

Local

Drive begins Oct. 5

United Way sets goal

By NANCY FLOECK

Battalion Staff
Aggies pride themselves on doing everything better than anyone else — and the Brazos County United Way is counting on this to reach its campus donation goal of \$56,000.

The fund-raising campaign begins today and will continue through Oct. 5. In the coming weeks, the United Way will try to involve Texas A&M students, faculty and staff in its efforts.

"This is the first year that we've started some student involvement," Campus Coordinator Tim Phillips said. "A lot of students have expressed the desire to have the opportunity to make a donation."

Tables in the Memorial Student Center and the Commons will provide this opportunity, and plans are being made for residence halls and the Corps of Cadets to sponsor fund-raising activities.

Last year, donations from University employees totaled \$43,542, almost 20 percent of the \$233,000 raised in the Brazos Valley — or \$6.21 per employee. The state average for university employees is \$13.24 and the national average is \$13.59.

"In the past, performance hasn't been up to par in comparison to other universities," Phillips said. "The main thing we want to

emphasize is not the United Way itself, but the different agencies the money actually goes to and all the money collected here in the Brazos Valley stays in the Brazos Valley."

The county goal is \$280,925. Money collected in the local United Way fund drives sponsors 19 agencies, including the Brazos Valley Mental Health-Mental Retardation Center, Crisis Hotline, Boys Clubs of Bryan and the Brazos County Senior Citizens Association.

Phillips said the campus drive is organized to make donating easy. Pledge cards will give donors a bank draft option, as well as the

standard cash or check, weekly or monthly options. The campus will be divided into areas, and areas into units, to simplify collection and material distribution.

Phillips said the Brazos County United Way has one paid employee; all others are volunteer. Fifteen percent of the donations goes for the employee's salary and for printing and other administration costs, he said.

The campaign will kickoff at the Brazos Center Friday at 4:30 p.m. U.S. Congressman Phil Gramm, D-College Station, will be the guest speaker, and the public is invited. For more information on the campus drive, call Phillips at 845-3618.

