

Wheelchair track added to intramurals program

By PATRICIA FLINT
Reporter

The long and lanky runner may be the track star of the past. Wheelchair track events will be a new addition to tonight's All University track intramurals.

There will be no preliminaries held for the wheelchair track meet; those who want to participate just need to sign up today. People will be chosen on a first

come, first served basis. The meet begins at 7 p.m. and all students, faculty, staff and spouses may participate as long as they have a student or recreational ID card. In addition, a person may be in any other track event and still participate in the wheelchair meets.

The wheelchair track events are a first for the Texas A&M intramural department. Mary Wilson, who is coordinating the events as part of her internship

project with the department, says that she has three goals for the wheelchair meets. She hopes to show able-bodied people the capabilities of the handicapped, as well as the barriers that face them; to get more handicapped people involved in intramural-recreational sports; and most of all, to have fun.

The wheelchair events are: a 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 400-meter dash and a four-by-100-meter relay. There will be

eight chairs per heat and two heats per event for the dashes. This way participants will be racing against the clock and not only against the people in the heat. For the relays there will be no more than three teams per heat with no more than two heats.

Wilson says because the wheelchair events are new, the department is still trying to work all the bugs out. "One thing that nobody right

now has been ready to predict is who is going to show up," says Wilson.

However, if a blind person or someone unable to push his own chair wants to participate, Wilson says that the department might not be able to accommodate that person.

Eric Hunter, assistant director of intramural and recreation sports is enthusiastic

about Wilson's work with the wheelchair track meet.

"We've been trying to find ways to get handicaps more involved in our intramural program," Hunter says.

"I think we need to have more specific programming for the disabled, so I think this is a good start," Hunter said. But before deciding to hold a wheelchair track meet again, he says, the department will see how

many people turn out for this one and get some feedback from the disabled on it as well.

"We're trying to maintain an open program on all of our activities where we don't just restrict it to the able-bodied," Hunter says. "We haven't had a whole lot of participation from the disabled, so we thought we'd just try to gear something more directly to the students."

New sorority tries to meet blacks' needs

By KAREN WALLACE
Staff Writer

Service organizations at Texas A&M are always at work throughout the community. Last month, another such organization was introduced on campus, but this one is a little different.

Delta Sigma Theta is the first predominately black service sorority at Texas A&M.

"We established this sorority because there isn't one that works towards meeting the needs of blacks on campus," says Sonia Ellis, Delta Sigma Theta adviser.

Ellis said women don't have to be black to join.

"The object is to unite black women on campus, and women in general," she said.

The Texas A&M chapter of the sorority, the Omicron Omega chapter, received University recognition last August, Ellis said.

"The main thing we want to do is bridge the gap between the University and the black community here," she said. "The gap is communication itself. The University and the black community do not meet."

The black community is sometimes not aware of all its educational opportunities, she said.

"So we want to work in cooperation with the community," Ellis said. "We want to get the students involved in the community."

Charnella Swanson, a junior accounting major, said there

were a few reasons why she got involved with the sorority.

"The main reason is because of what Delta Theta has to offer me and what I have to offer them," said Swanson, who will be chairman of the Black Awareness Committee next year. "Also, when it comes to the less fortunate people I'm always willing to help."

Ellis said the sorority was working in the community before it got the charter. The women have worked at a tutoring assistance program, the Big Event and helped at Sheltering Arms, a shelter for abused children before they are sent to foster homes.

Projects have been planned already for next year, such as a Thanksgiving food drive and a

Christmas breakfast with Santa.

The 14 members went through a five week pledge period, Ellis said. To be eligible, women must have at least 24 credit hours and a 2.5 grade point average.

"We don't want a social thing here — no party-party type of

organization," she said. "We are interested in the community and being involved in service projects."

Swanson said membership lasts a lifetime, not just the four years at college and there are chapters all over the country, she said.

Orwell's 1984 topic of speech

By KATHLEEN REEVES
Reporter

George Orwell's futuristic novel 1984 is the topic of Dr. Warren Dixon's speech here at tonight in 701 Rudder.

Dixon, assistant professor of political science, says he will take a look at the image of totalitarianism in 1984, and its weaknesses. He also will discuss how realistic Orwell's totalitarian image is and how Orwell interpreted the totalitarian future.

Dixon is being sponsored by

the freshmen honor society Alpha Lambda Delta.

Kyle Coleman, secretary of ALD, said the honor society was asked by the English department to sponsor the speech.

Dorothy Van Riper, an English lecturer at Texas A&M, said several of the English faculty members are discussing Orwell's 1984 in class. She said they got together and decided it would be a good idea to ask someone speak about the book, so they asked Alpha Lambda Delta to sponsor Dixon. A polit-

ical science professor was chosen because the teachers wanted someone to talk about the political situation of 1984.

"We are a group of English teachers and can talk about the English aspects of the book, but since there has been so much emphasis about the political side, we decided to get someone from the Political Science department," she said.

She said that, in addition, Dixon was chosen because he will teach a course about 1984 in the fall.

Hart to speak here next week

By KAREN WALLACE
Staff Writer

Texas A&M will greet Democratic Presidential candidate Gary Hart on April 27.

Hart, who will be in town for a little more than an hour, will speak at 12:30 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium as a part of Political Forum's attempts to let Texas A&M students meet the presidential candidates.

Last semester, Democratic candidates Jesse Jackson and George McGovern visited the campus.

Kevin Brannon, chairman of Political Forum, says he still is trying to get Mondale to come.

"Hart has a lot to gain by coming to A&M because of his

young appeal," Brannon said.

"But Mondale represents the traditional Democrat."

Brannon said it will be a while before he knows if Mon-

dale will come.

"It took weeks and months to get Hart," he said. "It will be no sooner than a week before we find out."



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THURSDAY, 9 PM, Maundy Thursday Communion Service with the Rite of Footwashing (optional—wear appropriate footwear if you intend to participate) and the Stripping of the Altar in preparation for the continuation of the service the next day.

FRIDAY, 9PM, Tenebrae Service (a Service of Darkening Remembering the Death of our Lord) continues the Triduum Service that began on Thursday evening as noted above.

EASTER, 4 AM, The Easter Vigil Service is the completion of the Tenebrae Service of Good Friday. It is an ancient service of anticipating and celebrating the return of light from darkness, the Resurrection of our Lord.

EASTER, 6:30 AM, An Easter Breakfast will follow the Easter Vigil.

EASTER, 9:15 and 10:45 AM, Easter Worship with Holy Communion.

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