

COMA lauds African-Americans

By Tanya Sasser
The Battalion

Black History Month continues to raise awareness of blacks and their accomplishments throughout history, a co-adviser for the Committee on Multicultural Awareness said.

A variety of events have been planned for February as part of Texas A&M's celebration of these accomplishments.

Joellen Newman, co-adviser of COMA, hopes this month's events

Committee celebrates history, culture of blacks in America

will help people appreciate blacks and their contributions to American culture.

"There are a lot of things African-Americans invented that people don't know about," she said. "For example, peanut butter and the gas mask."

Dub Oliver, co-adviser for COMA, hopes appreciation of blacks will continue after the month is over.

"This is a celebration of their history," Oliver said. "Their accomplishments are overlooked or sometimes not realized. I think it

should be a continual process, but Black History Month should help highlight their contributions."

COMA will have a booth at the northeast entrance of the MSC beginning next week. The display honoring a few of the many inventions blacks contributed to society will stand for two weeks.

Also, a video will be shown each Thursday for the remainder of the month as part of the Black History Month video series. This series is sponsored by the Department of Multicultural Services.

Newman said COMA is trying

to organize a "step show" to include the black fraternities and sororities.

"It will be almost like a dance routine where they try to out-do each other with the steps they do," she said.

Newman said COMA will sponsor a showing of "The Long Walk Home" on Feb. 17 in Rudder.

"There wasn't as much turnout as we had hoped for the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration," she said. "I think maybe a lot of people didn't know about it. We hope the turnout for the movie will be better."

A complete list of events planned for Black History Month is available at the Department of Multicultural Services in the MSC.



Rider, horse capture world championship A&M student cuts his way to victory

By Jayme Blaschke
The Battalion

A Texas A&M student will be named World Cutting Horse Champion when the National Cutting Horse Association presents its national awards this weekend at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston.

Jeff Smith, a junior agriculture business major, will receive his award Friday night in the horse arena adjacent to the Astrodome.

The actual competition involves the horse as much as the rider, Smith said. Riders have two and a half minutes to ride into a herd of cattle, and separate a single cow.

Once the cow is separate, the rider leaves the rest of the work to the horse, which keeps the cow from rejoining the herd, he said. Once the cow turns away, the rider is free to go after

another one.

"Usually you separate two to three cattle during your allotted time, while a judge watches," Smith said. "The judge scores you on a scale of 60-80 points, with several penalties thrown in."

"If a cow gets away from you, that's a five point penalty," he said.

"The horse does most of the work, though."

The competition among cutting horse riders is very intense and goes year-round, Smith said. He competed against hundreds of riders from California to Mississippi throughout 1991 to win the World Championship.

"From January 1 to December 31, there are cutting horse shows every weekend all across the country, with people from all states competing," Smith said. "The person with the most victories at the end of the year is the champion."

"Everyone across the country competes ev-

ery week, so if you miss a weekend you're behind, and might not be able to catch up," he said. "Once someone gets ahead of you, he's got an edge."

The sport originated in the old west, when cowboys used the technique to single out sick or injured animals from the main herd, Smith said. Although it is still used on ranches today, competition has become popular.

"A family friend introduced me to it in 1987, and I began competing in 1989," he said. "There isn't a cutting horse club here, because this area's really not that involved in it."

"It's really a word of mouth sport, because the closest professional trainers are in Fort Worth," Smith said. "It's pretty fun though, and a lot of people have been doing it for a long time."

Agency declares 1992 as 'The Year of the Gulf'

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — The Gulf of Mexico may be "America's Sea," but to many Americans it is a forgotten one.

"People don't stop to think about the Gulf of Mexico," said Kerry Kirschner, director of marketing and development at the Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Fla.

"They've heard of New York Harbor and Chesapeake Bay and the Great Lakes," she said, "but for the most part we have pretty much been ignored."

Kirschner hopes to change that perception and win national support for measures to clean up and protect the gulf with a public rela-

tions campaign built on the slogan "America's Sea — Keep it Shining."

He developed the campaign with a \$40,000 planning grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Gulf of Mexico Program to coincide with the designation of 1992 as The Year of the Gulf.

"Hopefully, every year is the year of the gulf," Kirschner told the program's Policy Review Board at a recent meeting in Biloxi.

It may have to be.

Lack of money and a late start could mean parts of the promotional effort will spill over into 1993, said EPA Atlanta Regional

Director Greer Tidwell, the board's co-chairman. Some of it may never happen.

