

Black Awareness Committee focuses on cultural education

By PAM MOOMAN
Of The Battalion Staff

Understanding foreign cultures is an important part of an education, and the MSC Black Awareness Committee is determined to increase students' knowledge of African-American culture.

"We are principally here to provide students, staff, faculty and the Bryan-College Station community with programs to inform them about African-American culture," Florence Rice, program adviser for the committee, said.

Rice said the committee members organize and implement the programs so they can get hands-on experience.

"They can carry this experience with them into the corporate world and their private lives," she said.

The committee changes goals every year, Rice said, and it has four main goals for 1990.

One is to educate A&M students, staff, faculty and the community about the diversity and vitality of African-American culture. The committee wants to create a forum to ad-

dress issues that affect African-Americans at national and local levels. Functioning within a set budget also is important to the committee.

Rice said the main goal of the group is to provide an area for de-

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Committee

velopment of various leadership skills to assist students in life. The committee works to increase leadership through specialized workshops for members, she said.

The committee also puts on and participates in various campus pro-

grams. For example, it is co-sponsoring the Boys Choir of Harlem with MSC OPAS. The performance will be Feb. 15 in Rudder Auditorium.

The committee is hosting its own program Feb. 27 called "We Are The Dream." Dr. Albert Broussard, A&M history department head, and David Smith, manager of a Ford Motor Company dealership, will be the featured speakers.

Rice said interest in the Black Awareness Committee is increasing. Questions can be directed to Rice at 845-7603. General meetings are every other Wednesday. The next two meetings are 7 p.m. Feb. 14 in 410 Rudder and 7 p.m. Feb. 28 in 302 Rudder.

A&M also has a number of other African-American student organizations. They are: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Black Graduate Students' Association; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity; National Society of Black Engineers; National Association of Black Accountants; Texas A&M Association of Black Journalists; and Voices of Praise.

Station airs special programs KAMU-FM recognizes African-American artists

By TWILA WADDY
Special to The Battalion

To celebrate Black History Month, KAMU-FM will air a series of unfamiliar songs by African-American artists beginning Sunday through Feb. 14.

Each night a different category of music ranging from blues to gospel will be played starting at 8 p.m., Kayonne Riley, KAMU program director, said.

"Every year we do something," Riley said. "This year we focused on musical culture. I have heard the comment from different people that we do not do enough programming for the black community here. That is why I am trying to do music this month."

The program, which comes from National Public Radio, includes blues and dance tunes by John Cephas that will be played the first night.

On other nights, Black Worksongs of the Sea, music from the Gospel Brass Band Sounds of Harlem's United House of Prayer, and Black Mardi Gras Indians

of New Orleans and Black Creole music will be aired, Riley said.

"What I think is good about it is that it represents the real culture that has grown up in the United States," she said.

In the past, KAMU has aired specials including a program to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. KAMU did a two-hour special that contained music by American composers dedicated to King. This program also was done by the National Public Radio, Riley said.

Riley is interested in any suggestions from the public. "If there are members of the black community here at A&M that want to do something, I encourage them to come to talk to me, because I am really open to addressing this," Riley said.

KAMU is a listener-supported radio station, and is licensed by A&M. It plays classical and jazz, and tries to program different things to interest the international community like International Radio Hour. This program is produced by the International Students Organization, she said.

Asia review

(Continued from page 1)

DeLeon, Hilary Dowling and Shari Jenkins.

Reporters receive their stories from wire services which are based out of China and Japan, Hicks said.

Taggard, a senior English major, said reporters will become their own regional specialists and put together their own story packages. They receive help from the International Student Association with name pronunciations and in finding experts at A&M who can add more information to the stories, she said.

Hicks said the program will be in English and the reporters will cover stories of both domestic and international significance. He said coverage

will include East Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia, but will focus on regional coverage.

"Coverage will not be limited to political and economic developments — people and places will also make the news," Hicks said. "The 15-minute program will be divided into several segments that will be separated with brief examples of Asian music as to match the pace of the Asian N.P.R. news source."

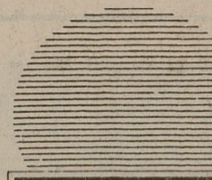
Other than news reported by volunteers, Asia Weekly Review has a regular weekly review calendar that provides information on upcoming events that are of interest to Asian students and faculty, Riley said. She said everyone is encouraged to send

information about upcoming activities.

"At the end of the semester the news program will be evaluated, but we hope to get suggestions on how it's running from listeners, especially Asian students and faculty," Riley said.

Hicks said the program is part of A&M's new commitment to Asia, which includes the establishment of the Institute for Pacific Asia two years ago and the development of an A&M campus in Japan.

"With the dawn of the 'Pacific Century' before us, we must broaden our understanding of the region and its people in order to actively participate in the future," Hicks said.



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On Campus Interviews:
February 16

Schedules for:

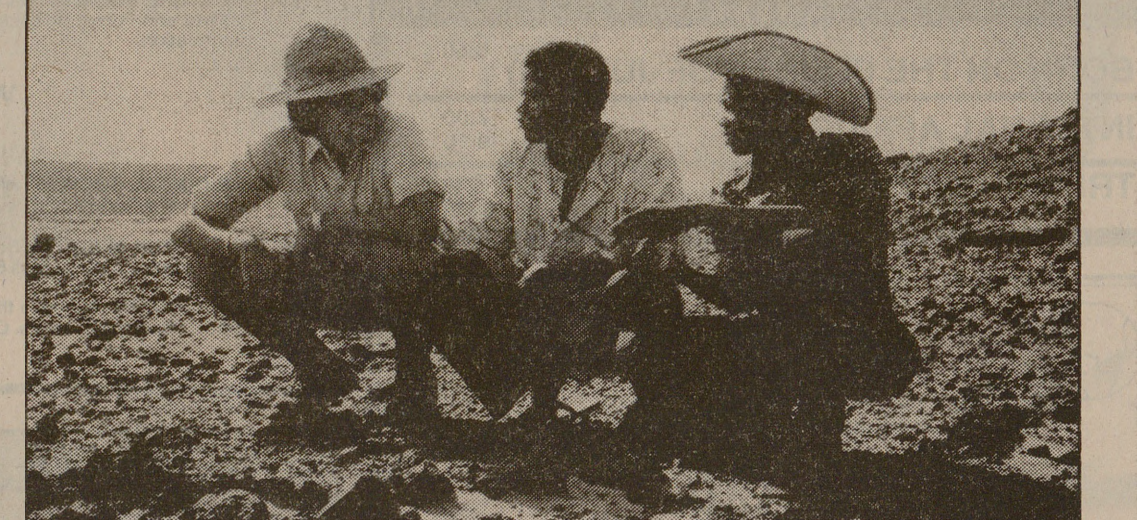
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INFO TABLE
Feb. 6, 7, 8
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Student Union

FILM SHOWING
Wednesday, Feb. 7
MSC 231

INTERVIEWS
Thursday, Feb. 8
Career Planning/Placement Ctr
10th Floor, Rudder Tower

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