

what's up

Thursday

COUNCIL MEETING: The College Station City Council will have a public hearing on the proposed budget for the fiscal year 1978-79 at its regular meeting tonight. The hearing begins at 7.

BRIDES' SCHOOL: The second course for prospective brides sponsored by the Bryan public school system will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the All Faith's Chapel. Problems arising during the first few years of marriage such as budgeting, cooking for two and working marriage partners will be discussed.

BAHAI CLUB: The Baha'i Club will hold a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Meditation Room in the All Faiths Chapel.

GROVE: "Doc Savage." Ron Ely stars in this hilarious spoof on science fiction. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Friday

COURSE DROPPING: Today is the last day for dropping courses with no penalty.

CHESS: The Chess Committee will gather at 6:30 p.m. for an evening of strategic competition.

ALLEMANDERS: The Aggie Allemanders, the square dance club on campus, will practice at 8 p.m. in the MSC 224.

GROVE: "Play It Again, Sam." Another Woody Allen satire — this time on the movie classic "Casablanca." Diane Keaton and Tony Roberts co-star. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Saturday

FLORICULTURE CLUB: The Floriculture Club will have a plant sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Floriculture Greenhouse across the street from the Plant Sciences building.

PET ADOPTION DAY: The Humane Society of Brazos County is holding a Pet Adoption Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hensel Park. Dogs can be adopted for \$20 each and cats for \$16. Each pet will have had a health examination, received worming medication and appropriate distemper shots and all males will be neutered and females spayed.

GROVE: "Rocky Horror Picture Show." This satire on horror shows, filled with transvestites from Transsexual-Transylvania, has quite a following at A&M. Don't be surprised if you find the person next to you throwing rice or raising a lighted candle during certain scenes in the movie.

Sunday

GROVE: "Chinatown." Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway star in this suspenseful tale about the Chinese Mafia. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Monday

PEACE CORPS: The Peace Corps and VISTA will have an information booth in the mall area around the MSC all day. The booth will have brochures and information for college students interested in the programs.

GROVE: "12 Angry Men." Eleven jurors who want a quick guilty vote to end their jury duty stint are frustrated by one juror who believes the defendant is innocent. Henry Fonda, E. G. Marshall and Lee J. Cobb star. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Tuesday

PEACE CORPS: The Peace Corps and VISTA will be interviewing students in the placement office on the 10th floor of Rudder Tower.

GROVE: "Romeo and Juliet." The heartbreaking story of two young lovers separated by warring families. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Campus offices work to make buildings more accessible to handicapped students

By FLAVIA KRONE
Battalion Campus Editor

For most students, running from an engineering class in Zachry to an entomology class on the west campus can be like training for the marathon. Hiking up flights of stairs in the old campus buildings that lack elevators can exhaust anyone. Even trying to open one of the massive Rudder Tower doors while loaded down with an armful of books can be a hassle.

For handicapped students these things are more than a hassle. They are impossible. Three offices at Texas A&M are working to remove physical, financial and career barriers facing handicapped students. Ormond Simpson, assistant vice president for student services, tries to identify and remove architectural barriers in existing and planned buildings. When a physical barrier in an existing building prevents a hand-

icapped student from attending a class, Simpson works to move the class to a room accessible to the handicapped student.

Until recently, lack of ramps at the entrance of Francis Hall barred wheelchair students from the building.

"For some years we were able to accommodate these students by shifting the location of classes," Simpson said. "However, last year a graduate student was given an assistantship in Francis Hall. The student had to get into the building so a ramp was built."

Simpson said older buildings are modified to accommodate handicapped students when no other alternatives exist, as in the case of the Francis Hall graduate student.

Simpson also works with the Facilities and Planning Division to review projects under consideration for construction or renovation.

"We ask the architects to tell us what they have done to provide ac-

cess for handicapped students," Simpson said. "For these purposes we talk in terms of the wheelchair student. We ask if there will be ramps, doors that are easy to open, if the elevator buttons can be reached by someone in a wheelchair, and so on."

Simpson said he attended planning sessions for the new Academic Agency building and Veterinary Medical facility. He did not hold his present position during the planning stages of the new library addition which will be completed in December 1978. Some of the stacks in the new library have been placed too close together to allow passage of a wheelchair.

"Our goal is to make all programs accessible to handicapped students," said Simpson. "That does not mean that every building must be totally free of barriers."

Ted Elliot, director of the Texas A&M office of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, helps handicapped students over financial and career hurdles.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission defines "handicap" as any physical disability that interferes with a student's ability to get a job, Elliot said.

"That includes anything from deafness to sicklecell anemia to an orthopedic disability," Elliot said. "Our office defines some 300 disabilities as vocational handicaps."

The office presently serves about 200 students and is growing at a rate of about 50 students each year, Elliot said.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission is a state agency which receives both federal and state funding.

"We furnish grants for tuition and fees to those students demonstrating economic need," Elliot said. "A student can earn up to \$400 per month and still be eligible for a grant."

Students who are unable to work can receive funds to cover the cost of books and supplies. The office also pays for attendants to assist the severely handicapped.

Elliot said his office also can assist students with medical expenses and provides special equipment ranging from wheelchairs to hand-operated car controls.

Students must maintain a 2.0 average to be eligible for grants. Elliot said he tries to counsel students about grades twice each semester.

Elliot also provides handicapped students with vocational counseling.

"I try to guide them towards a career area that they can handle within their disability," Elliot said. "Our office also tries to locate jobs for graduates. We follow our graduates for 60 days after they are employed and then close their case."

Don Albrecht, assistant director of student activities, runs a third office on campus that works for handicapped students.

"We try to make activities available to students," Albrecht said. "We don't provide special groups for the handicapped because by-and-large they do not want to be singled out. They want to be a part of the mainstream."

Albrecht works with the office of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission to provide early pre-registration for handicapped students.

"We try to help the students develop a good schedule of classes that will minimize the problems of traveling across campus," Albrecht said.

The student activities office will publish a map this fall which will outline special parking areas, curb cuts, ramps and other features on campus to assist handicapped students.

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Consol defers bid on land swap deal

The A&M Consolidated Independent School District has received bids on its property on the corner of Anderson Street and Holleman Drive, but has deferred for now a decision on those bids.

The high bid on the 8.938 acres, opened during a school board meeting Monday, came from D. R. Cain Construction Co. for \$139,000, on condition. The condition involved a partial land trade for a plot owned by the Cain Co. on the corner of Brothers Street and Deacon Drive in College Station.

The board moved to refer the proposal to executive board for study of both plots appraised value.

The Tony Jones Construction Co. Inc. bid of \$95,001 was the second highest and will stand until the property evaluation is complete. In the event that the school system and the Cain Co. fail to reach an understanding, the Jones bid will be reconsidered.

The City of College Station also submitted a bid of \$77,760.60 for the property.

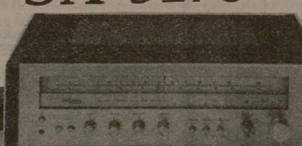
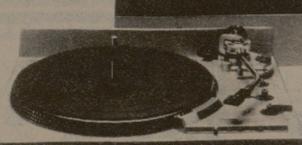
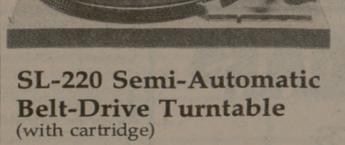
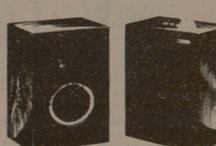
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