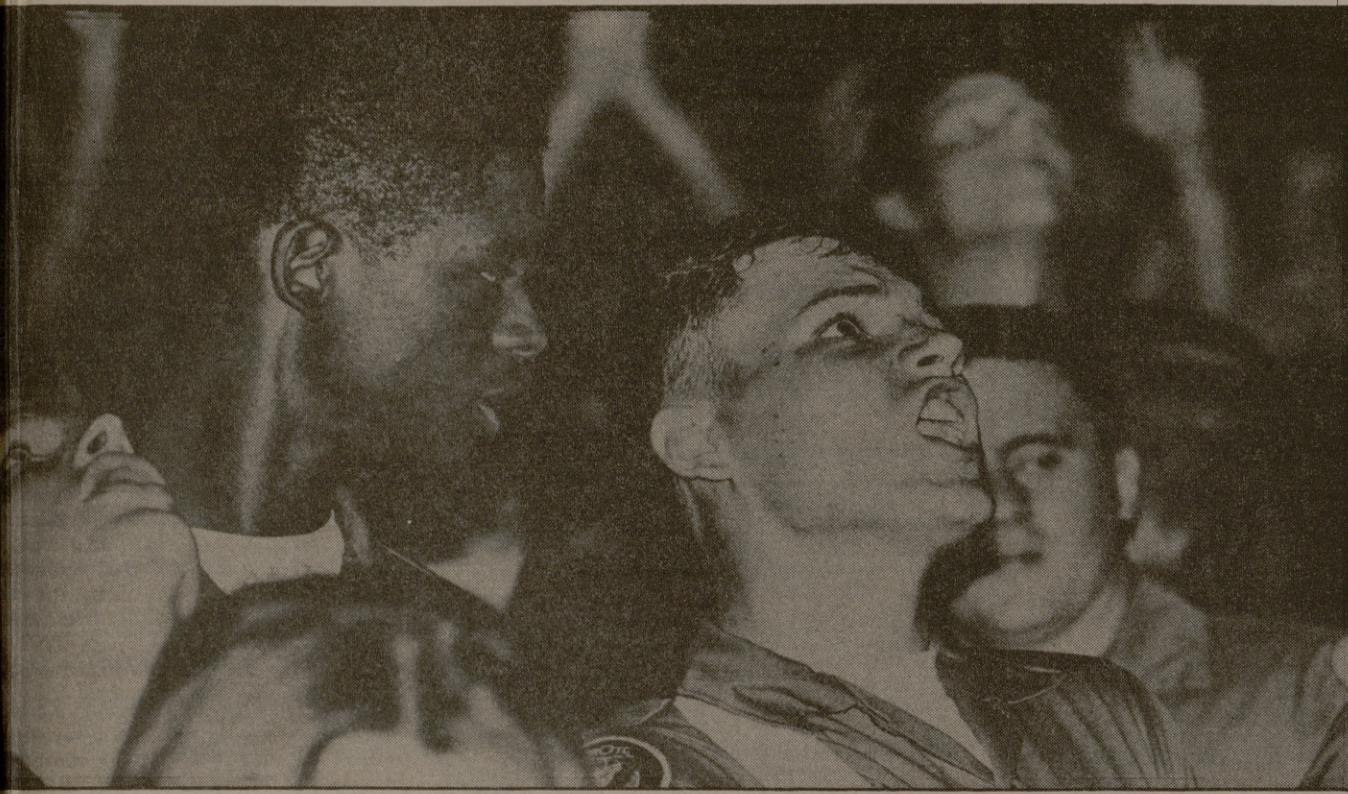


Photo by Dave Einsel

How many stars, Fish Giessing?

Freshman Bill Giessing exercises his fish privilege of yorning Sophomore Charles Williams that there are only eighty-five stars in the heavens. Fish Giessing was practicing his counting at yell practice Thursday at the Grove.

Fun and information offered through MSC

By KATHY O'CONNELL

Battalion Staff
Anyone who says there's nothing to do at Texas A&M must not be aware of the MSC Council and Directorate.

Nineteen directorate committees provide University students, faculty and staff, as well as the surrounding community, with a wide variety of programs ranging from classical music symphonies to one trips down the Guadalupe River.

The MSC Council is composed of 35 student officers, who oversee the activities of the Directorate. The Directorate consists of student committees that involve hundreds of other students in numerous University activities and programs.

The hub of activity is the Student Programs Office on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center. Each committee has its own cubicle, where members meet for business and fun.

Membership is open to all students, but some committees require a personal interview because of the large number of applicants.

The following committees form the MSC Directorate:

Aggie Cinema is responsible for scheduling and supervising more than 50 old and new films each semester, including popular classical and international films.

Amateur Radio gives amateur radio buffs a chance to participate in worldwide radio communications. The committee also has a full range of modern radio equipment and operates a campus radio station.

Arts committee brings artistic and cultural programs to campus, such as exhibits, dance troupes and films. Most art exhibits are on display in the MSC Art Gallery.

Basement provides students with live pop and folk entertainment and a place to relax on weekend nights in the MSC basement. Last year, entertainment provided by the committee ranged from the sellout Pat Methaney concert to Gospel Blues.

Black Awareness presents speakers, programs and exhibitions designed to help Texas A&M students understand the culture of black Americans.

Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture (CAMAC) also provides programs, such as mariachis, folkloric dances and art exhibits with the purpose of creating an awareness of Mexican-American cultures.

Cepheid Variable is the name of a constellation, and this committee provides a "multi-media" approach to science fiction/fantasy through programs and films. They also sponsor AggieCon, one of the largest science fiction conventions in the Western Hemisphere.

Camera Committee provides the students and faculty with a well-equipped darkroom and a variety of programs. They also sponsor annual photography contests.

Free University organizes a series of fun non-credit courses, such as dancing, bartending and "Powder Puff Mechanics." These mini-courses are open to students and the community at minimal costs.

Great Issues schedules well-known public interest speakers to discuss pertinent issues of the day.

Hospitality represents Texas A&M by hosting University functions, tours of the campus, an annual Christmas Fair, fashion show and The Miss Texas A&M Scholarship Pageant.

Opera and Performing Art

Society (OPAS) sponsors a variety of fine classical and cultural entertainment for the entire community. Both students and community citizens work to bring the programs to the Texas A&M campus.

Outdoor Recreation promotes education in outdoor skills and organizes several outdoor camping trips. The committee also provides rental equipment for campers. The rental office is located in the Grove Theater.

Political Forum brings prominent politicians to the campus to speak on relevant international, national, state and local issues. They also sponsor trips to Austin and Washington D.C.

Recreation offers a wide variety of unusual games and tournaments, and world record attempts at anything from frisbee tossing to greased pig chasing.

Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) sponsors an annual conference where internationally recognized speakers and student delegates from three countries meet to debate and discuss issues related to a topic of national importance. This year's conference will discuss "Perspectives on Soviet Foreign Policy."

Town Hall presents a variety of concerts including well-known pop, rock, country and western and jazz entertainment.

Travel offers students reasonably priced tours of Europe and Mexico, as well as shorter trips to Mardi Gras, Wurstfest in New Braunfels and football games.

Video Tape presents taped programs and introduces its committee members to the techniques of television production through the planning and producing of commercials for campus organizations. They also show video-taped concerts in the MSC Main Lounge.

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