

RHA gets support; Candidates backed

Editor:
"It's time someone said something about Residence Hall Association." Those words were written by Mary Russo in yesterday's Batt. Before you write any future letters, Mary, I suggest you check into the subject on which you are writing.

The RHA does serve as a voice of the campus student. As RHA president, I personally serve on the Dorm Improvement Committee. I also assist Student Government in selecting members of the Menu Board and Laundry Board by giving them recommendations and discussing these with them. In regard to dorm improvement, I asked for lists of needed improvements from the dorm presidents. The Student Government representative, Corps of Cadets representative, and I then spent an afternoon walking from dorm to dorm checking out each of these needs. We ranked these needs accordingly, and some of the plans are already under way.

The RHA has worked with virtually every phase of the administration from President Williams on down. While representing the Residence Hall Association, I have even met with the Board of Directors.

The main reason that we have not discussed the possibility of a coed dorm is that President Williams said that there was no chance for one at the present time when he spoke at the Leadership Conference in Palestine last August.

Another point that Mary brought up was the RHA's lack of programming. Due to the problem of collecting fees from many of the dorms last year, the RHA discussed it at length and decided that it was in the best interest of the students to work with them at a dorm level and assist them with their activities rather than put on a campus-wide function. The MSC Council has committees for almost every type of activity which RHA people sometimes work with and we try to take part in many activities put on by clubs. Examples are Bonfire and the Student Y. The RHA also helped many of the dorms rewrite their constitutions.

It is true that the RHA receives money from the Exchange Store Allocations Committee, but the RHA does not depend on this committee for its survival. Much of this money goes into RHA weekend which includes Casino, a Town Hall Concert, a push ball contest, baseball game against Rice, Parents Day, and Aggie Muster. The RHA also purchased 11 barbecue pits and cooking supplies which it donated to the dorms for the students' use.

Mary also said, "Electing the right people will be the quickest and easiest way to insure something will be done." I fail to see how someone like Mary, who knows so little about the RHA,

the university and its administration, campus clubs, and activities, and especially dorm students, can possibly be one of the "right people." One of the last things Mary referred to was the vote of "no confidence." In tomorrow's election, Mary Russo will receive my vote of "no confidence;" George Lippe will be my choice of RHA Vice President.

**T. Getterman, President,
Residence Hall Association**

We received lengthy rebuttals to Mary Russo's letter from David Funderburke, Pamela Jewell and Pete Castrejano as well as Getterman. Due to space limitations we chose the above letter to represent them.

No letters supporting candidates will be printed tomorrow as a backlog of letters concerning other issues has developed.—Ed.

★ ★ ★ Omitted

Editor:

I am writing to make an addition to my Battalion interview, since the issues of my platform were omitted at the printer.

One of the greatest inequities in the allocation of fees is the subsidized shuttle-bus system. On-campus students, who get little use from the system, pay almost as much of the cost as those students who use it. The External Affairs Committee could, I believe, develop a feasible plan for making apartment owners on the route pay for the service since they charge higher rents for that convenience.

I strongly support A&M's participation in TSA, TSL and NSL. These organizations have proven their value by providing forums for idea exchange between campuses, by lobbying effectively for legislation to benefit students, and by developing programs to save students money. TSA alone has under study three such programs: one to aid students in getting credit, one to save students money on telephone rates and one to obtain student auto insurance at a 20 per cent discount. I would like to insure that TSL is responsive to student input by establishing a state-wide referendum to decide on what issue it will lobby for.

In addition, I believe that improved communications with city council are necessary. I feel students should be consulted before decisions on such matters as utility or telephone rate increases are reached. This has not always been done in the past.

And finally, I believe the Vice-President for External Affairs should attend the meetings of the A&M Board of Directors as allowed by the open meetings law. This I am prepared to do, to generate greater student input into decisions which affect all of us.

My positions on other issues are recorded in yesterday's paper.
John Nash

Observer

Editor:

As an observer of this election campaign, I am writing with respect to the Student Body presidential race, not to endorse any candidate, but to make some observations about all of them.

First, there is Doc Shroff, who ran unsuccessfully for president last year, with the basic qualification of being a student. It seems strange to me that his two periods of great interest in Student Government — last election and this one — were separated by a full year of non-participation in any Student Government activities. Oh well, it happens every spring.

Then there is Wally Reinke, another newcomer in Student Government, whose "positive atmosphere" includes "picketing" and stopping the "grand rape of the students by the administration." On the surface this seems to be the type of invective any candidate would use who didn't know what the real issues of the campaign were.

Next there is Mike Greiser, who says that running for president was sort of spontaneous with him — he didn't want one of the other candidates to run unopposed.

