

Students 'major' in camping skills

Program set to build leadership

by Steven B. Larkin
Battalion Reporter

Rappelling down a 100-foot cliff or withstanding the rigors of a 12-day Rocky Mountain ski trip are ways a new Outdoor Leadership Program plans to develop students' leadership qualities.

A part of the MSC Outdoor Recreation Committee, OLP is partly modeling its curriculum around that of leadership program "Outward Bound", OLP Director Morris Salge said.

There are four phases to an Outward Bound program: pre-course orientation to leadership, the actual Outward Bound course—usually held in a rugged wilderness setting, the post-course wrap-up and putting what is learned into real world situations.

The Texas A&M course will include seminars about various aspects of wilderness leadership.

Those interested in OLP will be asked to sign up for a "major" in either rockclimbing, canoeing, kayaking or backpacking. They then will



attend lectures that deal with topics ranging from nutrition to camping techniques.

Professionals from the University and guest speakers will

be the instructors of OLP students.

The curriculum will be divided into three levels:

- Recreation — upon completion a student will be able to handle himself safely in the out-of-doors.
- Enthusiast — upon completion a student will be able to lead his peers safely in the out-of-doors.
- Professional — this section never is completed because no person can be completely knowledgeable in all aspects of outdoor education. The course instructors will determine what level must be obtained to qualify a student as being knowledgeable enough to lead and instruct beginners safely in the out-of-doors.

OLP is combining its program with that of Outward Bound to provide the participants with an opportunity to test themselves in a wilderness situation. From May 16-30, OLP students will join up with a similar group from Kansas State to take part in a 12-day Outward Bound mountaineering course in the Colorado Rockies.

Walter said the trip will be a true test to get out of the classroom and try out what has been learned.

"By getting out there and doing it, you have developed a judgmental talent and accomplished something by conquering a challenge," Charlie Walter, Outdoor Recreation Committee advisor, said.

Four universities across the nation currently are trying out programs similar to the one Texas A&M is starting, said Ron Gager, director of program development for the Colorado Outward Bound school in Denver.

One private California college tried its own type of leadership program and found it to be a successful educational tool, said Scott Harris, associate professor of economics at Chapman College and coordinator of that school's leadership program.

The Chapman College program took 14 students on a combined Outward Bound/Leadership Program and Harris has reported 100 percent success among the students who participated.

Playboy attacks drug committee

United Press International
DALLAS — The Texans' War on Drugs Committee is part of a bureaucratic drive to undermine basic civil liberties and is equaled only by the McCarthy era, an article in the April issue of Playboy magazine claims.

The Texans' War on Drugs Committee, headed by Dallas billionaire H. Ross Perot, currently has an estimated one million members and recently drew national attention when First Lady Nancy Reagan met with committee members in Texas to promote the federal effort to stamp out marijuana use by minors.

The article, written by Lawrence Gonzales and scheduled for distribution Tuesday, credits the Texas committee with pushing through laws that allow police to break into and enter homes to wiretap phones and create a central computer repository for persons receiving certain prescriptions.

The committee, supported by Gov. Bill Clements since early in his term, has done "more to undermine basic civil liberties than any other movement since Joe McCarthy's anti-Communist crusade," the article said.

"I fell asleep after reading the first two pages (of the article)," was Perot's only comment.

The article charges the renewed war on drugs is a priority in Congress, and President Reagan is using the federal program and the state and local organizations it is spawning as a political tool.

In Austin, Gen. Robinson Risner, executive director of the action-arm of the Texas anti-drug committee, took issue with the article's claims and said grass roots support — not bureaucratic influence — helped the laws pass.

The article also charges current anti-drug proposals being considered in Washington include using soldiers to enforce drug laws and allowing court admission of evidence seized illegally as long as police act in good faith.

In the article, Texas Civil Liberties Union Executive Director John Duncan, asked to evaluate the impact of current anti-drug legislation, is quoted as saying: "If we're going to create a police state, why do it piecemeal? Let's just tattoo a number on everybody's arm."

Federal report says Texas has most deficient, obsolete bridges

United Press International
AUSTIN — The chief bridge engineer with the Highway and Public Transportation Department said Thursday that most Texas bridges cited as deficient in a federal report do not fall under state jurisdiction.

The federal report says nearly a quarter-million U.S. bridges are defective in some manner, with Texas having the largest number of structurally deficient or functionally obsolete bridges.

Wayne Henneberger, bridge engineer for the highway department, said "only a couple" of bridges on the state's highway network were considered deficient and none suffered from structural problems.

Although he had not seen the government report, Henneberger said he was not surprised by findings that say Texas has 15,197 structurally deficient or

functionally obsolete bridges. But he says those structures are off the main highway system and are not the state's responsibility, but the responsibility of the counties or cities.

Henneberger said the state keeps a detailed inventory of failing bridges and advises the cities and counties if a bridge becomes unsafe.

Under federal law, the state must spend between 15 and 35

percent of the federal money devoted to bridge work on off-highway bridges.

"We work on a system of priorities," Henneberger said. "We know which ones are worst. The cities or counties have to pay 20 percent of the cost of the projects, and some of them can't or don't want to do that."

State law prohibits the department from using state funds on the off-highway bridges.

Students learn economics; run paper plane companies

United Press International
DALLAS — Sure, the money was simulated, the airplanes were paper and the tycoons were only second-graders, but financially strapped airlines might consider going back to school.

Teacher Jean Seymour decided to give her class at Hyer Elementary School an economics lesson this week after a class field trip to Dallas Love Field. Students formed their own companies and with \$500 worth of simulated capital, launched into the aviation industry.

Young Matthew Doll, president of his own Famous Flyers Corp., produced the best paper planes, winning \$550 in prize money because his planes stayed aloft longer and flew more accurately than other companies' planes.

But in the paper chase for

profits, Doll finished second to 8-year-old Glenn Stotts' Paper Express. Stotts won only \$390 in prize money, but he earned \$800 in profits through a shrewd business move.

Stotts early on acquired Aereo Tool Co., with assets including three pairs of scissors. Refusing

to sell his acquisition, Stotts lent scissors in exchange for other materials or rented them for up to \$20 for five minutes.

Stotts' monopoly sliced through the competition.

"We paid \$190 just for the airplanes," groaned Sara Kraemer of Famous Flyers.

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When: Sunday, February 28
10:00 am to 7:00 pm Open to the public
Monday, March 1 and Tuesday, March 2
9:00 am to 12:00 pm Open for school groups only
12:00 pm to 6:00 pm Open to the public

Parking: Parking lot south of Rudder Tower
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Other Magna Carta Activities

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For more information call 845-8501

Admission Free

Sorry, No photographs of Magna Carta may be taken.

This exhibition is made possible in part by a grant from the Texas Committee for the Humanities.

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