there are a lot of men in aerobic classes. I think if men would try the classes they would like them. They need to get past the false stereotype that aerobics is lead by an empty headed blonde in lycra doing a cheerleading routine."

Rec Sports gears classes for beginners wanting to learn the ba-



sics, students who love to dance, intermediate and advanced exercisers, and students with little or no coordination who just want to work out.

Signing up for classes is easy. Members need to go to the Membership Services Desk in the Student Rec Center lobby to pick up their schedule and pass.

Woosley said that Rec Sports of-

fers other types of instructional aerobic classes that deal with walking, running, bicycling, swimming, and health and fitness. On Thursday, Sept. 21, Rec Sports' aerobic and fitness department features ninth degree Black Belt martial artist J P Burleson's class on Women's Self Defense from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m..

Faculty/Staff Can Still Join, Students Already Members

With all that it has to offer, it is easy to see how the new Student Rec Center has quickly become one of the most popular places at A&M. Since its Grand Opening on Aug. 26, an average of 6000 people have visited the Rec Center each day.

"We really like it. We're moving in!" said Freshmen Beth Robinson and Andrea Brockman who were impressed with the weight room. "There's directions on all the machines which make them really easy to use."

Yet with all this excitement, there are still many students that are unaware of their automatic membership.

Once a student at A&M registers for at least six (6) credit hours of

class, payment of their Student Fees makes them eligible to use all of the facilities located at the Rec Center at no extra cost.

Students who come by for drop-in recreation are often surprised to find out what a great place the Rec Center is. "I love it. It's great!" says Mark Grady, a Freshman Business Major. "The size and amount of everything that they offer surprised me. All of the equipment is really nice."

What's nice to know is that it's already paid for. It's not an added extra cost. You don't have to sort of count on extra money just for this."

Although some of the organized activities, such as aerobic classes, intramurals and TAMU Outdoor Trips, often contain an additional fee to cover the cost of instructors, officials and transportation, the costs of these activities are paid

only by the students that use them. Even most of the items at the Equipment Desk can be checked out at little or no cost. Basketballs, volleyballs and soccerballs are free and items for racquetball, ping pong and badminton are only \$0.75. Even faculty and staff are impressed with the facilities made available to them through the purchase of a membership.

"I am absolutely, totally impressed with it," said Basketball Coach Tony Barone. "It's a top of the line building with incredible facilities. It amazed me that building of such immensity would be so easy to get around in. Instead of being intimidating, this place has a great feeling of friendliness."

Faculty, staff, their spouses and dependents can still get one of the approximately 400 memberships that are available by coming to the Member Services desk in the Rec

Center and with a blue or yellow parking permit, they can use parking lots 103 and 104 that are located on the facility premises.

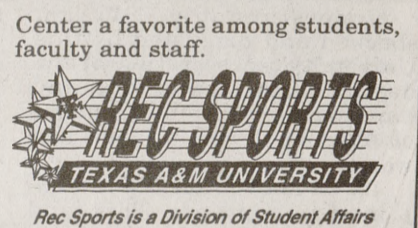
"These facilities are unbelievable," said Dr. Doug Cook of Plant Pathology. "Everyone should take advantage of what this place has to offer."

Even with everything that is already available, there are still many things members have to look forward to.

The opening of the Nautatorium in late September, the use of Aggie Bucks in the Center and the opening of the outdoor facilities are just a few of the upcoming additions that will continue to make the Rec

Intramurals Registration Dates

Sport	Open	Close	Fee
CoRec Indoor Soccer	Today	Sept. 5	\$30
CoRec Two-Pitch Softball	Today	Sept. 5	\$20
Preseason Flag Football	Today	Sept. 12	\$10
Flag Football	Today	Sept. 12	\$30
Whiffleball	Today	Sept. 12	\$5
Long Driving	Today	Sept. 12	Free
Biathlon	Sept. 11	Sept. 19	Free
Horseshoes	Sept. 11	Sept. 19	Free



Rec Sports is a Division of Student Affairs