The Policy Review Board has asked federal agencies participating in the gulf program and the five Gulf Coast states to contribute a total of \$1.2 million. Kirschner also has proposed raising private money through corporate sponsors to bring the campaign's budget to more than \$4 million, but 1992 is here already and those dollars are not.

While public relations may appear frivolous compared to other spending priorities, commercial fisherman Dewey Destin believes it may be more helpful than regu-

latory measures that he says are almost impossible to enforce.

"I think a lot of the problem could be solved with a simple change in attitude by the people who live around and work on the gulf: have respect, don't throw the trash overboard, don't throw the stuff off the oil rigs," said Destin, also a city councilman in the Florida Panhandle town named for his family.

Gulf officials hope President Bush will give the campaign national exposure with a public ceremony to kick it off in Feb. or March and that Mexico will participate to make it an international effort.

What's Up

WEDNESDAY

FLORICULTURE, ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE CLUB: General meeting, guest lecture, Robert Taylor from Nortex Nursery. New members welcome, ski trip sign-up deadline. 7 p.m. in 102 Horticulture Building. Call 775-6008 for more information.

CARIBBEAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: Meeting discussing international week and upcoming party. New members welcome. 7 p.m. in the basement of Bizzell Hall West. Call Tim at 754-6745 or Nicholette at 696-7398.

A.S.M.E.: Lunch Speaker Meeting: A presentation on the economy and job market for engineers. 11:30 a.m. in 301 ENPH BLDG (office side).

TAMU RUSSIAN CLUB: General meeting and to talk about ISA project. 6:30 p.m. in 208 ACAD.

PROGRAM FIVE HONOR SOCIETY: General meeting. Everyone who is a Program Five participant is invited to attend and help us plan activities for this semester. 5:30 p.m. in 224 Academic Building. Call Jana Stanley at 696-2666 or Yamoria Miller at 847-2231 for more information.

PRE-LAW SOCIETY: Mr. Joseph Conboy, Associate Dean of Texas Tech School of Law, will be speaking. Everyone welcome! 8:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder. Call Suzie Rampmeier at 776-4266 for more information.

LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL: Club social — bowling and lots of fun! 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Wolfpen Bowling. Call Stacey at 693-1687 for more information.

MICROBIOLOGY SOCIETY: We will discuss upcoming events such as intramural softball, trips to Blue Bell and Messina Hof plus we will have student speakers on research credit! 7 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

A&M MAGIC CLUB: General meeting open to all magical newcomers. 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. in 139 MSC. Call David at 847-2688 for more information.

AIIESEC: General committee meeting. Anyone interested come! 7 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

TAMU DEPT/INKSHED PRESS: Reading by poet Susan Newman, professor at Rice University. 7 p.m. in 150 Blocker. Call Jennifer at 3452 for more information.

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS (SWE): We are having a faculty and student speaker about co-oping and doing ups for helping at the high school conference. Also, don't forget last day to turn in your resumes for the resume file. 6:30 p.m. in 342 Zachry. Call Jennifer at 4159 for more information.

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOLOGY AND HUMANITIES - MUSIC SECTION AND THE OPERA STARK SERIES: Brown Bag Concert - Susan McDonald, classical guitar. 12:30 p.m. in 404 Academic. Call Rebecca Binger at 845-3355 for more information.

TEXAS A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB (TAMSCC): Car Show. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the MSC. Call Bill at 693-8001 for more information. General meeting along with trophies to be awarded for the last Auto Cross. 7 p.m. in 601 Rudder. Call Terry or Casey at 776-6045 for more information.

BRITISH AGGIES: Pool and conversation. If you are interested in British culture or you are from Britain, come on out. Everyone is welcome. 8:30 p.m. at Hornback's Pool Hall. Call Mary Ann at 847-0652 for more information.

TAU KAPPA: General meeting. 8:30 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

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The Battalion

USPS 045-360

The Battalion is published daily except Saturday, Sunday, holidays, exam periods, and when school is not in session during fall and spring semesters; publication is Tuesday through Friday during the summer session. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77840.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. The newsroom phone number is 845-3316. Fax: 845-5408.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editorial board or the contributor, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Texas A&M student body, administrators, faculty or the A&M Board of Regents.

Advertising: For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-5408.

Subscriptions: Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per full year. To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 845-2611.

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Applications Available: Dept. of Multicultural Services - 148 MSC
For more information, call (409) 845-4565.

Application Deadline: Thursday, February 20th by 5:00 pm

CAMP DAY Summer Jobs

Monday, February 17, 1992

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