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A&M to join in teleconference focusing on world food policy

By Janice Riggs
Reporter

The MSC Student Conference on National Affairs will commemorate World Food Day by fighting world hunger on both the international and local fronts.

Texas A&M will participate in a nationwide teleconference focusing on world food policy Oct. 16, World Food Day, while the Corps of Cadets and residence-hall students end a week-long food drive competition that will benefit local needy families, said Karen Telschow, A&M food drive coordinator.

The teleconference will be held in Washington D.C., and will be carried via satellite to many stations across the United States, including A&M, Telschow said. It will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. and Nobel Peace Prize winner and A&M professor Dr. Norman Borlaug will speak to the conference. Borlaug is noted for his work with the hungry.

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization first recognized this day on October 16, 1981, in an attempt to help the hunger-stricken Third World nations.

"I thought hunger really was a problem," Telschow said. "Bryan-College Station is just as much a part of the world as any other place and if you think we're having problems feeding Ethiopia, we're also having problems here."

Telschow believes hunger doesn't have a geographic location — whether in Ethiopia or Brazos County, starving people need to eat.

"If we're going to discuss all of this during the teleconference then we need to take care of home as well," Telschow said.

The 2,200 members of the Corps of Cadets and the 8,000 residence-hall students will be having a food raising competition Monday through Oct. 16, she said.

The food raised will be delivered to the Brazos Food Bank for distribution.

"Students spend a lot of money drinking beer and partying, and that's all right," Telschow said, "but if we could get each on-campus student to buy a dollar's worth of food, that's \$10,200. That's a lot of money and that's a lot of food."

Brent Boyd, Corps operations officer, said the Corps will compete

Churches, residents aim to fight world hunger with A&M 10K walk

By Leslie Guy
Reporter

Brazos Valley residents Sunday will take a few steps to help relieve world hunger by participating in a 10-kilometer walk around the Texas A&M campus.

CROP Walk, or the Church Rural Overseas Program, is sponsored by Church World Service.

It raises money to provide emergency relief, agricultural development, medical and health relief and educational programs worldwide, said Ray Oakley, United Campus Ministry program director and CROP Walk organizer.

Registration will be at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Anderson Park in College Station. The walk will begin at 2 p.m.

Twenty-five percent of the money raised from the local CROP walk will be given to the Brazos Church Pantry for local hunger projects and relief, Oakley said.

The pantry comprises 18 local churches and distributes food to the hungry in the local area.

CROP coordinator and local physician Dr. Terry Jones said CROP is a community-wide effort to feed the local hungry and to show the world's hungry that it cares.

Participants need to get sponsor sheets from Oakley, Jones, the A&M

Presbyterian Church or the Wesley Foundation at the Methodist Student Center.

Sponsors for participants will pledge specific amounts per kilometer.

"We would like this to be an exciting time for students to extend

"We would like this to be an exciting time for students to extend themselves for the community and do something to make it a better place."

— Ray Oakley, CROP walk organizer

themselves for the community and do something to make it a better place," Oakley said.

Oakley encourages groups to participate together, and in order to give them incentive, United Campus Ministry will give its Student Achievement Awards to the campus ministry, the fraternity and the sorority which have the most participants.

For a group to participate, a representative needs to collect all the

sponsor sheets for the group, he said.

The project is interdenominational, but being a Christian is not a requirement, he said, because the program is designed to get community involvement and give relief where it is necessary.

"Our goal is \$10,000," he said. "There is more, that is more for the people who can use it. We are hoping to build support from year to year."

Carol Kolsti, assistant director for Texas Church World Service-CWS in Austin, said 60 CROP events are being planned in the state this year. Their goal is to raise about \$400,000 statewide, she said.

"CWS (Church World Service) is a cooperative agency of 31 Protestant and Orthodox communities organized to meet human needs in more than 70 countries through programs of social and economic development, disaster and emergency response and service to refugees," she said.

This isn't the first year CWS has sponsored a local CROP walk.

Last year 125 walkers participated in Brazos County and about \$30,000 was raised.

The group hopes to double the number of walkers this year, she said.

The food bank feeds 500 families a week, she said.

Serena George, director of operations for the Brazos Food Bank, said the food will be inventoried and then distributed to the Red Cross and church pantries.

"They, in turn, will deliver the food to 2,575 needy families in Brazos County," George said.

The food the people want the most is dinner items like macaroni and cheese, stews, soups, peanut butter and jelly, George said. She also desires dry goods like pancake mixes where water is the only added ingredient.

Investigator denies scaring witnesses in Brandley case

GALVESTON (AP) — A Texas Ranger accused of intimidating witnesses in the Clarence Brandley case denied those accusations Wednesday and produced a long-forgotten tape of an interview with a key witness who implicated Brandley as the suspected killer.

Texas Ranger Wesley Styles, the leadoff witness for the state at an evidentiary hearing which could lead to a third trial for death-row inmate Brandley, denied making threats to Brandley's co-workers to build a case against the former janitor.

Fellow janitors Henry "Ickie" Peace and John Sessum have told of being afraid and of being intimidated by Styles, who was brought in to investigate the Aug. 23, 1980 rape-slaying of Cheryl Ferguson at Conroe High School.

When Montgomery County Assistant District Attorney Rick Stover asked Styles when he had resorted to threats against witnesses, Styles said, "I did not — not to any of those guys.

"I had the feeling they were cooperating. I felt as though they were telling the truth — exactly what they did and what occurred."

Styles also produced a tape of his original interview with Peace on Aug. 30, 1980 — a week after the Ferguson slaying — a tape he said he could not find until only a few days before the Brandley evidentiary hearing began two weeks ago.

On the tape, Peace describes how he and Brandley searched the high school for Ferguson, who had been reported missing, how he found the body in a storage area and how he later believed that Brandley meant for him to find the girl's body when Brandley instructed him to canvass the area again.

Peace said police were summoned and he later talked to officers at the scene before leaving.

Prosecutors said they introduced the tape into evidence because Peace sounded very relaxed and friendly

on the tape — not like someone who was fearful.

Brandley's attorney, Mike DeGeurin, said he was troubled that Styles' activities with Peace before the recording was made were unsubstantiated and that the presence of the tape, which Styles used to make his police reports, was not disclosed to Brandley's trials.

"I think this is going to backfire on the state," DeGeurin said.

Styles said a discussion with prosecutors a few weeks ago jogged his mind that he had a tape of the Peace interview among several hundred in the attic of his Huntsville home. The tapes are among files of disposed cases, he said.

DeGeurin said, "I have problems with this tape, how it's come to light. I smell a fish. It's so fishy how it's come to light. I don't have the opportunity to determine if it was doctored in any way. And the chain of custody is suspect."

Prison houses in Houston stir emotions

HOUSTON (AP) — Two new prison halfway houses, approved for Houston by the state Board of Pardons and Paroles, received a mixed reception from residents and community leaders.

The two new homes, which would house 56 convicts, were among 28 statewide selected for the board on Tuesday.

Altogether, eight facilities in Houston were approved, among them six existing facilities, for which contracts with private charitable or community organizations were renewed. The halfway houses will provide room for 794 convicts and ex-convicts.

"It's alarming that Houston's share of a disproportionately large number of halfway houses is being funded," said Rep. Larry Evans, D-Houston. "I see no justification for making Houston a dumping ground."

The two new facilities would be located in Evans' district.

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