

The Battalion

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Resolution lowers GPR requirement

After two hours of debate, the Student Senate passed a resolution last night to lower the grade point ratio requirement for officer positions. The GPR was lowered from 2.5 to 2.25.

The same resolution was passed by the Senate Thursday night, but based on the Student Senate's Rules of Order that meeting was adjourned. There had not been enough prior notice.

University regulations require that officially recognized student organizations have at least a 2.0 GPR overall.

The resolution will affect only write-in candidates in this election, but will affect all the candidates for future elections.

Roger Harvey proposed the resolution because he said some of the senators felt they had made a mistake by raising the requirement from 2.0 to 2.5 last October. The resolution stated that the 2.5 requirement is too high because class officer positions are not as time consuming as executive positions. The executive requirement remains 2.0.

Sen. Scott Sherman said the 2.25 allows

a safe margin.

"I'm for the 2.25 — but not for any elitist reason — just in case you goof up," he said.

Just before the meeting was adjourned, Wesley Harris, President of the Judicial Board addressed the group. He said that the J-Board was tired of ruling on assanine election requirements for student offices. He said that unless the requirements were changed, the Senate would soon be impeaching J-Board members for not upholding the requirements.

— Cissy Auclair

Judicial Board objects to campaigning rules

By GALE KAUFFMAN
Student Senate members applauded Judicial Board Chairman Wesley Harris when he spoke out against the Judicial Board at a specially called Senate meeting Tuesday night.

They will have to impeach the entire Judicial Board because they will blindly and openly allow election violations," said Harris.

Harris addressed the Texas A&M Student Senate and recommended that the Senate consider the student campaign regulations at the next regular meeting. "The Judicial Board is getting thoroughly disgusted

with upholding asinine regulations," he said.

Harris presented his views to the Senate after a Judicial Board met to reconsider the disqualification of junior Kim Schaefer for campaign violations.

Schaefer, who was running for Residence Hall Association presidency, was disqualified by the Student Election Commission for putting a campaign sign in a tree.

Schaefer appealed the decision to the Judicial Board, basing her appeal on "the grounds that the penalty was too severe for the crime." Schaefer said it was a matter of

human error and forgetfulness.

"I'm interested in serving the students and to deprive me of this chance was really bad," she said. "It's a case of going by the rules or bettering student involvement and activities."

After one and one-half hours of deliberation, the board ruled in favor of Schaefer's disqualification by a 5 to 3 vote.

"If it is determined that a violation took place, the board is required to follow the prescribed punishments," said Harris. According to university Regulations handbook, no campaign signs may be placed on any trees or shrubs. Any candidate who violates the election regulations, in this or any other area, will be disqualified.

After the meeting, Judicial Board member Shannon Walker said, "The rule (of disqualification for any violation) is not in the best interest of the student body. It's too restrictive and it's the student body who is being hurt by this particular legislation."

In his address to the Student Senate, Harris said that these harsh punishments restrict the number of qualified candidates for student offices. Harris later stated that it should be left up to the Judicial Board to decide what penalties go with what offenses.



International talent

This group of Venezuelan musicians performed Wednesday night as part of the International Week

activities. There will be a roundtable discussion tonight in rm. 601 of the Rudder Tower.

Teamsters strike

Nationwide walkout result of benefit, wage dispute

Associated Press
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. — A nationwide Teamsters trucking strike began today with thousands of drivers on picket lines and the nation's economy facing a crunching shutdown in the interstate flow of goods.

Union and trucking industry officials said negotiations, which failed to bring about a settlement in time to avert a walkout, would resume at 9:30 a.m. after a recess. Wages, fringe benefits and a cost-of-living clause remain in dispute, they said.

Labor Secretary W. J. Usery, Jr. and other federal officials had no comment early today, and there was no immediate indication that the Ford administration would seek a Taft-Hartley injunction to keep the nation's trucking pipeline from drying up as the strike spread.

Picket lines appeared at freight yards and truck terminals from Connecticut to Georgia to Colorado.

Teamsters President Frank E. Fitzsimmons said three hours after the midnight strike deadline that Teamsters were "on record if we didn't conclude an agreement by 12:01 midnight that our people weren't going to work . . . There is a strike. Our people have walked off."

The strike, Fitzsimmons said, covers "the entire United States of America." Of the possibility of a federal back-to-work order, Fitzsimmons said, "It's entirely up to the government."

"We haven't reached an agreement," he added. "At one point we were very optimistic. Unfortunately, we came to this point." But, he also said, "We're in the ball park."

The Teamsters leader refused to elaborate on the latest industry offer. Earlier, though, William C. McIntyre, chief negotiator for Trucking Employers Inc. — the trucking firms' bargaining agent — told

reporters its offer had been improved substantially.

