

Office space still tight on campus, reports official

By Karen Praslicka
The Battalion

New construction around the MSC is finally finished, and the new office space in the Student Services Building is being filled rapidly; but the assistant manager for the complex says this does not mean an abundance of office space for the rest of campus.

The expansion of the University Center Complex caused placement changes for many departments and offices, and relieved crowding for others. Assistant Manager Dennis Busch, however, said there is not any extra office space available.

"There's pretty much been a domino effect of other offices shifting over to cover that space," he said.

In the YMCA Building and the Pavilion particularly, extra space was needed, Busch said.

"The tenants that shared that space were pretty cramped and crowded," he said.

Office relocations include:

- the athletic department, formerly on the ninth floor of Rudder Tower. The old offices are being renovated for the vice president for finance and administration and his staff.

- the Placement Office, formerly on the tenth floor of Rudder. The old offices are being renovated for the vice president for student services and his staff.

- the Office of School Relations/Admissions Counseling, formerly in room 137 of the Memorial Student Center. The Multicultural Services Office will move there.

- the Twelfth Man Foundation, formerly in a small building near Kyle Field. The George Bush Presidential Library staff has moved into this building.

- the Department of Parking, Transit and Traffic Services was leasing its space in the First American Bank-University Center on University Drive. The department has given up its lease, and will probably continue to use the payment windows in Rudder during the beginning of the semester only.

Busch said the space on the second floor of the Pavilion where some Student Activities offices were located might now be occupied by the Student Financial Aid Office.

Busch said that when planning for the Student Services Building began six years ago, an advisory committee put together a list of what offices it wanted to see in the new building.

"We wanted to bring as many of the student offices as possible over to the complex," he said. "Other offices, which were already in the complex, were crowded and we wanted to relocate them and give them more space."

Some of the offices were reorganized under a different administration, so University officials wanted them housed in the same building, Busch said.



RANDY NICHOLS/The Battalion

Hunter's dance

Ray Torgerson, a sophomore English major and member of the Texas A&M Native American Student Association, performs a hunting dance Tuesday afternoon in the Memorial Student

Center. The Plains Indian "Sneak-Up Dance" models their hunting techniques. The function of NASA is to increase awareness of American Indians and their cultures.

CAMAC plans focus on future at conference

Convention to examine issues affecting Hispanics

By Melody Dunne
The Battalion

Issues affecting the future of the Hispanic community will be discussed at the fifth annual MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture (CAMAC) conference, "Hispanics: What the Future Holds," this Friday and Saturday.

The conference will discuss issues affecting the Hispanic community in business and education. Politics, border issues and Hispanic women in leadership positions also will be addressed.

Michelle Alvarado, co-director for CAMAC, said that she hopes the conference will provide the campus and surrounding community with a better understanding of the Hispanic culture.

"As a leading university, A&M should take time to educate the campus about the different demographic groups," she said.

Conference officials expect to have over 200 delegates attend the conference, representing universities around the state, including the University of Houston and the University of Texas.

U.S. Representative E. "Kika" De La Garza will give the opening speech of the conference, addressing the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Alvarado said this is an important discussion because many people do not understand the ba-

sics of the agreement. Other speakers include Norma Cantu, the regional coordinator for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund; Hector Castillo, director for Education Opportunity Plan-

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Michelle Alvarado, co-director for CAMAC

Division of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; Gary Bledshoe, the Texas president of the National Association for Advancement of Color People.

Dr. Alicia Cuaron, with the Institute for Hispanic Professional Development in Denver, will deliver the closing address Saturday.

Cuaron will give a motivational speech on the work in the year 2000, Alvarado said. Anyone wishing to attend the conference can register in room 203 of the MSC on Friday at 4 p.m. or Saturday at 9 a.m. on the first floor of Rudder.

The cost of the conference is \$15 for college students and \$5 for non-students.

For information regarding registration, contact Alvarado or Cindy Cruz at 845-1515.

Grand jury investigates Harris County boot-camp' detention facility

HOUSTON (AP) — A grand jury is investigating allegations that drill sergeants at a Harris County-run "boot-camp" detention facility have physically abused young offenders.

Sixteen subpoenas have been issued for deputy sheriffs, probation department corrections officers and documents. Eight witnesses, including three probationers at the year-old camp, have testified so far.

"We're looking at complaints that (probationers) have been hit in the stomach with fists, hit on the body with broken broomsticks and kicked on various places on their bodies," prosecutor Don Smyth told the Houston Chronicle on Monday.

Harris County Adult Probation Department head Larence Coleman, whose department runs the boot camp, said he

had referred the allegations brought to his department to the district attorney's office for investigation.

"When we receive an allegation, our policy is to ask the district attorney to investigate," Coleman said Tuesday. "We're cooperating fully. We're obviously concerned."

Coleman said the drill sergeants are sheriff's deputies. The Harris County

Sheriff's office said Tuesday it would not comment until the probe was completed.

The camp, an alternative to prison, puts offenders aged 17-25 through a 90-day camp designed to instill discipline. They are then released on normal probation terms.

But complaints about the camp surfaced last month in a confidential memo circulated among the 22 Harris County

felony judges. The memo listed 19 complaints filed between June 7, 1991, and Feb. 6 and included a photograph of the sticks used for discipline.

The accusations prompted state District Judge A.D. Azios to have all six of the youths he has sent to the camp brought to his court for questioning. They all told the judge they had not been mistreated.

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9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
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