And finally there is Steve Eberhard, the only candidate with past experience in Student Government. He has served on the Senate for three years, this past year as a member of the Executive Committee.

I hope that you will keep these points in mind when you go to vote on Thursday. Student Body president is an important position, and one which, I think, demands experience and proven ability.

Wade Watson

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Response

Editor:

In response to the 12-point questionnaire that appeared in yesterday's Battalion:

When it was first suggested that students running for Senate positions fill out a questionnaire to be published in the Batt it sounded like a commendable idea. Certainly, comparing answers to a list of questions can be beneficial to the students in deciding who to vote for. Candidates running for Executive positions were interviewed and those interviews were published. Most of the candidates said that those articles didn't exactly get across their ideas properly, but they will admit that with the space limitation, the articles reflected their views about as well as could be expected.

In looking over the questions published yesterday I noticed that several were somewhat misleading. For instance the first question was written leading toward a positive response. Although I

am in favor of optional fees in general, I am opposed to them in the case of athletics since it will actually cost the whole student body more.

In response to the others:

Question 2— I have already worked toward published evaluation of professors.

Question 3—I initiated the liquor on campus resolution this year, and I have personally fought for it with President Williams.

Question 4— No. I do not see it as an issue this year.

Question 5. Two resolutions to make punishment consistent have come out of my committee, the Rules and Regulations Committee of the Student Senate, as well as the Student Bill of Rights.

Question 6—I have supported in the Senate coed housing on campus for two years.

Question 7—Of course.

Question 8—I supported NSL, TSL and TSA since two years ago when it wasn't very popular to do so.

Question 9—I actually considered running for a College Station city council seat.

Question 10—As much as possible the Shuttle Bus should support itself, but at this time it just isn't possible.

Question 11 — Both Student Government and The Battalion are of service to the students so why not?

Question 12 — This question puzzles me since it implies that such a review board exists. Is this Board a student one or an Administration one? Students should as much as possible control the quality of their own programming and this includes film series as well.

Curt Marsh

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Survey reply

Editor:

This is to present my opinions on the issues considered in the Student Government candidate survey in yesterday's Batt. I would like to explain that I was under the mistaken impression that candidates for Executive Committee positions, due to their extensive interviews printed in the Batt last week, were not to complete this questionnaire. My answers are: YYYNYYYNYN.

I do not think it would be fair for me to elaborate on these opinions any further in this letter, since no one else had that opportunity. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to get out and vote on Thursday.

Steve Eberhard

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Experienced

Editor:

As president of Law Hall, which makes me a voting member of the RHA assembly, I have served on

various committees including being Casino chairman 74. The RHA is emerging as a great organization, and having just finished our constitution, are ready to bring the RHA to the students. I want to make the RHA the place to go for the solution to your problems. I will devote a portion of each meeting to hearing individual student gripes and complaints. I propose to have a large activity in the fall comparable to the Spring RHA Weekend which includes Casino and a concert sponsored with Town Hall. I intend to continue the policy of helping dorms organize and successfully conduct activities as they work with each other. We have found that this is what the dorms want, rather than to have us plan activities for them. I propose to set up an RHA-Town Hall Recommendation Committee and a new Dorm Improvements Committee. By attending the different dorm council meetings regularly, I intend to keep in touch with not only the dorm presidents but also the students themselves. I don't want to leave anyone out, and I don't intend to if I am elected president of the Residence Hall Association. Allow me to use my experience for your benefit.

Tim Jordan

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Execs

Editor:
We, the Executive Committee of the Residence Hall Association, endorse Tim Jordan for the position of RHA President. His qualifications include Law Hall Treasurer '72-73, Law Hall President '73-74 (with 100 per cent attendance at the RHA meetings), Casino Chairman 74, RHA-Town-hall Selection Committee member '73-74, Laundry Board Member '72-73, and RHA Constitutional Revision Committee member '73-74. Tim Jordan has lived in a residence hall for three years and is already familiar with the problems and needs of the students, largely through his work in the RHA. He is the candidate who is

(See STUDENTS, p. 3)



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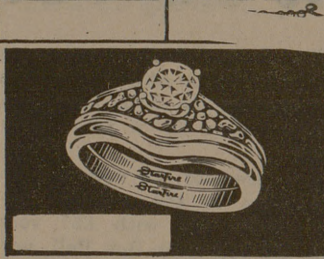
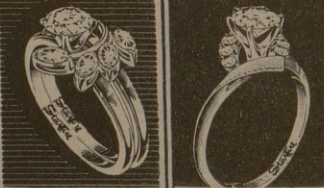
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