

# City Council approves programs

by Jennifer Carr  
Battalion Staff

The MSC Council approved a proposal to create a programs planning committee in its meeting Monday night. The council also heard reports from the long-range planning committee and from several council vice-presidents.

The programs study committee to be chaired by council president Todd Norwood, will deal with problems that relate to all committees, Norwood said. The council presently has four standing committees that oversee recreational, educational, cultural and entertainment programs. The new committee will not infringe on these four,

Norwood said, but will deal only with issues that affect more than one committee.

Norwood said the long-range planning committee is in the process of analyzing what the council has done this year, and has appointed several subcommittees to deal with specific problems. The committee established criteria for problems to be addressed and determined the most pressing problems facing the council.

Each subcommittee will study a problem and formulate questions that must be addressed to solve that problem, Norwood said. Each subcommittee will then make recommendations to the committee as a whole.

Several vice-presidents reported on the success of programs presented by the MSC Council. Jeff Bissey, vice-president for educational programs reported Free U long and short courses hope to make a 5 to 10 percent profit on their courses.

Bissey said more than 1000 people registered for Free U long courses and about 800 people registered Wednesday for the short courses. He also reported MBA—Law Day was a success and made about \$300 to be used for the health care program to be presented in the spring.

Kyle Spencer, vice-president for entertainment, reported on

successful programs by Cepheid Variable, MSC Video and MSC Town Hall's sellout Cheap Trick concert. Psychic Donna Burman's program on Poltergeists, drew a much larger crowd than expected, Spencer said. MSC Video's Monday night concert series, cosponsored with MSC Basement Committee, also has been a success.

In new business, the council

approved Great Issues speaker Dr. Stephen J. Birdwell, director of the Fusion Energy Foundation and editor of Laser Fusion magazine, to speak on the nuclear freeze and laser weaponry Wednesday night. Jim Reynolds, director of the Memorial Student Center announced an MSC Gallery showing of works by English artist Richard Britton next week.

# Aggie custom class drafted for students

by Shelley Hoekstra  
Battalion Reporter

Faculty and students at Texas A&M University are planning an orientation class to teach Aggie traditions and history to incoming freshmen and transfer students.

But Ron Blatchley, director of Student Affairs, said he does not know if the class ever will be offered since no definite plans have been made.

He said the idea for the class, which would discuss things like adjusting to college life and learning about "Aggieism," has been tossed around for the past five or six years, but until now has not been talked about in earnest.

Blatchley said the idea for the orientation class was originated

by a group of students who were concerned that freshmen and transfer students might not be getting the full flavor of Texas A&M. The students might be missing out, the group said, either because they live off-campus or because they did not attend Fish Camp.

"The students whom I have been discussing the idea with are concerned that there are some students that feel they are never 100 percent Aggie due to not living on campus or not going to Fish Camp," Blatchley said.

New students who want to live on campus but don't have the opportunity may not be able to seek out fellowship with other students, he said.

"Belonging to a group, hav-

ing an organization supporting you and being involved in school is very important for new students," Blatchley said. "That's why fraternities, sororities and the Corps of Cadets are so important. The group gives them (new students) support and fills a void in their lives. We hope that this class can at least be a step toward filling that void."

The freshman course would discuss activities besides academics which students can become involved in. He said that the class would not be required for incoming freshmen and transfer students, but students could get credit for it. The one-credit-hour class would either be taught by faculty or student leaders.

# Student Affairs sponsors panel discussion on rape

The Department of Student Affairs will sponsor a panel discussion on rape tonight at 7 p.m. in 206 MSC.

The film, "Rape — A Preventive Inquiry," a film which interviews rape victims as well as convicted rapists, will be shown before the panel discussion. It will be led by members of the student body and staff at Texas A&M.

Panel members Katrina King, a member of the University Police Department, will discuss the misconceptions of rape, the motivation of rapes and rapists and certain defenses against rape attacks. Panelist Betty Ackles, a student resident advisor and Rape Crisis Center worker, will discuss philosophies of rape and the controversies over whether a passive or active approach is a better defense when attacked.

will be Dr. Kerry Hope of the Student Counseling Service. She will discuss psychological

responses to rape and ways in which to help rape victims adjust to everyday life.



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