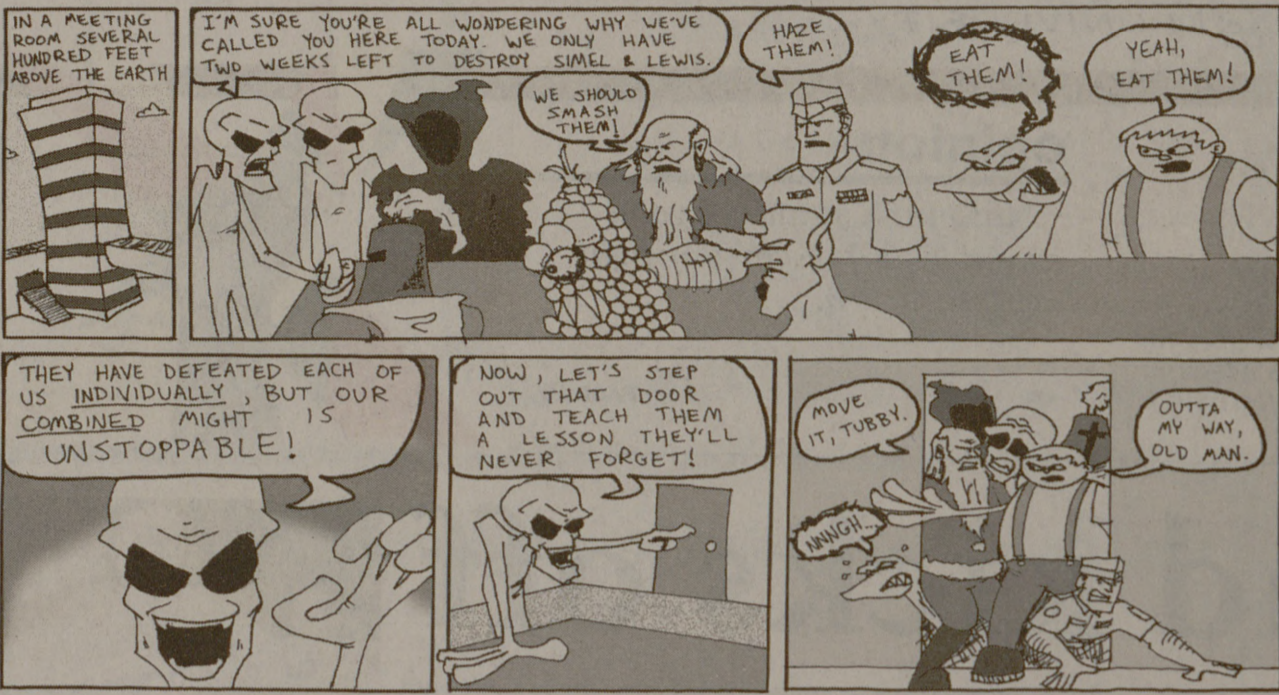


Simel & Lewis



By Mell

MEDALS conference targets inner-city, rural-area minority students

BY ANDREA BROCKMAN
The Battalion

Minority Enrichment and Development Through Academic and Leadership Skills (MEDALS), a Texas A&M conference that encourages minority high school students to pursue further education, is in need of an executive staff.

Katuska Quintero, executive director for MEDALS and a senior bilingual education major, said the conference targets inner-city and rural-area minority students throughout Texas, but it is also open to non-minority students. "These students don't know what's out there," she said. "The conference shows them how to

apply for college, scholarships and financial aid."

Quintero said the conference goal is not to recruit Aggies.

"We are just trying to help them find education opportunities beyond high school, whether it be college, technical school or the military," she said.

However, she said a large number of students from the conference do attend A&M because they like the campus and the people.

Quintero said students who attend the conference do not have to be minorities, and it is open to anyone who wants to register.

"We keep prices at a minimum," she said. "These people travel a long way."

Programs for parents and coun-

selors will teach them to reach out to students and age them to continuation.

The 16 executive advisers will plan the conference, which takes place in January.

Peer advisers for the conference, selected in the fall, will interact and attend with the students.

"For executive advisers looking for people to be peer advisers, orientation programs are available," she said.

Applications are due by April 13. The cost of the registration and includes room and

TUBULARMAN



BY BOOMER

MARCH

Continued from Page 1

body and how others look at me would quickly become major issues."

He said rape dates back to the English Common Law system in which men would rape the women they wanted to marry in a process called bride capture.

"These are civilized people who have shaped the way we perceive women," he said. "Our society in some ways still looks at women as

property, and this attitude has got to change."

The speech was followed by a march around campus as a symbolic way to rescue the campus from sexual crimes against women.

This year's event was sponsored by Peer 1 Educators, Aggies Working For a Rape-free Environment and Student Life Gender Issues Education Services.

Nancy Tubbs, a graduate assistant for Student Life Gender Issues Education Services, said the march is a traditional project of the A&M

chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Tubbs said members of NOW have annually "taken back the night" since the 1960s as a symbol of freedom for women.

She said the march traditionally includes women only, but it incorporated men this year to show their support for the fight against sexual violence.

Tubbs said "Take Back the Night" is a statement of the community no longer accepting violent sexual crimes.

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