

Warped

by Scott McCullar



In Advance

Science fiction writer to give presentation

By KIRSTEN DIETZ  
Staff Writer

Steve Gould, a Bryan science fiction writer and Hugo Award nominee, will read some of his fiction at 7:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder today.

He also will give a presentation, but has not decided on the topic. The reading and presentation are sponsored by Memorial Student Center Cepheid Variable.

Gould was nominated for the Hugo Award for his short story

"Rory," which was published in the April 1984 edition of Analog magazine.

Science fiction fans elect the Hugo Award winner at the World Science Fiction Convention. The convention will be Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 in Melbourne, Australia.

Since 1953, Hugo Award winners have included Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke and Harlan Ellison.

Gould is working on a novel called "The Glass Helm," which he says examines what education

does to keep civilization intact.

"Mental Blocks," a short story set at a university, will be published in the July issue of Amazing magazine. Gould says the story concerns a fantasy resulting from a graduate student's psychology experiment.

Three of Gould's stories have been published by Analog and Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine.

Gould, chairman of Aggie Con VI in 1976, attended Texas A&M from 1973-78 and 1981-84.

Atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair to discuss 'Freedom From Religion' Tuesday night

By ANN CERVENKA  
Staff Writer

Atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, famous for winning a 1963 Supreme Court case which helped eliminate prayer from public schools, will discuss "Freedom From Religion" Tuesday.

O'Hair has been politically active since childhood. As a member of the American Atheist Center, she has been involved in almost 30 suits in an effort to separate church and state. O'Hair has opposed the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance, "In God We Trust" on currency, and prayer on space flights. However, she lost all the suits.

O'Hair said that as a United States citizen, her duty is to change anything that is detrimental to the Bill of Rights.

"I am constantly amazed that people are so full of apathy," she said in a phone interview Friday. "We know that it might be rough-going, but we can use a big case to educate the people."

O'Hair said she has believed in three things for as long as she can remember: women's rights, politics and atheism.

As a child, she read the Bible from cover to cover.

"I rejected it because one part of the Bible contradicted the other," she said. "It was repugnant to me."

She said she found the Old Testament full of ugliness, hatred and brutality.

"I think that the New Testament is much worse," she said.

Although Jesus Christ is projected as a loving person, "that is such a lie," O'Hair said.

"Jesus Christ is a despicable person if he is viewed objectively," she said. "Jesus Christ in reality invented hell."

"Anyone who disagrees with him is confined to a wretched existence after death for a millennium of years."

O'Hair said because the Bible passages are read in fragments rather than as a whole, few people challenge them.

"We feel that if the Bible was objectively read at the junior high school level with a scientific examination, the Bible would be abandoned by every youngster who comes across it," she said.

O'Hair said the idea of salvation is that one can overcome death by accepting Jesus Christ as his personal savior.

"This is bizarre," she said.

The sin of Adam and Eve cannot be imputed to the next generation, just as Jesus cannot impute goodness to people, she said.

"We're all our own man," she said. "I didn't eat the apple."

As an atheist, O'Hair does not believe in God.

"An atheist is simply a person who is without theism," she said.

Several years ago William Murray, O'Hair's son and the plaintiff in the court case that helped to outlaw prayer in public schools, became an evangelist.

However, O'Hair said she is not concerned with his conversion because atheists have a different view of their children than Christians do.

"I simply don't get into it," she said. "I reared my children as best as I could rear them. Whatever they do in their adult life is their game."

Because Murray has given numerous speeches, she is used to opposition. "Students will be students," she said. "Nothing would surprise me."

The program is sponsored by Memorial Student Center Great Issues and will be in Rudder Auditorium on Tuesday at 8 p.m. Admission is \$1.

Center got the idea from other universities.

"We've gotten good response from the property owners," she said. "We hope the fair will become a regular event."

Palubicki said the fair is not meant to recommend where students should live.

"We are trying to provide information to help students become wise consumers," she said.

Information about shuttle buses, furniture rental, utilities and legal issues will be available. Door prizes, including a color television and calculators, will be given away.

Fair to show off-campus housing options

By ANN CERVENKA  
Staff Writer

Off-Campus Aggies and the Off-Campus Center will sponsor a housing fair Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Rudder Exhibit Hall.

About 30 property owners from Bryan and College Station will be on hand with information about their properties.

Stephanie Palubicki, coordinator of the Off-Campus Center, said now is the prime time that students look for housing.

"The housing fair is an effective way for students to look at different property options," she said.

Many students who move off campus for the first time are overwhelmed by the number of housing options.

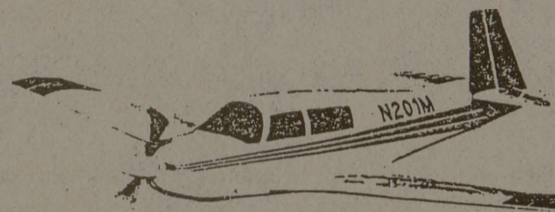
"By putting everything in front of them, it gives them the chance to compare several different properties on the spot," Palubicki said.

Because of the housing abundance, the managers are in competition for tenants and are forced to offer good deals. Students should be aware of the options, and "comparative shop" with the managers and owners, she said.

Texas A&M has never had a housing fair, but the Off-Campus

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April 16

7:30 P.M.

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G. ROLLIE WHITE COLISEUM

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Rudder Exhibit Hall

Tuesday, April 16

11a.m.-4p.m.

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If unable to attend call

Jody 260-3563  
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