

The Battalion

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Correction

In Thursday's Battalion, the article "Blacks listed as underachievers" erroneously said that the fall Elementary and Secondary School Report

included "students in the sixth through 12th grades." The report includes students in the first through 12th grades.

Koldus offers help to students who quit after letter to editor

By RICK HENDERSON
Staff Writer

Dr. John J. Koldus, vice president for student services, has offered to help find university jobs for two students who were asked to resign from the Housing Office because of a letter printed in "The Battalion."

"In regard to what had taken place, I offered to help them (Gregory Marchand and Elmer Banes) if they needed a job," said Koldus. "However, I didn't feel they should return to work at the Housing Office since the incident had caused animosity between the individuals involved."

Violation of standard university complaint filing procedures was the main item which led to their resignations, said Dr. Charles W. Powell, director of Student Affairs, Thursday.

The procedure for filing complaints is set out in "A Complaint and Appeal Procedures for Employees Other Than Faculty" in the A&M Policy and Procedures Manual.

The procedure provides for, first, an oral discussion with the employee's supervisor about the complaint; second, a presentation of a written complaint to the head of the respective department; and third, an appeal committee hearing, if warranted.

The former employees, Marchand and Banes, both TAMU students, wrote a letter to "The Battalion," printed Oct. 29, explaining why persons calling the Housing Office for telephone numbers were often referred to Centrex, the central telephone exchange on campus. The reason for the letter, Marchand said, was that "we were just hacked

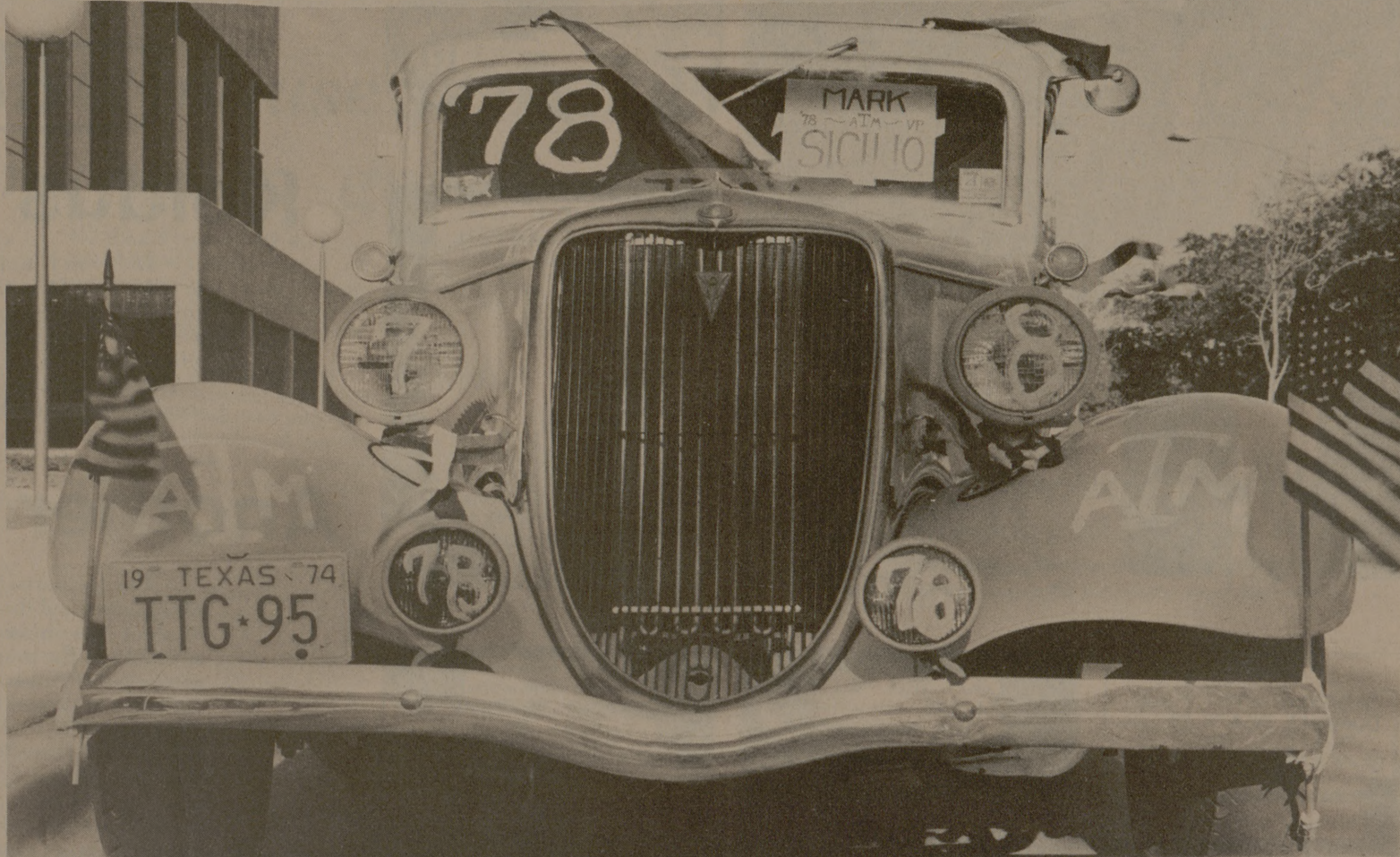
off at people calling us back, accusing us of laziness in referring them to Centrex."

