

## Sorority project focuses on African-Americans

By TANYA WILLIAMS  
Reporter of THE BATTALION

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is celebrating the African-American culture through participating in their third annual Delta Week, which is centered on the sorority's core ideals.

These ideals, also called the "five-point thrust," are economic development, educational development, physical health awareness, political awareness and international awareness.

Alicia Haskin, coordinator of the week, said the sorority works hard to focus on all five points in their projects.

"In each of our programs, we try hard to make people aware of a variety of issues," Haskin said.

Earlier in the week, the sorority focused on economic development in the community by inviting area African-American businesses to a Black Expo and Style Show, and political and na-

tional awareness with a discussion about how to increase the political power of African-Americans today.

Throughout the rest of the week, they will celebrate African-American culture with a program on Kwanzaa, a celebration that focuses on African heritage combined with American present contributions. Another program will focus on physical health with help from Aggie Reach, an organization that deals with making healthy choices.

The program will deal with nutrition, stress management, STDs and other diseases that Haskin said are often overlooked in college.

"People are often reluctant to talk about these things," Haskin said. "We got Aggie Reach to help us since it is their specialty."

The sorority will sponsor a freshmen rap session and discuss any concerns that freshmen

have about life at A&M.

"Freshmen do not get counseling from other students very often about which classes to take and other concerns," Haskin said. "We are trying to start a mentorship that will help address those concerns."

The Deltas will end the week with a step-off, party and a church service in the All Faiths Chapel.

The step-off will be between black campus fraternities featuring the African and Greek tradition of stepping.

Haskin said the week allows the community and the campus to know that sororities and fraternities can provide services.

"Delta Sigma Theta is a public service sorority," Haskin said. "The public can call upon us. We try our best to provide services to both the students and community. It is a renewed support system for black Greeks on campus, as well as the community around and on campus."

## PEDALING FOR PLEASURE



Bicyclists take advantage of recent mild weather to take a few laps around Research Park.

Bicyclists and joggers frequently use the park to exercise.

RICHARD JAMES/The Battalion

## Professional advising office plans to hire law counselor

By BRANDI JORDAN  
Reporter of THE BATTALION

The newly created Office of Professional School Advising, which handles professional advising for students interested in the medical, allied health and law professions, plans on hiring a full-time law counselor in January.

The Office of Professional School Advising falls under the direction of and receives funding through the Honors Department as well as from the Association of Former Students.

Program Coordinator Randee Nicholas said she has been counseling students interested in law in addition to overseeing the office.

"When we proposed our budget to the association for funds, we knew we had to scale back because of the economic situation around the country," she said.

"We know the association's money comes from former students and Aggies currently out in the work force. We know the economy is hurting everybody - even Aggies."

Nicholas said that since the office is under-funded and under-staffed, law advising has not been emphasized as much as she would like.

"Pre-med counseling has been a 24-hour a day job," she said. "And we want to offer that same commitment to the pre-law counseling."

Nicholas said that hiring a full-time law counselor will cost about \$35,000 a year, including salary and library needs.

"But, I anticipate that whenever the association's fiscal year begins in January, we'll be able to get the money we need to hire a full-time law counselor," she said.

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