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Orientation helps ease transition

By JUDY OLIVER
Reporter

About 5,000 freshmen so far have attended the summer orientation conferences which are held over the summer.

The conferences help freshmen make the transition from high school to college. New students are familiarized with the campus and are introduced to the traditions and student activities at Texas A&M. The freshmen meet with student leaders, deans and faculty members to ask questions about academic work and student life.

Credit by examination is offered the day before a conference. Tests are given in biology, chemistry, English, mathematics, modern languages and physics.

The first day of the conference begins at 7:45 a.m. with a welcome program, including presentations by the Corps of Cadets and the honor program. The parents have a program of their own, which is held simultaneously.

Assistant student affairs director Bill Kibler says parents are encouraged to attend the conferences. They meet with academic deans to learn about academic life at the University. They discuss the meaning of honor student, scholastic probation and grade point ratio.

Next on the agenda is a student life presentation for students who will not be in the Corps and their parents. The presentation involves a slide show with an introduction to various student services, Fish Camp, housing, intramurals, counseling, health center, shuttle bus, police, and Memorial Student Center services and student organizations.

A program for students who plan to enter the Corps of Cadets and

their parents is held simultaneously with the student life presentation.

Tables are set up in the Exhibit Hall of Rudder Center where students and parents can pick up information about various student activities, services and housing.

After visiting the information booths parents attend a program on parent-student relationships, as well as University disciplinary policies, financial aid, insurance and security on and off campus. At the same time students are split into on-and off-campus groups.

The on-campus students learn about policies dealing with residence halls as well as receive information about such things as what to bring and how room assignments work. The off-campus students are given information on leases, security, shuttle bus, budgeting and roommate

At the end of the day students and parents meet with a dean to discuss academic material before registering the next morning.

A peer adviser program in the evening features an informal meeting with student volunteers who answer questions about campus life, traditions and student activities.

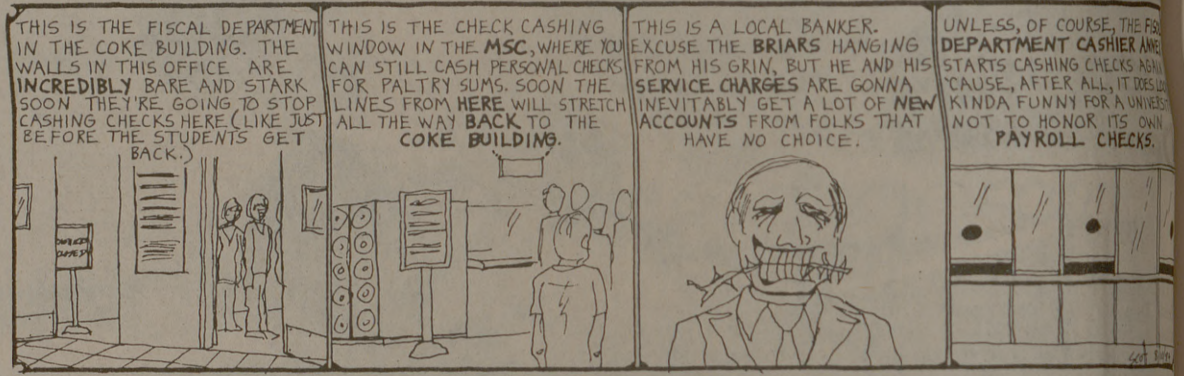
Later in the evening a traditions program prepared by cadets is presented for students and parents. Topics discussed are Texas A&M Muster, Silver Taps, midnight yell practice and other traditions such as standing during football games.

The night ends with a mixer at DeWare Field House for the freshmen. It is sponsored by the senior class.

On the second day students meet with academic advisers to plan their fall schedules and then register.

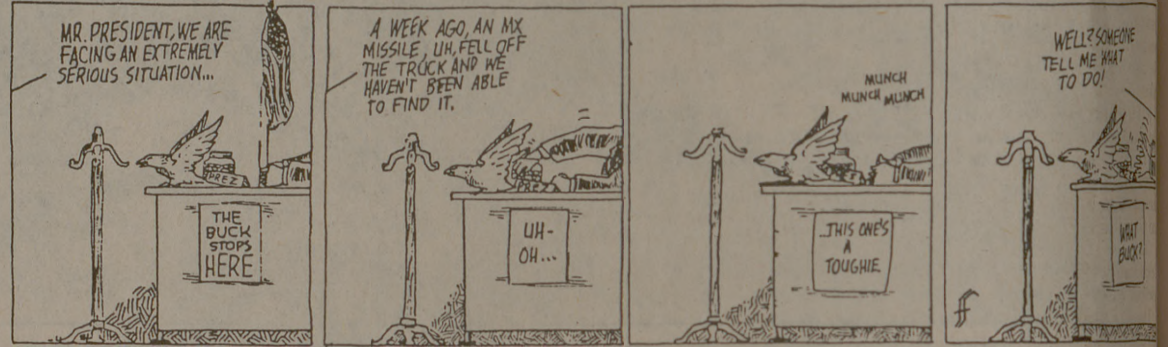
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Job act helps fund jobs for local youths, adults

By JUDY OLIVER
Reporter

Brazos and six other counties in the area recently received \$698,709 in state funds under the Job Training Partnership Act.

The act provides job training programs for economically disadvantaged and handicapped Texans.

The Brazos Valley program is divided into two parts — one for young people seeking summer jobs and one for workers looking for per-

manent jobs. The youth program finds summer employment for 14- to 21-year-olds. Applicants are screened for eligibility and then matched to jobs. The job must be with a public organization, not a political, religious or private one.

Employment and training director Ramona Benson says one of the biggest job sites could be Texas A&M University.

"The University has not been

tapped as much as it should have been," Benson says.

Only three University departments now are employing workers through the program: soil and crop sciences, chemistry, and biology.

Benson says the program provides free labor for the employer. She explains that employers receive reimbursement for the workers' salaries from federal funds. At the same time, the youths gain work experience as well as pay.

Benson says many of the applicants are 14-year-olds, but many companies will not hire them because of child labor laws. These young applicants thus are the most difficult to place. A total of 185 youths were enrolled in the program this summer.

The second part of the program is for persons who are seeking permanent employment. Walt Baker, local manager of the Texas Employment Commission, says it is presently ac-

cepting applications and screening the applicants for eligibility.

The commission negotiates with employers for on-the-job training contracts. During a three-to-five month training period the employer is reimbursed 50 percent of the workers' wages.

"The program provides persons with a chance at work when, otherwise, the employer wouldn't have the financial resources," Baker says.

What's up

Monday
YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF TEXAS A&M: will meet at 6 p.m. in 104 Bolton to discuss fall organization.

Protestors are 'hippies, Yippies'

United Press International

TYLER — Calling protesters expected for the Republican National Convention in Dallas "hippies, Yippies and Dykes on Bikes," Texas GOP Party Chairman George Strake Thursday urged unity at the convention.

Strake, in Tyler to address a Rotary Club gathering, commented about the convention during a news conference preceding his speech.

"It's important that we have a harmonious convention," Strake said. "It's important that things go smoothly and from what I know, the

reception in Dallas has been mar-

ous. "If we can just keep the hippies, Yippies and Dykes on Bikes and the other Mondale supporters at bay, then we'll be in good shape," Strake said.

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