



staff photo by Eric Mitchell

Gloria Sprinkle spoke at the Bryan Public Library on Monday night to the National Organization of Women on the problems of homemakers.

Homemakers fight for rights

Leader calls for stand

by Chris Hunley  
Battalion Reporter  
Thirty percent of all households headed by women live below the poverty level, the chairwoman of a Texas Homemakers

Rights Task Force told the Bryan chapter of the National Organization of Women Monday night.  
Gloria Sprinkle, also on the National Board of Mother's

Inc. and a member of the Homemakers Equal Rights Association, discussed homemaker's rights and how women can exercise them.

As most laws now stand, a husband can decide what kind of life his wife will lead, Sprinkle said. A husband can decide how much, if any, money to give his wife, she said.

Texas has community property laws — what the husband owns is half the wife's and vice versa.

However, in a joint bank account, the wife cannot manage the money unless she has a larger amount of money in the account than her husband. The wife cannot draw credit or use her husband's half of the account as collateral without her husband's signature, but the husband can use his wife's half without her signature.

The Gross National Product would be raised 30 percent if homemakers' contributions were counted, Sprinkle said. If

the Equal Rights Amendment was passed, the legal system would be forced to recognize the non-monetary contribution of homemakers to the family, she said.

"The law does not support women in divorce," Sprinkle said. In cases of child support, 80 percent of the women awarded child support did not receive payments after the first three years.

In the case of a husband's death, Social Security offers little help to women, Sprinkle said.

For every year a woman stays home, she receives a zero in her Social Security record. If she is divorced after less than 10 years of marriage, she will receive nothing from the Social Security of her ex-husband.

Women over 65 have the lowest median income of any age or sex group, \$2,500 annually, where men receiving Social Security get up to \$5,000 annually.

Architecture topic of lecture series

by June DuVall  
Battalion Reporter  
The opportunities and challenges for Texas architecture resulting from the state's economic growth will be the topic of a lecture series Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

The Rowlett Lecture Series, "Money and Monuments: The Impact of Rapid Economic Growth on Architecture" is sponsored by the Texas A&M Department of Architecture and Environmental Design.

The lecture series honors architect John Miles Rowlett, a graduate of the University of Texas and a founding member of the Houston firm of Caudill, Rowlett and Scott, enhanced architecture by both the scope and quality of his work,

David G. Woodcock, Texas A&M professor of architecture, said.

Speakers will be Earnest Connelly, architect and historian with the National Park Services in Washington, D.C.; John S. Samuels III, chairman of Carbo-min International in New York; Richard C. Keating, American Institute of Architecture, a general partner of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill in Houston; and John C. McDermott, Texas A&M distinguished professor of philosophy and humanities.

A panel discussion during the series will address future opportunities in architecture.

The series is made possible through a grant from the founders of Caudill, Rowlett and Scott and Virginia Rowlett, Texas Architectural Foundation.

Lifetime dream helps boys explore camping

by Cheryl Maynard  
Battalion Reporter

When Thomas Read was growing up in Cleveland, he never got to go to camp as his friends did. The Houston businessman vowed if he was ever able, he would open his own camp. Holding true to his promise, he opened the Fred A. Leonard Youth Camp in Magnolia four years ago.

The camp, sponsored by the Texas A&M Department of Health and Physical Education, offers four weeks of free camping for boys from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The camp offers 36 boys — ages 8 to 12 — swimming, tennis, golf, wrestling, archery, canoeing, field hockey and fishing.

The camp — named for one of Read's friends — has six cabins, a covered pavilion, a swimming pool, tennis courts and a lake on its 35 wooded acres.

Campers are provided with lodging, meals, clothing and laundry.

"Read believes competition is the way to build the character of these young boys," said Dr. Leonard D. Ponder, health and

physical education department head and associate professor.

Ponder said it was Read's idea to take the boys out of their home environments and let them compete in sports to develop their desire to excel in the future.

Some of the campers come back year after year. And if they decide to go on to college, Read has set up scholarships to pay for it.

Most of the campers are from Houston, but there is no stipulation that campers be from that city. Campers usually find out about the camp through churches, newspaper advertisements, slide presentations, and the Big Brother Club of Houston, Ponder said.

The department selects the campers, plans programs and coordinates the camp staff.

Seven male counselors from

Texas A&M University are chosen each year.

"An amazing chemistry develops between the counselors and kids," Ponder said. The high quality of the counselors sets excellent role models for the boys to follow, he said.

The department needs two more counselors for this summer's two camp sessions. The job pays \$125 a week and free room and board for 11 weeks. Counselors get one day off per week. Applications can be picked up in East Kyle at the department office. Though there is no deadline for the applications, the department would like them as soon as possible.

'Punk eye' gets dancers

United Press International  
BASEL, Switzerland — "Television legs" and "punk eye" are two of the latest diseases associated with leisure activities, Swiss pharmaceutical companies report in their industry newsletter.

Television legs, or what doctors call television thrombosis which can cause blood clots in the legs, mainly afflicts elderly people who spend a lot of time sitting and watching the tube, the latest issue of the newsletter said.

Young people increasingly suffer various afflictions ranging from "jeans dermatitis" and "disco fingers" to "punk eye," a blood hemorrhage caused by violent leaps required by some dances favored by punk rockers, the newsletter said.

"Disco fingers" come from snapping one's fingers in time to the beat of disco music while "jeans dermatitis" comprises a variety of skin diseases brought on by wearing tight jeans without underwear.

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