

Students, professors: Italy bound

by Dayna Boren
Battalion Reporter

Exploring famous museums, relaxing in the Alps, shopping in European marketplaces and receiving six semester hours of credit at the same time are just a few of the adventures that can be experienced this summer through a special course being offered by Texas A&M.

Dr. Carolyn Adair, director of student activities, said that the "AMU in Italy" course, which is being offered during the first summer session, is designed so that most majors can fit two of its courses into their degree plan. The courses include management, English, history,

anthropology and humanities classes — most of which have no prerequisite.

Adair, who will be teaching a psychology course, said she first became interested in Italy after she took a five-week tour of the country and fell in love with the people and the culture.

"I felt that there was a need to offer a course which would get students interested in culture," she said. "The joy I receive is from watching the faces of my students as they see the things that they have read about all of their lives."

All of the professors teaching the courses are from the University, and will be taking a total of



Dr. Carolyn Adair

sixty students to Italy for the seven week course, Adair said.

Traveling as a group, the participants will depart from Houston for Milano, Italy, on May 14 and return on July 4.

Students will reside in a converted monastery and eat food prepared by Italian women who live in the tiny village that is approximately 40 miles south of Florence.

"The food is just fantastic," Adair said, "and the ice cream is out of this world."

Vending carts are abundant throughout the entire countryside, she said, selling everything from flowers to food to hand-made crafts. For those who tire of eating in the same cafeteria every day, sidewalk cafes are scattered about and are very

reasonable in price, Adair said.

"Learning to understand the Italian culture is the one thing that is stressed," she said.

The trip will cost about \$2,750 which includes air fare, lodging, food and excursions and students who are interested may apply for a short-term loan from the Student Financial Aid office. However, they must do so quickly because of a limited number of spaces that are available, she said.

A one-hour credit course has been started to brief students on passports, individual travel and geography.

Dr. Candida Lutes, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, is registering students for the course.

Project HAP'N to help needy pay for heating

by Brigid Brockman
Battalion Reporter

Lone Star Gas Co. of Bryan will become involved in Project HAP'N, a heating assistance program for the needy, the district manager for the gas company said Wednesday.

District Manager Daniel Wever said Project HAP'N is designed to help people living in one Star's service area who are having difficulty paying their heating bills.

Carol Neaves, president of Lone Star Gas Co., said that the

Community Council of Greater Dallas will manage the dispersal of the funds for Project HAP'N.

Most of the money for the program will come from tax-deductible contributions from the general public, Neaves said, but Lone Star has contributed \$100,000 to begin the fund.

Harry Tanner, community council executive director, said the Community Council of Greater Dallas is trying to find local agencies to work with area councils of government to decide who will receive financial help.

Dale Marsico, executive director for Brazos Valley Community Action, a federally-funded, non-profit organization, said he is interested in the heating assistance program.

In order to get funding for the project, Marsico said, he had to contact the Community Council of Greater Dallas. At first, he said, he was sent a little less than \$3,000 but then he asked Tanner for more money.

Marsico and Tanner are working on a contract to determine how much money will be distributed in this area.

Marsico said that as soon as he knows how much money will be allocated to his agency, he will notify the Lone Star Gas Co. in Bryan, and then Program HAP'N will be put into effect in this area.

Automatic tellers coming in August

Automatic teller machines on campus — approved by the Texas A&M Board of Regents last semester — will be installed this summer, a fiscal affairs official says.

But Robert Smith, controller and assistant vice president of fiscal affairs, said plans for the machines are not final.

"Right now, there is a proposed agreement to be worked out between the banks involved in the teller system and the University," Smith said. "Once that's done, a contract for the installation of the machines will be awarded."

Installation of the system,

which will consist of two MPACT and two Pulse automatic teller machines to be placed between Rudder Tower and the Memorial Student Center, is targeted for mid-August, he said.

"We (the University) decided to install the system because we saw a need to offer an additional service to students, faculty and staff," Smith said.

The long check-cashing lines around campus are part of the reason for the tellers, but the main reason for the system is to provide students with money after check-cashing hours, he added.

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