

# Project Orion guideline approved by council

by Kathy Wiesepape  
Battalion Staff

Goals for Project Orion, a new program designed to better acquaint freshmen with the Memorial Student Center organization, were approved at a Monday night meeting of the MSC Council.

Vice President of Marketing and Personnel, Denis Davis, said the program has a double goal.

First, it will enable MSC committees to recruit active freshmen and retain their involvement in the program through their years at Texas A&M.

Secondly, it will provide a com-

plete orientation of the MSC philosophy, history, goals, structure, policies and procedure.

The program will only apply to freshmen who already are active in any MSC committee. The purpose of the program is to train freshmen to be the future leaders of the MSC Council. It is an attempt to provide continuity to the management of MSC committees and the council.

Diane Baumbach, coordinator for the project, said 150 freshmen members of MSC committees will be selected to participate in the program. They will meet for din-

ner four times during the semester and have discussions as well as listen to presentations by various speakers.

"We're not going to just lecture to them," Baumbach said. "This won't just be the same dull things that they could hear in some of their classes."

The idea for Project Orion came out of discussions held at the MSC retreat last spring, Davis said. Members moving from committee positions into officer roles did not have a broad understanding of the MSC organization, programs, and policies. Knowledge and experi-

ence gained by previous council members and chairmen were not being passed on, Davis said.

"That paints a pretty grim picture internally, I'm afraid," Davis said.

Although the goals for the project were unanimously approved by the council, the budget has not yet been approved by the budget review committee or the executive committee, MSC President Greg Hawkins said.

Davis said she expects the program to cost around \$6,000. The major cost is \$2,400 for the catered dinners.

# PCPA to prepare ag students for jobs

by Linda Griggs  
Battalion Reporter

The fifth Professional Career Planning in Agriculture day will be held Wednesday in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom.

"PCPA is a day set aside to let freshmen through graduate students visit with prospective employers about future careers, to learn what is required by that company and how they should prepare their curriculum to meet those requirements," associate professor Howard Hesby said.

PCPA is open at no cost to all students interested in an agricultural career and to those outside the college of agriculture who might be undecided about a major.

"It gives students an idea of the

diversity of the agricultural industry," co-chairman Leslie Liere said.

This year PCPA has expanded the concept of company recruitment, which has proven beneficial, because 54 companies are participating as compared to 41 last year.

The companies will have booths set up where students can ask questions and visit with company representatives.

"We appreciate these companies bringing the real world to campus for our students to learn from and plan," Hesby said.

In addition, several companies will interview seniors Thursday and Friday at the Placement Center in Rudder Tower.

"PCPA day is more than getting

jobs for seniors," co-chairman Monty Teel said. "It aids the freshmen in deciding on a major and setting career goals."

The College of Agriculture, the Texas A&M student chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association and the Career Planning and Placement Center are planning PCPA. Company booths will be open from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. primarily for juniors, seniors and graduate students and from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. for all other students.

PCPA day will end with a barbeque at the Brazos Center at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for the Barbeque will be available until Tuesday in the MSC hallway, Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center and the Agriculture Building for \$4.

# MSC Council OKs speakers

by Kathy Wiesepape  
Battalion Staff

Speakers for the Memorial Student Center Student Conference on National Affairs, MSC Great Issues, and MSC Black Awareness were approved at a Monday night meeting of the MSC Council.

The topic for SCONA, which will be held Feb. 15-17, is "The Media and Its Influence on Society." The speakers approved were: Walter Cronkite, former anchorman for CBS News; Fred W. Friendly, Columbia University professor and former president of CBS News; and Arthur Miller, Harvard University law professor.

Speakers also were approved for this fall's Great Issues programs. William Samelson, a survivor of one of the German concentration camps in World War II, will speak about citizenship and human rights.

Charles Clements, an American doctor who worked with civilians in El Salvador, will present his interpretation of U.S. policy in El Salvador in his

lecture entitled, "El Salvador: The Truth."

Paul Walker, the director of research for Physicians for Social Responsibility, will speak about nuclear warfare. His position is strongly against nuclear warfare, and Adam Quarles, MSC Great Issues planning coordinator, said the committee is planning to balance his presentation with a pro-nuclear speaker later in the year.

James "Bo" Gritz, a former Lt.-Col. in the U.S. Army Special Forces, will present evidence he says shows that American POW's are still being held in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

Lynn Ashby, editorialist for the Houston Post, was another speaker proposed by MSC Great Issues for approval.

Approval for Ashby will be held until a specific speech topic can be agreed on by the executive committee.

Charles H. King, director of the urban crisis center in Atlanta, was approved as a speaker for MSC Black Awareness.

# Local disputes athletic funding

by Christine Mallon  
Battalion Staff

Monday night's College Station School Board meeting turned into a battle between parents and board members, with both sides arguing the age-old question of academics versus athletics.

The meeting was a public hearing on a proposal to increase property taxes by about 5 percent. Proposed budget cuts and additions brought up mixed emotions from the unusually large audience.

Edgar Meyer, of College Station, asked board members why so much emphasis and budget money is allotted for high school athletics instead of high school academics.

Superintendent H.R. Burnett assured Meyer this was not the case since there actually has been a decrease in several of the athletic funds in the proposed budget.

The most controversial of these athletic fund decreases seemed to be the cutback in the meals that were once provided for varsity athletes who were playing out-of-town games.

Athletes had been given a food allowance of \$3.75 per road trip

and the budget committee entirely cut out the allowance.

