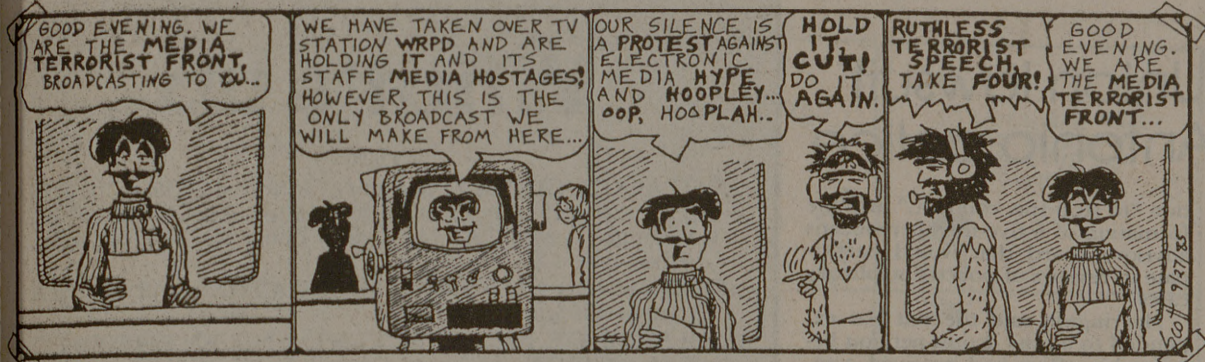


Warped

by Scott McCullar



MSC Hospitality providing 'friendly service' for guests

By JAMES FLOREZ
Reporter

Memorial Student Center Hospitality's reception and tour service is more than just cake servers and bus drivers. They're "a friendly service," says Pauline Cura, Hospitality reception director.

"I provide people," she says. "We do more than just serve food. We mix and mingle with the guests and meet the guest of honor and try to make them feel at home."

"We try to give them a good impression of our school. That's why they call us Hospitality."

"I work mainly with all the campus organizations," she said. "But we also do receptions for the administration and for the community outside A&M."

Kim Wallace, coordinator of Hospitality's administrative receptions, says she is also in the "people" business.

"We don't organize the receptions," Wallace says. "We provide

hosts for them. Last week, for example, we hosted a reception for the Rhodes scholars who were here on campus. We also serve the President's box at the home football games, as well as hosting the buffet before the game."

Cura says if a group comes on campus, such as an orchestra, Hospitality can also host a reception for it.

Cura says all members of Hospitality are encouraged to attend an etiquette workshop.

"We have a guest speaker, who is an expert in manners and etiquette, come in and give a workshop every year," Cura says. "We also have punch and a cake so that they (the members) can practice serving."

In addition to the reception service, Hospitality also provides tours of the A&M campus tailored to fit each group's or individual's need.

"We can do any type of tour, from the Board of Regents to the whole campus in general," says Jim Hart, Hospitality's tours director.

Hart says most tours are given to parents' groups.

"We give a lot of tours to mothers' clubs and parents groups on Parents' Day," Hart says.

Hart says he also can arrange bus tours of the campus with A&M Bus Operations.

Like the reception hosts, the tour guides also attend a workshop.

"We don't try to teach them about the campus — everyone pretty well knows about all the traditions," Hart says. "We try to bring out some of the lesser-known trivia and teach them how to present it in a meaningful way."

Both the reception and tour services are free of charge and are open to all campus and A&M-affiliated organizations.

Cura says she requires at least a two week notice for receptions, and Hart, depending on the size of the tour, requires 10 day notice.

Travis County officials study zoo proposal

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Travis County commissioners have told supporters of establishing a zoo that putting a \$25 million zoo bond proposal on the Nov. 5 ballot would be premature.

The commissioners said they support the concept of building a zoo but indicated that they would feel more comfortable holding a non-binding referendum Nov. 5 to gauge public interest.

If voters respond favorably, a vote on the general obligation bonds could be taken next year.

County Clerk Doris Shropshire said Tuesday is the last day the commissioners can decide if the zoo referendum will be included in the November general election.

Number of Hispanics elected in U.S. rising

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hispanics held 3,202 elective offices this year, a 2 percent increase over 1984 and a continuation of an increase that began in 1980, according to the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials.

Dr. Harry Pachon, executive director of the group, said in a news release, "Figures like these demonstrate that Hispanic political power has moved from a potential to an emerging reality."

NALEO said there are 1,475 Hispanic elected officials Texas. In 1984, Texas elected 48 Hispanics, more than any other state.

The group said 15 percent of the Hispanic elected officials are women.

After the 1984 elections, Texas and New Mexico had elected more Hispanics while California and New York kept the same number, the

group said. Fewer Hispanics held office in Arizona and Colorado.

New York, California and Texas have the largest Hispanic populations, but New York has the lowest number of Hispanic elected officials, the group said. New York has 65 elected officials.

