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## Buyback

Continued from page 1

buyback time.

"The deans need to set a pace for their departments, saying that 'We have to do this sooner, this is imperative, and this is something that will help students,'" Smith said.

Smith said a lot of colleges and departments do not realize how turning in their requests before finals can help students.

"I think if we just communicate that to the deans then they'll understand and they will do something about it," Smith said.

Susan Geller, professor of mathematics, said she requests the textbooks that will be used for fall during mid-spring.

She said many books in the

math department are chosen by textbook committees, not individual professors.

"One of our books for calculus has not been chosen yet," Geller said. "(The committee) is still looking on it."

Sometimes the textbooks do not get picked for reasons beyond control.

"I know the students get really hot about 'Well, why you know?' but I think the students forget that they are human beings."

Geller said she also takes students' finances into consideration when picking out material.

"I refuse to publish my own textbooks so students can get it for a lower price of duplication from Corner," she said. "A lot of people really do care."

## Gates

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"I started working with the Brownsville ISD about three years ago," Ashley said. "Back then, A&M and UT had almost no presence in the valley. In the last 3 years, though, the number of students applying from Brownsville, McAllen and Weslaco has doubled or tripled."

"We really have built a great relationship with them," he said.

## Gas

Continued from page 1

The drop at the pump also reflects an effort by refiners to maximize gasoline production to meet summer demands, Lundberg said.

"Whether for the rest of the summer gas prices will continue to trend down depends on OPEC's follow-through to increase oil output and how strong our gasoline demand turns out to be," Lundberg said. "We

always consume the most gasoline in July and August."

OPEC, which supplies more than a third of the world's oil, announced earlier this month that it would raise its official daily production quota by more than 1 million barrels to 26 million barrels and, if necessary, by an additional 500,000 barrels on Aug. 1.

The national weighted average price of a gallon of gasoline at self-serve pumps on Friday, including taxes, was about \$2.11 for regular, \$2.11 for mid-grade and \$2.20 for premium.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Aggie ALLIES to hold advance workshop

The Aggie ALLIES (Aggie Living and Learning in an Inclusive Environment of Support) will hold an "advance" workshop today from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Aggie ALLIES is an organization for Texas A&M staff, faculty and students who are willing to lend support to gay, lesbian or transgender people or to anyone dealing with related issues.

Senior construction science major Jaime Bustillos, who joined ALLIES in December of 2002, said the advance will consist of workshops to learn about GLBT culture.

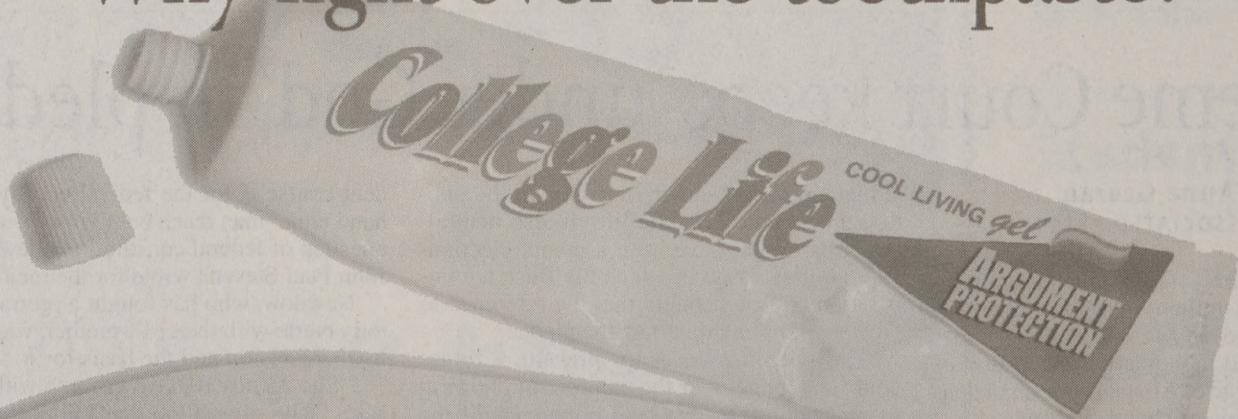
"This organization is an outreach, not just for GLBT people," Bustillos said. "It's there to get the word out that there is help out there for the GLBT community."

Attendance at the advance is mandatory for anyone looking to become a member. If interested in attending, ALLIES requests that RSVPs be submitted through the online form located at <http://alliestam.org>. Questions can be sent to [allies@tamuedu](mailto:allies@tamuedu).

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