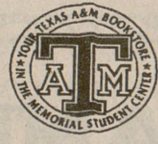
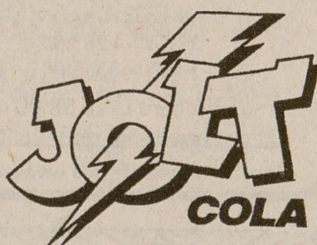


MSC All Night Fair Committee hosts the 1992 Fair

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KTSR 92.1

Ropes course offers physical challenge, teamwork lessons

By Terri Welch and Mark Evans The Battalion

Self discovery can be one of the best ways to learn and apply valuable lessons to life, and you can start the adventure this weekend.

"Venture Dynamics Weekend" promises individuals a chance to make this discovery through participation on the challenge course. Operated by the Outdoor Education Institute, a division of the health and kinesiology department, the challenge (or "ropes") course is a collection of stations which imitate wilderness and survival tests.

"By placing cables in trees in specific arrangements to create physical challenges, the challenge course emphasizes learning based on the philosophy of metaphorical transfer," says Jack Caddell, course coordinator.

Built in 1979, the course has been continually growing and improving with experiences ranging from walking on two suspended cables 20 feet off the ground to lifting a tire over a 20-foot pole.

Thomas Thompson, a junior English major from Dallas explains, "The pumper pole was the hardest thing for me to do. I thought it would be real easy, but when I was standing on top of the pole, I was scared."

More important than the physical aspect are the lessons learned in communication, trust, team-

work, leadership and cooperation, says Caddell.

Thompson agrees and says the course helped him by increasing his self-confidence and teaching him how to work with others.

"The emphasis is on groups - the course is used as a lab," Caddell says. "It is educational in nature, and all the activities are 'challenge by choice.'"

If an individual does not feel comfortable participating in a particular activity, Caddell says it is their responsibility to say no.

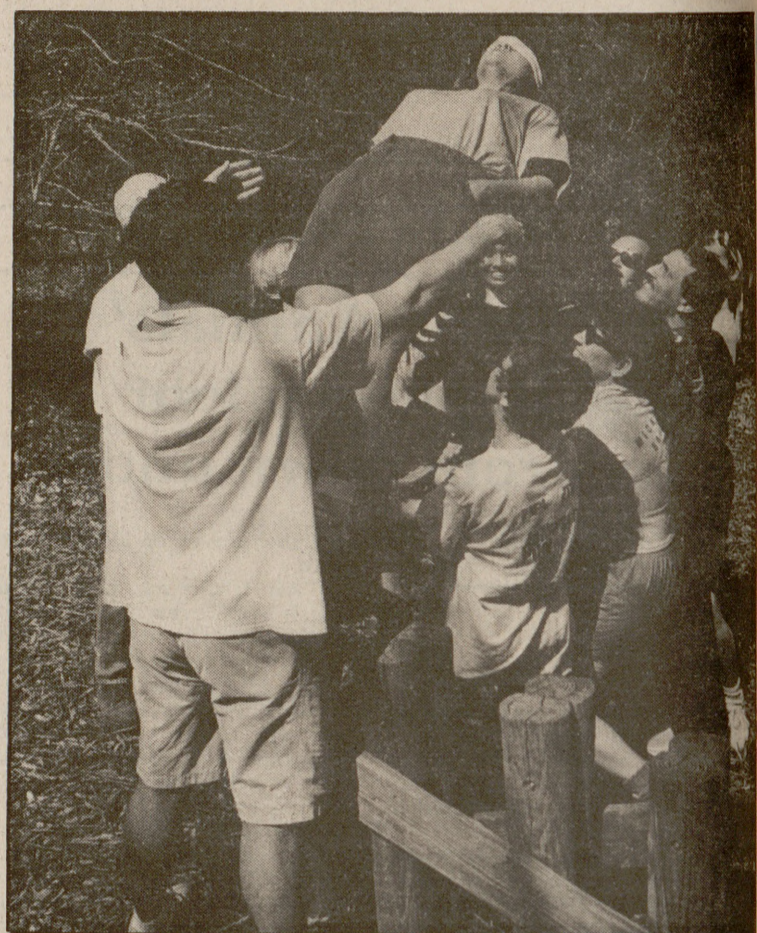
Relating this idea metaphorically, he says, "Saying 'no' in front of friends and peers and being considered a chicken can be very difficult. If we could get more of today's teenagers to say 'no,' we wouldn't have half the problems with them we do today."

Caddell emphasizes the fact that the challenge course does not involve someone standing up in front of the group lecturing, it is the experience of learning and figuring it out on their own.

"It's a totally different approach than sitting in a classroom and being lectured to. They (the instructors) teach you to learn by experience," says Thompson.

"In most classes, you have no interaction with others," says Thompson, "In Venture Dynamics, that's all you do. I felt that the others in my class really cared for me."

Most importantly, Caddell



BILLY MORAN/The Battalion

Marie Slimak, an industrial distribution graduate student, takes a fall of faith while blindfolded Saturday at the outdoor education ropes course.

wants people to know that the course is educational, not solely recreational. There is a difference, he says.

Anyone interested in participating in "Venture Dynamics

Weekend" needs to call Jack Caddell at 845-4574 or come by his office (240 G. Rollie White Coliseum) by 5 p.m. today. The cost is \$35 and includes lunch on Saturday.

Opera House hosts Billy Goat, Miss Molly, Sun-60

By Kevin Robinson The Battalion

The Stafford Opera House will feature a weekend's full of entertainment when Billy Goat and Miss Molly and the Whips make their return to College Station on Thursday and Friday. Saturday will feature the Bryan/College Station debut of Epic folk-rock artists Sun-60.

For those that haven't yet experienced Billy Goat for themselves, Thursday night's show is a must see. These Dallas-based masters of "funkedelia" manage to turn anyplace they play into one of the biggest parties of the year. In the wave of funk acts that toured through town a few years back, Billy Goat stood out from the rest with a mean combination of funk, rap, and sexual celebration.

And while other funk acts from the last few years have either broken up or "advanced" their sound, Billy Goat is still as nasty as they ever wanted to be. Lead singer Mike Dillian still has trouble keeping his clothes on, and dancer Kimasutra (on feet, as their credits read) still struts across the stage with various props, including an African tribal mask and a giant cardboard can of "Cream of Billy Goat Soup."

Friday night the Opera House will feature Houston blues-rockers Miss Molly and the Whips. Miss Molly has been rocking Houston clubs and venues for years and their style has yet to slow down.

On Saturday, Sun-60 makes their first appearance in the Bryan/College Station area. The band's self-titled release on Epic records is a potpourri of folk, blues tinged rock, and a

distinctive flavor.

Sun-60 is the creation of Los Angeles musicians, David Russo and Joan Jones. Developing their style in live performances in a string of L.A. clubs and coffeehouses, singer Jones trained her voice to avoid imitating the styles of several popular female folk performers. While the band admits that musical influences were impossible to avoid in a town like L.A., Sun-60 has perfected their style, including a pocket trumpet occasionally played by Jones.

Sun-60 promises to be one of the more unusual bands to play the Opera House. While the music can't be strictly classified, if the band lives up to the reputation of their debut CD, this should be another band that College Station music fans will not want to miss.

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