Hispanics hold no seats in the U.S. Senate, but there are 11 congressmen, one governor, four state executives, 115 state legislators, 292 county officials, 1,041 municipal officials, 527 judicial or law enforcement officials, 143 mayors and 1,212 members of local school boards who are Hispanic.

"These numbers are all the more remarkable when we consider that 40 percent of the Latino population was under the age of 18 in 1980 and that one out of three adults in the Latino community are legal resident aliens who are not yet citizens and not eligible to vote," Pachon said.

State employees suing Texas prison system

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A state employees' union is suing the Texas prison system over an administrative directive that bans the solicitation of new members on prison property.

The lawsuit contends that the Texas State Employees Union was discriminated against in a July 23 directive from Lane McCotter, director of the Texas Department of Corrections.

Eliseo Medina, the union's organizing coordinator, said the prison

system permits solicitation of employees on prison property for charities and for expressions of sympathy to fellow employees, but not for union representation.

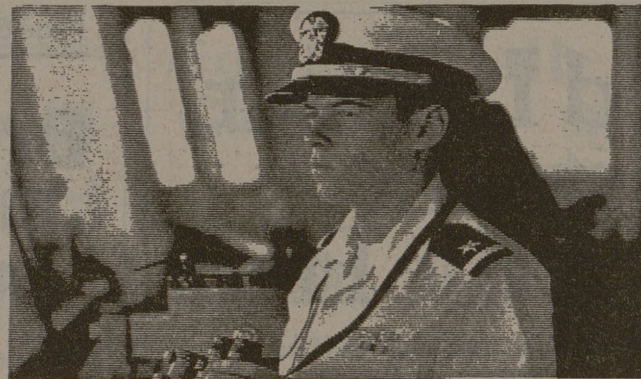
"TSEU does not object to solicitations by charities or for gifts for employees," Medina said. "What we object to is the prohibition on union solicitation."

He also charged that it is "disgraceful that TDC administrators should be spending taxpayer money for union busting."

The directive said employees could solicit union membership and that the right to solicit "will be protected by allocating a portion of the employee bulletin board for notices."

"However, other distributions of literature or solicitations by an employee are prohibited anywhere else on the TDC premises," it said.

Since the directive was issued, the lawsuit said, prison employees engaged in union activities have been forced to cancel a meeting that was to be held on prison property.



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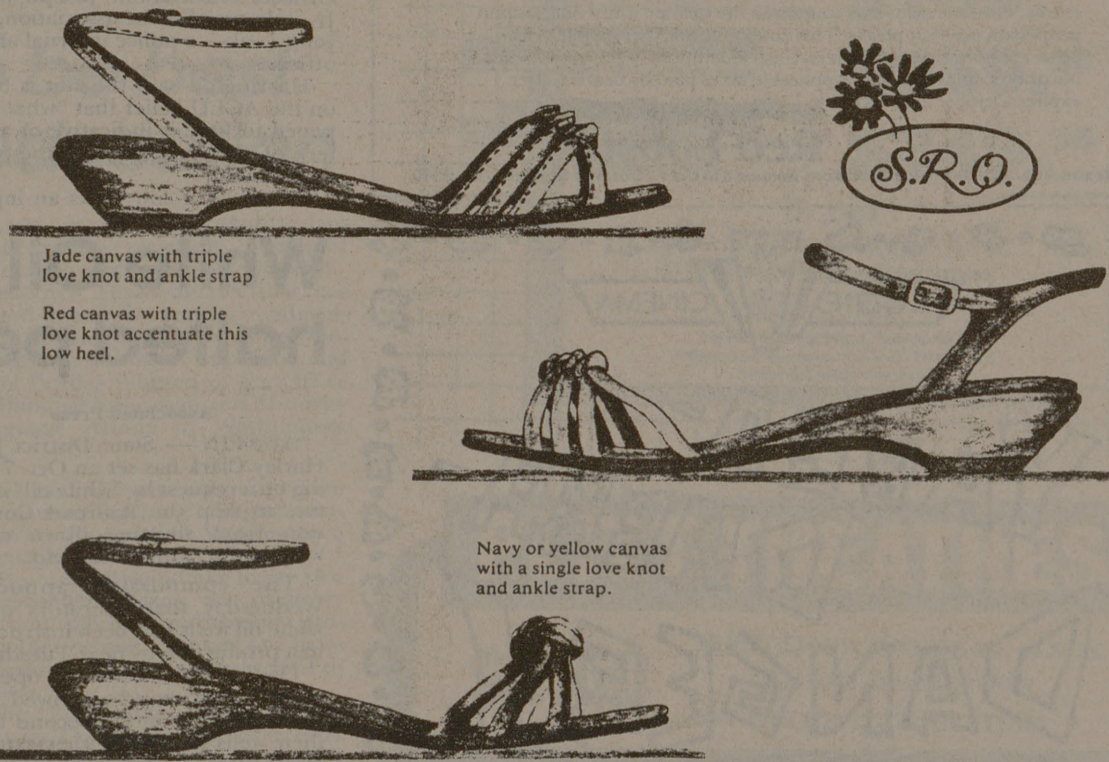
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