



Kevin Carreathers

PHILAN M. EBENHACK

Director broadens student perspectives

By Terri Welch

"Committed to diversity."

The importance and the meaning behind these words are a serious part of one man's life. It is his dedication to the ideal behind the phrase that has made him an important part of both the administration and student body of Texas A&M University.

Kevin Carreathers, director of the department of multicultural services, says providing a broad perspective of cultures to the A&M family is the first step in commitment to diversity.

"This can be done by offering more specific programs for those who want to learn more and have a greater commitment to diversity and being able to have a campus that respects these programs," he says.

Carreathers grew up on college campuses. His father spent his days in the area of student services, and it is from these roots that Carreathers has mustered his desire to help students.

"Knowing how important it is to have a black mentor on a white campus," he said, "I knew I wanted to be in a position of multicultural services."

Carreathers graduated in 1979 from North Texas State University with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and he received his mas-

ter's degree in counseling and guidance in August 1980 from Prairie View A&M.

Starting out in the department of student activities at Texas A&M in 1983, Carreathers worked there for five years and now has been in the multicultural services department for three and a half years.

This job takes 24 hours, 7 days a week. Carreathers says he spends a lot of time with students in both social settings and family settings.

A typical day ranges from talking to a number of students about personal and academic matters, attending various meetings across campus, and laying the ground work on multicultural issues in other areas.

"It is the students and top-level administration that keeps me here," Carreathers says of A&M. "Dr. Mobley and his administration have been extremely supportive in the things we're doing."

Carreathers says the students at A&M could use the department more, especially Anglo students.

Concerning the location of the multicultural center, he says, "I would like the department to be in the center of campus life. If that is the MSC, then I'd like it to be there." The office is located in Room 148 of the MSC.

Carreathers wants the students of A&M to know that the changing demographics of this country, and in particular this state, are of great importance to diversity.

"This is probably the number one reason that people from all ethnic backgrounds will have to come together as one to make this a great nation and great state," he said.

People working together in all areas need to have respect for the cultures that make up the nation, Carreathers says. He feels this idea can begin within students.

Aside from work, Carreathers has a lot going on in his life.

He pledged the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha in the spring of 1976 at North Texas State University, and says his father and family members also belong to the fraternity.

He is not married and enjoys spending his free time visiting with family and friends. Carreathers plays raquetball, likes to bowl and listens to jazz music.

"I also like to watch my 13-year-old nephew grow and develop into a young man," he says.

For the last ten years of his service, Carreathers says, he would like to work at a smaller university in the same position dealing with students.



A&M Club saddles up for Houston convention

By Lisa Young

Have you ever had the thrill of racing a wild horse, working a rodeo or hog-tying a calf? If you're a member of Texas A&M's Saddle and Sirloin Club, then your answer is probably yes.

Texas A&M's Saddle and Sirloin Club is an organization affiliated with the National Block and Bridle Club and sponsored by the animal science department. Club president Stacy Sanders says it is one of the oldest, largest and most active clubs on A&M's campus.

"Our club was first organized in 1920, and we now have around 350 members," Sanders says. "Besides the Corps, the Saddle and Sirloin Club has the greatest membership and is one of the oldest organizations on campus," he says.

Every year, the National Block and Bridle Club holds its national convention in conjunction with the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Show, Sanders says.

This year, Texas A&M's Saddle and Sirloin Club has the honor of hosting the national convention in Houston, he says. "It's really an honor and privilege to host the national convention," he says.

Prior to the convention, A&M students get the opportunity to participate in the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Show, Sanders says. "Students get the chance to go to Houston to help run various shows for a week at a time."

Sanders says college students will be coming from all across the nation to attend the convention. "Students will be coming from as far away as Bangor, Maine and Washington state to attend the convention," he says.

Sanders says the conventions are designed to educate animal science students on new developments in their fields. "We have scheduled guest speakers to discuss everything from meat export and trade to embryo transfers," he says.

The students will not only get a lecture on animal science technology, but see it at work on various farms across the Southwest.

"The club will conduct a tour of farms and ranches in the Southwest region of Texas and in Mexico," Sanders says. "Students will get the opportunity to see the technology and procedures that we learn about and use in everyday farm life."

The convention also promotes the development of leadership qualities in young adults, Sanders says. "Joe Townsend, an A&M professor, will talk about the importance of having good leadership abilities in the business world," he says.

Workshops will be conducted at the convention to promote creative thinking and new ideas, Sanders says. "We try to get clubs to tell everyone about some of the unique things they do as fund raisers."

Sanders says that awards and scholarships are given at the conven-



tion. "Outstanding students, club year-books and scrapbooks are all recognized at the convention," he says. "An outstanding college junior and senior are awarded scholarship money to help them complete their college education."

One of the Saddle and Sirloin Club's main functions is to provide service for the community. The club has participated in blood drives, collected toys for children and helped with the Special Olympics.

The Saddle and Sirloin Club takes a special interest in programs that involve the youth in the Brazos area. Each year the club sponsors the program "Children's Barnyard" to familiarize children with the many types of livestock.

"The 'Children's Barnyard' is a three-day event that brings in children from all over the Brazos County," Sanders says. "The club's members take about 2,500 kids to various live-

stock centers and shows," he says. The Saddle and Sirloin Club works closely with the Bryan High School chapter of Future Farmers of America. "We sponsored three FFA members to go to their national convention," Sanders says.

The animal science department has recently implemented a new program to recruit high school students to A&M. The Aggie Reps go to junior livestock shows to recruit high school students that are interested in furthering their knowledge about animal science, Sanders says.

The Saddle and Sirloin Club believes that the key to its success is to stay involved in the community, Sanders says. "We really try to stay as busy and as involved as we can," he says. "The more people we touch, the more we can share our knowledge about the animal science industry."