"The biggest single factor that we were unhappy about is they didn't come to us first (before submitting the letter). They had the opportunity at any time to complain. We are always open to constructive criticism," Powell said.

Powell asked the students to meet with Housing Office Manager Glenn Jennings about the situation.

Jennings stated there were no threats of firing during the meeting. Marchand, however, said, "During the meeting I realized he was just talking to be talking. I asked if he intended to ask for our resignation. He said that he was, so I resigned."

"In their context this is a matter of employe-employer, not student-employe," Powell said. (See KOLDUS, page 6)



Freshman election campaigning

Some last-minute campaigning for the freshman elections Thursday took unusual forms. No passing out posters at the doors for Mark Sicilio. He dressed up this old car and parked it behind the Memorial Student Center which was a

polling place. Sicilio received enough votes to qualify for the run-off race for vice president of his class. (Photo by David Kimmel)

Hot debate springs from apathy charge

By JUDY BAGGETT
Staff Writer

A heated discussion broke out at Thursday night's Residence Hall Association (RHA) meeting.

Things got hot when Ron Blatchley, RHA adviser, said the organization wasn't making any progress because of lagging member interest. "I'm sorely disappointed in RHA," Blatchley said. He said there would be no need for RHA if it doesn't accomplish anything.

"This campus has been the dearest place," Blatchley said. "There is no spirit in the halls."

Members, which are presidents of the dorms they represent, defended both the students' and the association's lack of interest.

Students are hassled by administrative treatment and respond by not cooperating with the administration, said Kim Shaefer, representative for Keathley.

She said "petty parking stickers and registration of bikes" are examples of harassment by administration.

"You have to fight for weeks to get the TV fixed in the lounge," Shaefer said.

Another representative said dorm residents feel it is "unfair for the word of a resident adviser to be taken over the word of a student."

One member reminded others of a past effort that had failed. RHA fought for extension of visitation rights and nothing was accomplished.

A defeatist attitude is RHA's problem, Blatchley said. He said the organization must go out and fight for what it wants.

A motion was made to contribute \$20 to a candy drive for retarded children in the Austin State School. Left-over Halloween candy was collected from dorms, but members said the drive was not successful. The candy is to be given to the school for Christmas. The motion failed eight to 10.

Lists of improvements for dorms were given to RHA officers. The lists will be passed on to Dr. Charles Powell, director of Student Services.

Later in the meeting, a spring convention of the Texas Residence Hall Association (TRHA) at Stephen F. Austin was announced by Nolan Meers, state treasurer for TRHA. Governor Briscoe will be asked to declare a TRHA week.

The purpose of TRHA is to bring halls together to discuss common problems and solutions, Meers said. The organization wants to be known around the state. An organization "has to be known to get money," he said.

When explaining progress of the judicial board, George Lippe, vice president, said the judicial board of RHA is in its first year of operation. A by-laws procedural committee has been appointed to write hearing procedures for cases.

The cases deal with conflicts between the halls that neither dorm judicial board can handle.

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Weather

Partly cloudy Friday becoming overcast with 30% chance of rain tonite. Continued overcast and 30-40% possible rain Saturday turning colder tomorrow evening. High both days 65°. Low tonite mid-40's.

Wholesale prices skyrocket Largest increase in 14 months

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wholesale prices of goods ranging from autos to food increased 2.3 per cent in October, signaling higher prices ahead for consumers, the Labor Department reported

Thursday. Prices of consumer foods rose 4 per cent in wholesale markets, the biggest one-month increase in 14 months. Government analysts said this increase already is being passed

along to supermarket shelves. The October increase in wholesale prices marked the fourth worst month this year, and put over-all wholesale prices 22.6 per cent above a year earlier. That was the worst increase since a 28.5 per cent rise in the 12-month period ending in June, 1974.