How many firms would be forced to keep rigs off the road remained uncertain as local Teamsters around the country continued a push begun Wednesday to pressure individual companies to sign interim agreements.

This strategy, seen by union sources as a means of breaking up the employers' solidarity, would guarantee the Teamsters demands until an agreement is reached.

Before the midnight deadline, more than 160 firms had adopted the agreements, in return for assurances that their trucks would continue to operate without Teamsters' interference in event of a strike.

Fitzsimmons said he did not know how many companies had signed the agreements.

The union lists 400,000 members. McIntyre, who first announced the impasse, said the talks would continue and "hopefully, sometime we can produce a contract that will stabilize the transportation system of the country."

"If I thought that the continued efforts of TEI were hopeless, I would be on my way back to Washington at this time. I intend to stay here as long as there is any movement . . . We'll continue to be here."



Test flowers

These flowers, with many others, can be found in the floral test gardens of the College of Agriculture. The gardens, located on Houston St. across from KAMU, have plants at all times.

Remember to vote on Saturday

Index

The Battalion makes recommendations for the city council positions and the charter revision issue. Page 2.

The transportation development of Bryan-College Station is recounted in "100 years." Page 5.

Tampa and Seattle now have players to fit into those new uniforms. Page 8.

Sportfolio takes a look at "Dear Abby." Page 9.

THE FORECAST for Thursday and Friday is fair and mild becoming partly cloudy tomorrow. Today's high, 78; tonight's low, 51; Friday's high, 83.

Heartache:

Vets aid dachshund with weight problem

By MARILOU WOMACK
Gunther could have been an overweight American.

He might have suffered the humiliation of always bringing up the rear on playful romps with the boys, the heartache of having the new little girl on the block pass him by without so much as a sniff, the discomfort of having his stomach scrape the asphalt every time he wanted to cross the street — not to mention the utter degradation of getting stuck under a fence.

Gunther has a hypo-thyroid condition. He has no way of seeking help for himself because Gunther is a dachshund.

Fortunately, he belongs to Dr. Dan Hightower, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and professor at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Hightower is engaged in the study and clinical application of nuclear medicine. At the veterinary

school nuclear medicine largely involves a technique called imaging.

"We give a radio-pharmaceutical," Hightower said. "We know what behavior is supposed to be. At some time after administration, we look at how the radioactivity is distributed. Then we can compare it with what it should look like and make a diagnosis."

Dr. David Hood, an associate professor at the veterinary college, is currently working with lung imaging and brain imaging.

Dr. Hightower said that at present, veterinary nuclear medicine is primarily important in diagnosing illnesses, as in Gunther's case, rather than in curing them.

There are a few applications in therapy, such as internal radiation therapy for chronic leukemia," Hightower said. "However, most of its applications are diagnostic. Nuclear medicine doesn't replace anything, but it gives us additional information which would be either difficult or impossible to obtain with other methods."

Hightower cited the example of kinetic studies — finding the rate at which things are going on in the body.

"In glomerular filtration for instance, we study the rate at which plasma is filtered by the kidneys," he said. "The old method required that we measure the urine over a period of time. This works fine with people, but unfortunately animals don't cooperate very well."

He said that with nuclear medicine techniques, a radio-pharmaceutical can be injected into the animal's blood. The plasma clearance through the kidneys can then be followed without taking periodic urine samples.

Dr. Hightower received his degree in veterinary medicine at Texas A&M in 1946. Since then, he has taken courses in radiation biology at Reed College in Portland, Oregon, and received a master's degree in applied physics from North Carolina State.

Ford to make Texas campaign visit in April

Associated Press
Texas, considered a key state in the Republican battle for the presidential nomination, will be the object of some courting by President Ford this month during two quick visits to the state.

White House sources Wednesday said only that "there are reports" that Ford will come to Texas around the second weekend in April, but other sources in Texas said that the President will be in the state April 9-10 and again April 28-29.

Ford's visits will be political campaign affairs designed to store up defenses in the state to meet the challenge of former California Gov. Ronald Reagan in the May 1 primary.

"It is a campaign trip and the whole thing

is being coordinated by his campaign headquarters," said Texas GOP chairman Ray Hutchison.

Reports published in Dallas said Ford will first come to Texas on April 9 for a speech at the Alamo in San Antonio and then will fly to Dallas for a political rally.

The next day he will hold a news conference and then go to Abilene and Amarillo for speeches there and then return to Washington.

The tentative schedule for the second trip has Ford landing at Fort Worth for a speech and then flying to Houston for a fund-raising dinner.

The President will visit Lubbock on April 29 and then will fly East to Tyler and possibly Longview.

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