School Board President Bruce Robeck said parents and board members need to get their priorities straight.

"Our first priorities are academics, not how we will feed athletes," he said. "There is an unequal distribution of money and improper management throughout the school system, especially in athletics."

Secretary Joe Templeton said the budget allots about \$300,000 for sports in the CSISD.

Members of the board and concerned parents agreed there should be more emphasis on computers, word processors and other advanced equipment at the high school level.

Templeton, co-chairman of the budget committee, said the lack of state support for teacher salary increase is one of the main reasons the committee is asking for an approximate 5 percent property tax increase.

The vote on the proposed tax rate will be Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Oakwood Middle School Library.

# Aggie Players offer roles, and behind the scene jobs

by Mitch Clendening

Texas A&M students looking for an outlet for their creative and artistic talents can audition for plays with the Aggie Players or participate in the productions behind the scenes.

Usually about 100 students audition for roles, but the average cast size is 11 people, Robert W. Wenck, assistant director for the theater arts section, said. Some of the students who fail to land a part, he said, join the crew and help with the sets, lights and costumes.

The Aggie Players are going to organize a student production group geared toward non-theater arts majors sometime this year, he

said. Theater arts majors will be allowed to participate in the program, but its main goal will be to involve non-majors at the University, Wenck said.

The season's first production will be "What the Butler Saw," and will be directed by

Wenck. Performances will run from Sept. 28 to Oct. 1 at Rudder Theater.

The second play this year, "Summer and Smoke," will be the Texas A&M entry in the American College Theater Festival, Wenck said.

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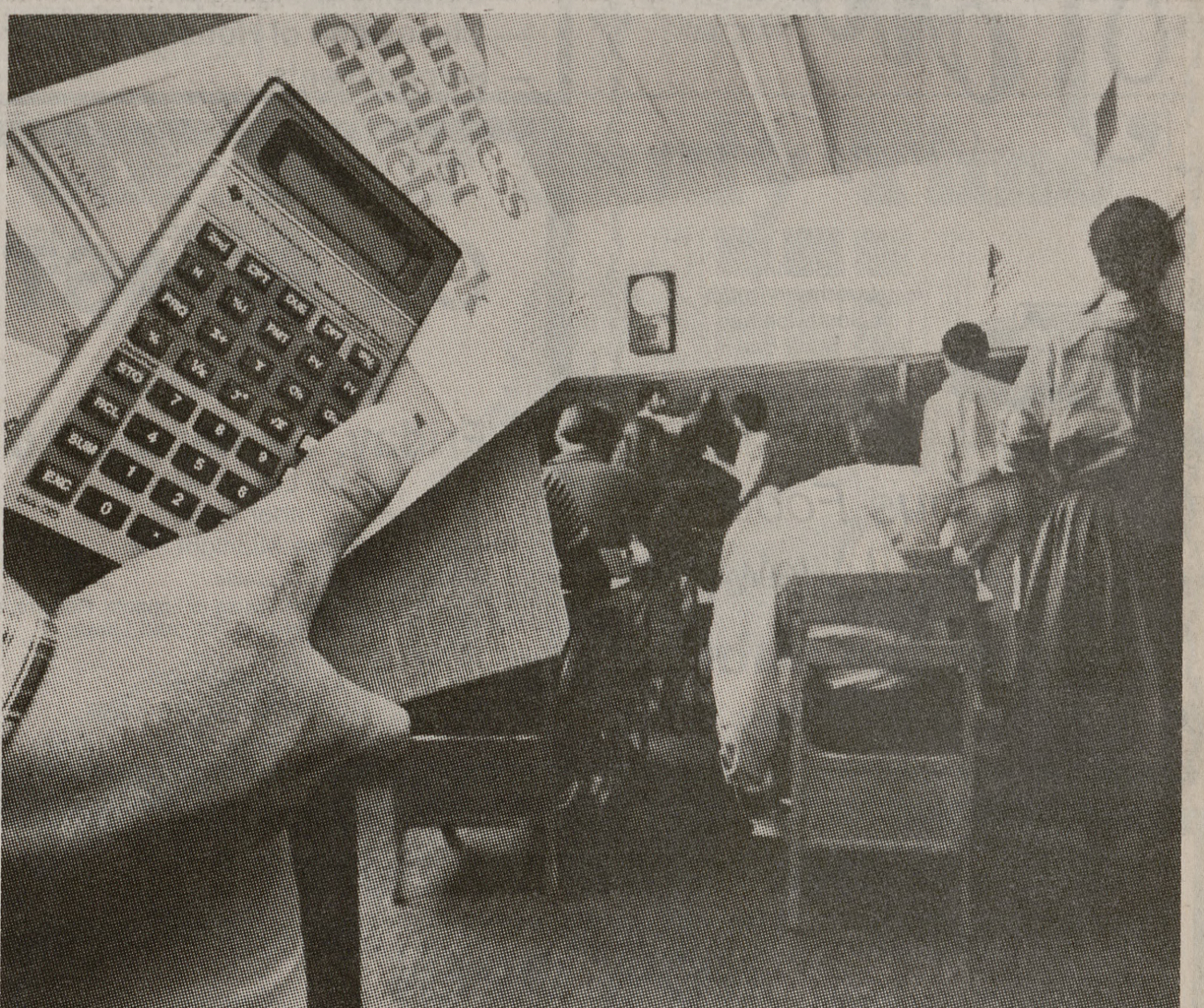
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