Treasury and Labor Department analysts saw some cause for optimism in the 1.1 per cent rise in prices of industrial commodities. It was a smaller increase than in most previous months this year, and would have been even smaller were not auto prices included.

Prices of 1975-model cars increased 6.4 per cent, and these increases were all piled into the October index. Most of these increases already have been passed along into retail prices.

Analysts pointed to continuing declines in lumber and wood prices and a leveling off of textile and non-ferrous metal prices as evidence of a slow-down in over-all commodity price increases.

For the 12-month period ending in October, however, overall industrial commodity prices were up 28.2 per cent.

The Pill available after this semester

By BARBARA WEST
Staff Writer

Want to get a prescription for birth control pills? The line forms on the other side of Christmas.

Since mid-October the appointment books for getting birth control pill prescriptions have been filled through the end of this semester, Darwin Blanchard, R.N., said Wednesday. Blanchard handles the appointments for the examination and tests.

No further appointments will be accepted until the spring semester begins. Blanchard advised scheduling an appointment as soon after the semester begins as possible. Pills

can be distributed to both married and unmarried students.

The University Health Center program for birth control is still less than a year old, hence the tremendous backlog of patients who wish to take advantage of the service.

The health center cannot dispense the pills, but the staff physicians may, after a mandatory pelvic examination and Pap smear with satisfactory results, issue a prescription for purchase of the pills at a local pharmacy. The health center doctors may also countersign a prescription issued by another physician or at a Planned Parenthood center so the pills may be purchased locally.

"If anyone can anticipate the need for birth control pills, we suggest they see their family physicians at home," said Dr. Claude B. Goswick, health center director. He said this would eliminate waiting for prescriptions at the University Health Center.

Frances Gough, nursing supervisor for the health center, reports that another doctor is joining the staff in January. He is Dr. Duane Lagan, a general practitioner from O'Ceane, Oklahoma.

Peace agreed upon by TAMU, Rice

In a joint statement issued by Rice University and Texas A&M, student body officials have asked that there be no repeat of last year's conduct.

Steve Eberhard, A&M student body president and Carl Treleven, external affairs vice president for the Rice Student's Association, signed an open letter to the two student bodies asking that such incidents not mar this year's game. The letter termed the events "unfortunate and...certainly not consistent with the high standards of sportsmanship and clean competition of either school or the Southwest

Conference."

A&M students were also reminded in a statement from A&M President Jack K. Williams and Interim President Lorene L. Rogers of the University of Texas at Austin that there is a long-standing policy against desecration of a rival school's property.

The agreement states that any student "who goes to another campus with the intent to paint or otherwise deface statues, buildings or other property or commit any other act of vandalism" is subject to possible suspension for at least one semester.



Kevin Dwyer (L) and Jeff Carley examine a computer ballot that was used in Thursday's elections. (Photo by David Kimmel)

Fish election Run-off for top posts set

By TERESA COSLETT
Staff Writer

There will be a run-off election for freshman president, vice president and secretary-treasurer.

Five senators and a social secretary were chosen in yesterday's election. The total voter turn out was 898.

In the run-off for president will be Mark Toppert with 206 votes and Brandon Coleman with 237.

For vice president, the run off will be between Chris Southworth receiving 130 votes and Mark Sicilio with 295.

The secretary-treasurer run-off will be between Susan Kelly with

194 votes and Charlie Brown with 237.

Running unopposed for social secretary was Troby Hoffacker, receiving 509 votes.

The five senators elected and votes they received were, Shawn Kelly, 255; Ann Marie Stone, 291; Mark Hugg, 326; Chris Farmer, 354; and Lisa Swanson, 383.

Results on the referendum included on the ballot, concerning minor amendments in wording to the student senate constitution, were not available.

The run-off election is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 19.

When asked his reaction to the election, Sicilio said, "It has hit me

but it hasn't really sunk in yet. Emotions are running high on both sides of the fence tonight."

He said there would be good representation whichever way the run-off went and that he was proud of the senators elected and the students who voted.

"Good representation for the class of '78 has to start in the freshman year. We've got to get going on raising money and organizing activities," Toppert said.

"I'm really glad the freshman class put their faith in me," Hugg said.

He said all five senators would try to keep the class together by informing the students on what's going on.