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Career Counselors Invaluable Aid

New students who can't decide their courses of study are getting help this summer at A&M.

Career conferences combine personal inventories, interpretation, reading, interviews and counseling to give the undeclared student information on which to base his decision.

The three-day conference assists the student in making a decision that might normally come

after a year or two of study. The program conceivably could save the undecided student a semester or more study.

It uses a variety of individual evaluation instruments and data assembled by Counseling and Testing Center Director Auston Kerley and Dr. Arthur Roach, Educational Psychology Department head. The career conference brochure is sent only to stu-

dents whose applications show an undecided major.

Five experienced counselors directed by Jack Thomas make evaluations and virtually live with students through each conference. Kerley is responsible for conference mechanics.

Of 38 participants, only two have not decided. In both instances, choices have been narrowed to two alternatives.

TAMU personnel in the first-time project stress the decision is the student's.

A career conference ties in with the regular new student summer conference. A student checks in Sunday for the career program. It is completed Wednesday, so the student can go straight into the new student conference that covers all preparations for fall classes.

The A&M-founded service is based on Educational Psychology 105, the world of work. The idea originally was proposed to Dr. John C. Calhoun Jr., vice president for academic affairs, by Kerley and Roach.

Participating students can get an hour of credit from the conference.

"We help the undeclared student become more aware of himself," Thomas explained. "He becomes more aware of his interests, values, abilities, aptitudes, achievement and potential."

Evaluative test results are interpreted by counselors to match student interests with abilities. Counselors work one-on-one in the process. As broad career outlines emerge, the student is given educational and occupational information. Special publications and a conference with his dean sharpens the outline.

The third day is devoted to assembling more information about the possible field, through program and library readings and a required conference with academic advisors.

A student may go into the community to talk practical aspects of his choice with a professional.

The final activity is a student-written statement justifying on the basis of interests, aptitudes and achievement why a particular field was chosen and why others were eliminated.

Career conference participants are quartered on campus in groups, "in which we have found a lot of interaction," the director said. Students get the counselor's home phone number for night

calls. Campus tours are worked into the schedule.

Counselors in the program Leslie Thorn, Beth Maxwell, Cynthia Crozie, Judy McCann and Tom Haygood. All have master's degrees and have a variety of experience. Thorn, Maxwell and Haygood are Ph.D. candidates.

The service is a more sophisticated, broader-based version of a program once carried out at A&M's Basic Division.

"The undecided student has been shown to be generally more intelligent than the average," Thomas commented. "He just needs guidance and time."



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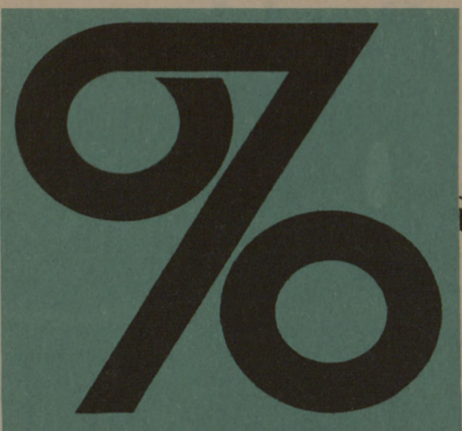


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Racing Film To Be Shown

A movie on motor racing history from 1935 to 1939 will highlight the Wednesday (July 25) meeting of the Texas A&M Sports Car Club.

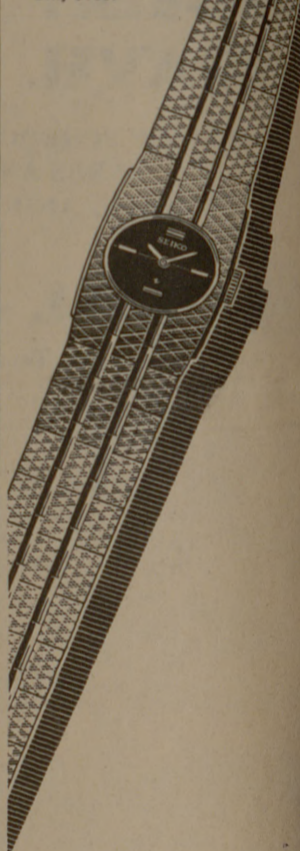
Fourth in the six-part summer film series, the reel titled "The Titans, Part II" covers the period when German cars became supreme after years of Italian domination.

Visitors are welcome to view the Aggie Sports Car Club series free of charge, according to Vice President James Forte. Meetings each second and fourth Wednesday of the month are at 7:30 p.m. in the Mimosa Room of the old College Station City Hall, 101 S. Church.

"Titans" features European drivers in the most powerful Grand Prix cars built. Drivers pictured include Rosemeyer; Caracciola; Nuvolari, driving an Alfa Romeo without a rear tire; Termann Lang, winning his first big race, and Dice Seaman in the German Grand Prix victory.

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