## ExCEL to host two-day orientation conference for minority students

By Dena Dizdar

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said.

Incoming minority students and their parents are invited to attend a two-day orientation conference hosted by ExCEL (Excellence uniting Culture, Education and Leader-

program that aims to started off on the right foot." help ethnic minority students with the transition from high school to Texas

Sheri Schmidt, Ex-CEL's staff adviser, said, "Our goal is to get the freshmen started off on the right foot. We want to help make the freshman year a success, because your freshman

year can make you or break you. The conference, which is completely run by students, will include: a mini-step show and othsions to teach them how to let go social differences as well." of their children, a class search to help students find the quickest

route to their classes helped more than 900 students

ship) on Aug. 27-28.
The conference week"Our goal is to get the freshmen"

-Sheri Schmidt,

and parents with the adjustment school from high school to college. But Tracey Butler, the program's public relations chair, said the transition is much more complicated for ethnic minorities

Texas A&M has been bashed a lot in the news lately because of tensions between minorities and the rest of the students," she said.

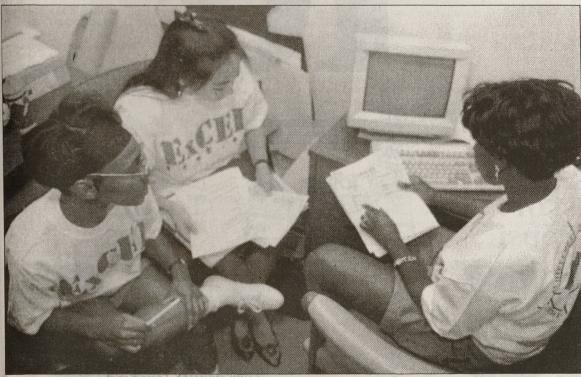
er entertainment, student and "Not only do we have to adjust to staff speakers, parent-only ses-

Smoothing out those prob-lems is ExCEL's main goal, Butler said. And the group will con-Established in 1987, ExCEL has tinue to support the students with biweekly events throughout their entire freshman

Students like Delfia McKinney, now the group's executive director, say the ExCEL conference lessened their antici-ExCEL staff adviser pation about attending a predominantly white

"My expectations regarding the university were very different until I attended a freshman minority orientation," he said. "My image of what it means to be an was totally transformed."

Students and parents can late register for the conference beginning at 9 a.m. on Aug. 27.



Brown (from left) work on the schedule for a con- ordinating plans for the conference.

Accounting/finance major Tanisha Hicks, bio-med ference ExCEL will be hosting this week. The three najor Sandra Yu and elementary ed. major Cedra members spent all day Monday organizing and co-

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## HERE'S WHAT EVERY DRIVER SHOULD KNOW:

- The conversion will begin September 7, 1993
- The east frontage road will travel north only from Rock Prairie Road in College Station to Woodville Road
- The west frontage road will travel south only from North Texas Avenue (SH Bus. 6) in Bryan to Texas Avenue South (SH Bus. 6) College Station.
- The conversion will be completed in three sections, beginning in North Bryan, and will take about two weeks to complete.

This map indicates the three sections of the conversion.

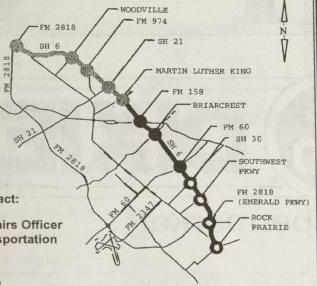
SECTION 1 From FM 2818 to Martin Luther King

SECTION 2 From Martin Luther King Blvd. to FM 60 (University Drive)

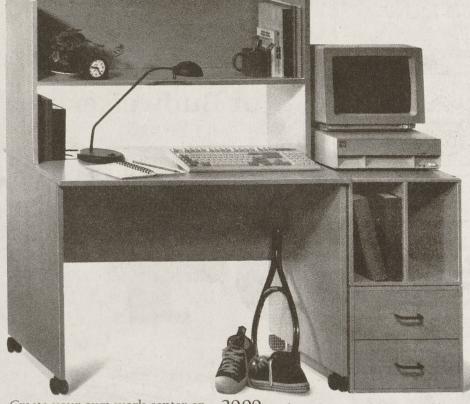
SECTION 3 O From FM 60 to Rock Prairie Road

For more information contact:

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