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By CAROLYN TILLER
Campus Reporter
If a person evaluates himself according to society's standards, he will never be satisfied; instead he should let God accept the person he is, a Christian speaker said Wednesday night.

Dick Purnell, guest speaker for Campus Crusade for Christ, spoke in a humorous fashion, but with a serious note on the topic of "How to Live With Yourself and Like It."

He has a master's in divinity from Trinity Seminary and a master's in counseling from Indiana University.

"Why do we have such difficulty

liking ourself?" Purnell asked. "Because society has placed on you and me a false standard to evaluate ourselves with." If a person goes by those standards, he will become discouraged, depressed and never be what he wants to be, he said.

Purnell said society's standards are divided into three categories: the beauty cult, the intelligence game and the status symbol.

He said the beauty cult starts before a person is born.

"Everyone wants a beautiful child," he said.

Society decides what people are supposed to look like, he said.

"Nobody knows what the ideal is, but whatever it is, you're either too fat or skinny, too tall or short, you waddle, your nose is crooked, or your eyes meet in the middle or your face looks like zit-city," Purnell said.

He said every parent wants an average child, but after the child is born, average is no longer sufficient.

Parents brag about how fast their children learn and the child grows up thinking he is exceptional, he said.

"Then they go to school . . . and the names begin to come — slow, dumb-dumb, buffalo, dough-head and space cadet," he said. "The child gets a complex."

No one wants to be average, Purnell said.

Purnell said the number one status symbol among college students is the stereo.

"No, it's not your boots!" he said to some senior Corps members. "It's your stereo."

"When a multi-millionaire was asked 'How much money would satisfy you?' he said, 'Just a little bit more.' We want more and more and more and we're never satisfied. Have you ever heard anyone say 'Stop! No more money; I've got enough!'" Purnell asked rhetorically.

Purnell said if one lives by the

beauty cult, intelligence game, and status symbols, he guarantees the person will be discouraged about himself.

"Why? Because nobody makes it," Purnell said. "The rule of society is everybody plays, nobody wins."

Purnell said he thinks Jesus Christ was either average looking or ugly. He said the Bible gives no account of what Jesus looks like except what the prophet Isaiah said his face would be marred more than any man.

"People were not attracted to his looks, they were attracted to his power and personality," Purnell said.

"To be perfectly honest with you, men and women, Jesus never went to A&M," he said. "Jesus was the greatest man to live, but when he died on the cross, the only thing he had left was a one-piece robe — and the soldiers shot dice for that.

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Speaker says 'ideal' man is subject of misconception

By CAROL HANCOCK
Campus Staff
There are a lot of misconceptions about what qualities the ideal man should possess. Being able to quiet a crowded barroom and make everyone flinch when ordering a beer is just one of them, said Dick Purnell, a speaker for the Campus Crusade for Christ.

Most ideas in the United States of what men are and should be come from the media, Purnell told residents of Leggett Hall Wednesday.

Usually, the concepts are false, he said.

A man should be teachable, tenacious and tender, Purnell said.

"It's easy for a man not to be teachable when it comes to women," he said. "Women want to be understood. A man has to learn and understand about a woman's sensitivity and personality before he can provide her needs, he said. To be tenacious is to hold on strongly to what you believe to be true, Purnell said.

Many men have their feet planted firmly in mid-air — they don't quite know what they believe. Women don't want a man who flows with the

public opinion, he said.

Tenderness has been pushed out by "macho men" on the television, he said. Usually, it is one of the most important qualities to women. The best way to teach a man to be tender, Purnell said, is to model it in everyday life.

Being tender, tenacious and teachable are not the only qualities a man should have, they're just important ones, Purnell said.

Purnell said women aren't contentions. They should also possess the qualities.

Language group tries to minimize barriers

By ROSEMARY ALYEA
Campus Reporter
A newly organized Interdisciplinary Spanish Conversation Group is doing its part to improve relations between the United States and Hispanic countries.

Composed of about 30 members from Texas A&M University, the three groups allow faculty and staff members who are interested or engaged in activities with Hispanic nations to "practice so that they can function more effectively on the international scene," said Dr. Gisela Mahoney, coordinator. She is also technical editor of the Sea Grant program here.

Mahoney said she became concerned with language and cultural barriers while living in Bolivia for 10

years. Specifically, she said she found accuracy lacking in foreign language excerpts in scientific manuscripts and publications.

It is not uncommon to find as many as 55 errors in 12 lines of foreign language text, she said. And she attributed this to the absence of a multi-lingual review of manuscripts.

The conversation groups will also help their participants orally communicate with foreign nationals at home and abroad. Too often, Mahoney said, people assume they can rely on English when they travel.

"Who are we to address them (foreign nationals) only in English?" she said.

"We encourage conversation about travels abroad," she said, but

other topics are discussed as well.

The groups, meet at luncheons and are "very relaxed," said Mahoney.

Proficiency in Spanish ranges from "low to very fluent," but according to her, all members benefit from and enjoy the conversation regardless of their level of proficiency.

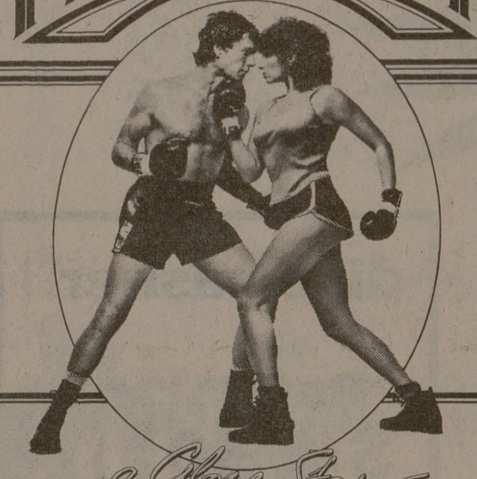
With a master's in cereal chemistry and a doctorate in inorganic chemistry, Mahoney has led German conversation groups before and said she decided on the Spanish conversation groups "because that's where our strongest need is."

She also said she is interested in forming a Portuguese conversation group soon.

For more information, contact Mahoney at 845-7524.

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