

# Local

## Colleges have different criteria for questions

# Evaluations help show teachers' effectiveness

By KATHY O'CONNELL

**Battalion Staff**  
Cutting short a class lecture to fill out a teacher evaluation may make students happy, but many don't know the importance of the evaluations. In many of the Texas A&M colleges, students are asked to fill out questionnaires rating the instructors' teaching ability and course material. However, it is left up to the different colleges and departments to determine the method of evaluation.

Dr. William Muse, dean of the College of Business Administration, said that at the end of each semester every class fills out questionnaires which the college purchases from the Education-

al Testing Service. Muse said they use this questionnaire as it's the most widely used on a national basis.

He said the data is collected from students and analyzed through a computer program. At the end of the semester, he said, a copy of the analysis is sent to the professor, the department head and the dean of that college.

The evaluation is used to determine salary increases, promotion and tenure, if the professor is on a tenure track.

Muse also said the department heads meet with each professor to discuss the evaluation and set goals and objectives for the coming year. He said if the data shows there is a problem in the

classroom, then those problems will be discussed with the instructor.

Dr. Earl F. Cook, dean of the College of Geosciences, said there is a student council within that college that administers an evaluation to students. This evaluation "rates the undergraduate program for the College of Geosciences."

He said the questionnaire asks questions such as: "What courses did you find useful?"; "What required courses did not do any good?"; and "Was the sequence of courses useful?"

Cook said, "The answers to these questions from juniors and seniors really come in handy because sophomores haven't had a chance to take classes in a sequence."

Cook also said the professors in the different geoscience departments are "required to administer a questionnaire to the students." He said this evaluation is "an attempt to find out how we (professors) did in the class."

Dr. Dean Corrigan, dean of the College of Education, said each department in that college handles the student evaluations differently.

The department of educational curriculum and instruction requires instructors to administer a questionnaire to the students at the end of the semester, said Dr. David David, department head.

He said a student is assigned to pick up the completed forms and turn them in to the depart-

ment head. David said the questionnaire they use is a University form; however, he's not sure if the questions are prepared by a University committee.

David said once the questionnaires are completed, he would meet with the professor "if there is a need to meet with him."

"Usually I pass them back without comment or sometimes I send a note," he said. "This note is usually one of praise."

David said results of the questionnaire are one part in determining whether a teacher warrants a merit raise. "The basis of determining merit is a very broad basis," he said, "and is not solely based on the questionnaire."

# Rangers learn leadership from rigorous field training

By BELINDA McCOY

**Battalion Staff**  
"Playing Army" in Rudder's Rangers pays off for those with ambitions of holding leadership positions or attending the United States Army Infantry Ranger School, the Ranger's commanding officer said.

Rudder's Rangers is the largest special group within Texas A&M University's Corps of Cadets, said Commanding Officer Calvin Meyer. The purpose of the group is to provide leadership training through small unit tactics and adventure-type field training.

The group participates in patrolling outings, marches, and hand-to-hand combat practices.

The organization is designed to prepare its members for the Army's Ranger, Airborne, Air Assault courses, and Summer Camp.

personnel participate.

Approximately 50 ROTC Cadets from all ROTC universities and colleges across the nation are integrated into a regular Ranger class and participate in the training each year. Last year 55 cadets were allowed to start the course, and 30 completed the course.

Texas A&M sent two cadets, Meyer and Sam Hawes, also a Rudder's Ranger. Both Meyer and Hawes completed the training, "which says a lot for what we (Rudder's Rangers) do," Meyer said.

The training includes three phases, each of which last three weeks, and averages 19 hours of training each day. Two weeks of pre-training is conducted for the

cadets.

"They say if you put the hours we put in (at Ranger school) on a 40-hour work week, it would take six months to complete," Meyer said. "I can remember looking down at my watch and it being 1 o'clock in the morning, and we were still in class."

The first phase of the training is conducted at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and includes physical fitness tests, obstacle courses, and introductions to patrolling techniques, demolitions, hand-to-hand combat, land navigation, weapons, artillery fire and air assault.

"We got to play around with plastic explosives," Meyer said, laughing.

The second phase, the mountain phase, takes place near Dahlonega, Georgia, and includes introduction to mountain climbing, river crossing, and rappelling techniques (descending cliffs and buildings on a rope).

The third phase, in the swamps of Florida, includes a parachute jump, swamp patrolling, river and stream crossing, small boat operations, survival and helicopter rappelling techniques. The phase ends with a 12-day continuous patrol.

This summer Texas A&M will send eight cadets to Ranger school. Never before has Texas A&M sent that many cadets, Meyer said.

Also, "It's the first time anyone from Texas A&M has heard of any school sending that many," he said.

Any Corps member may join Rudder's Rangers, Meyer said, but not everyone may wear the special unit insignia.

Senior advisers in Rudder's Rangers wear black berrets with their fatigues, or with Class A uni-

forms worn to a Ranger function. Rangers who have completed Ranger school wear a special black and gold patch—a tab—that says "Ranger" on it.

A special triangle-shaped pin with the letters A-T-M on it is worn by members who have passed the old Army physical training test, participate in field training and classroom activities, and re-

ceive a satisfactory rating in leadership positions held during field training exercises as determined by the commander and officers of the company.

Originally, only Corps members who were in the Army outfits could join the organization. However, in recent years, members of Air Force outfits and Navy-Marine outfits have joined.

# 5 Aggies have high hopes for their rock'n'roll band

By SHEILA FRAZIER

**Battalion Reporter**  
A combination of two Texas A&M University graduates, two graduating Aggie seniors and two past part-time Aggies make up a rock'n'roll band named Reflex.

The group consists of five men and one woman, two of which have been playing together for five years. Recently they have played at local parties and clubs, but they have much bigger ambitions.

"Our goal is to get on the road," guitarist Wade Myatt said.

Next month the band will begin recording an album of their original music. They plan to send the album to prominent record companies and booking agencies and possibly begin touring as a backup band for well-known groups.

The music they have written is modeled after groups such as Wishbone Ash and the Allman Brothers, which featured double lead guitars. Myatt said they make

their music "not too hard or complicated, just a solid beat and then we put the twin guitars on top."

Another feature of the band is a colored light show and fogged floor which is rare among beginning groups. Guitarist Terry Dossey, who has a degree in computer science from Texas A&M University and degrees in electronics and chemistry from a junior college, does all the electronics.

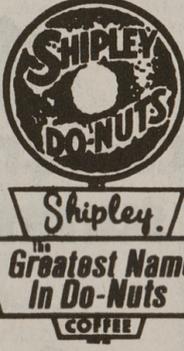
The newest addition to the band is Maria Romero, 20. She has sung lead at Reflex's last two appearances — one at Faces last week and one at a party earlier.

The band also has something more than hard rock sounds. Tim Satio, who is working on his master's degree in computer science, adds vibrant saxophone and flute accompaniment.

"He is really good," Dossey said. Satio does not usually practice with the group because of his busy schedule and he already knows his parts.

Band members in addition to Romero include: Dossey — bass, guitar and vocals; Alex Fazzino — drums; Myatt — lead guitar, bass and vocals; Satio — saxophone, flute, recorder and percussions; and Bill Sperry — keyboard and vocals.

In addition to its own music, Reflex plays selections from Styx, Pat Benatar, Z-Z Top, Journey, Thin Lizzy, AC DC, The Cars and Heart.



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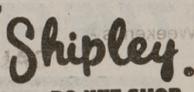
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