Wadley versus Red Cross

(Continued from Page 1.) C 212, 8 p.m We would not accept those credecause all those credits mean is mey," Swanton said. "The stu-tts do not owe us any money at Wadley wanted us to accept s, and we aren't in that end of the

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We didn't want the money. We anted the blood." She said that a can't transfuse money or paper

Swanton said that the Red Cross sented AABB demands to send ood to commercial blood banks. "We were designated so many nes to send blood there (a com-David C. Jon , 1:30 p.m. Drill Field, 3 ercial bank in Chicago.) This mmercial bank was taking our lunteers' blood and selling it for, odness knows, as much as they inted to," she said.

Hill said that there are 1,600 ommercial banks in the AABB s, MSC an and only two or three commercial tanks, so this was not really a prob-Rudder M. tm. He said the commercial banks and at the inception of the AABB d because of Federal Trade amission regulations, could not arbitrarily kicked out.

"No new paid-donor banks are mitted. They are in disfavor,"

THE CONTROVERSY on camarose because Student Govmment chose to remain with Wad-y for their 1976-77 and 1977-78 od drives. A Student Senate nmittee had been formed to iniagte the two programs.

he committee recommended Student Government remain th Wadley because:

✓ Wadley is far from local in ope. Statistics show that two per ent of Texas A&M's donation is sed locally, and 98 per cent is sed in other areas of Texas and er states

✓ Wadley repays the processing if the blood is used in Brazos ty, but Red Cross does not. dley replaces the units on a two-one basis. Red Cross replaces s on a one-for-one basis.

 \checkmark Wadley can ship parts of od. It is possible to treat four tients with one pint of blood by ing derivatives to help patients wing leukemia, hemophilia and neer. In fact, both Wadley and d Cross produce the same blood mponents and derivatives.

✓ Texas A&M donations can be ment gave Wadley permission to stribute the credits to charity pa-ents. Red Cross cannot do this. committee considered this an

fringement on students' rights. They added that, as residents of nzos County, students were pro-ted automatically under the Red ross plan. By allowing Wadley to adde the blood drive students are so protected under Wadley's pro-

The Red Cross earlier had plied to have a campus blood ive in cooperation with the Stu-ent Engineers Council. The reuest was denied by the Conces-ons Committee, the University nmittee that reviews requests to licit or sell on campus.

The request was denied on a rec-mmendation by Fred McClure,

would take donors away from the Wadley drive because it was scheduled earlier in the semester than Wadley's drive and d

than Wadley's drive and donors can only give once every 56 days. Student Government had also been granted the exclusive right to ponsor blood drives on campus by

the Concessions Committee. Rick Allen, president of the Student Engineers Council, questioned the committee's power to grant exclusive rights to the Student overnment.

Bea Uvacek, chapter chairman for the Brazos County Red Cross said she thought McClure's rationale was ridiculous. She said the quota for their drive was only 200 units, and she believed a university the size of Texas A&M could handle both drives

SWANTON DISAGREED with the Senate committee's reasons for choosing Wadley. She said that none of Wadley's blood is used locally. Spokesmen for St. Joseph's and Bryan Hospitals said that all of their blood is supplied by the Red Cross. Uvacek said that Wadley often does not honor its reimbursement obligations, and is extremely delinquent in honoring the obligations it loes fulfill

Wadley records show that 2,440 A&M credits were released to cover Aggies' blood needs during 1976. Charity patients accounted for 1,704 of these credits. Processing fees eli-gible for repayment totaled \$1,830 — 61 units used at \$30 each. Alpha Phi Omega's records show that \$1,470 has been reimbursed

since Sept. 1, 1976. Those records do not go back earlier than this. Uvacek claimed that many people do not receive the money they are entitled to after requesting it, and many more people do not know they are eligible for reimbursement

Donna Ferrebee's premature baby required four units of blood in July and August 1976. The Bryan resident didn't receive her \$84 reimbursement until December; about four months after she contacted Student Government.

Susan Price, former executive director of Student Government, said it usually takes six weeks to process the reimbursements.

Uvacek also said that Wadley often does not fulfill its replacement promises with the local hospitals. Hill said, "Every time I talk to the APO and Student Government, they say we are taking care of everything they know about. Students are having problems because they

agrees that students do not know enough about their blood program and how to apply for reimburse-

"We're going to put on a big cam-paign to straighten this out next fall," he said. He said the people who donate know the procedure, but other students don't know anything about the blood program.

Despite the Senate committee's report, there is no difference in the types of blood components and de-rivatives Wadley and Red Cross produce. Both produce cryoprecipi-tates, for the treatment of hemophilia; platelets, for leukemia retionter. Secure Alburin to com patients; Serum Albumin, to com-bat shock; Gamma Globulin, for prevention of measles and infectious hepatitis; and others.

Swanton said the right to distribute credits to charity patients through the credit system is questionable because someone pays for the blood product anyway, whether it is Medicaid, Medicare or private assistance. She said that any non-profit organization that could afford to give blood away wasn't non-

Hill said that to be tax-exempt under its non-profit state charter, Wadley must have charity programs. He said that Texas A&M students have brought charity pa-tients to Wadley's attention and "have been very helpful."

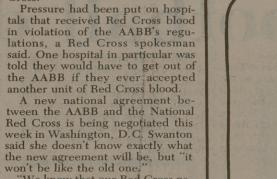
A Red Cross spokesman claimed the AABB is so ineffective that some hospitals are accepting direct ship-ments of blood from the Red Cross. Methodist Hospital in Houston is one of these. Though spokesmen for the hospital deny receiving blood from the Red Cross, blood replace-ment records show that at least 114 units of blood were shipped to Methodist in 1975-76.

These units fulfilled blood re-quirements of University President Jack K. Williams, A&M student Terry Miller, and Dr. William M. Scott, employe of the TTI depart-ment at A&M.

Dr. Williams used 28 units of blood while undergoing heart surgery at the hospital. Red Cross records show that it replaced 25 of those units and Wadley replaced the remaining three. Dianne Mc-Glaun, director of Donor Services at Wadley, claims that Wadley replaced the entire 28 units. Rosalyn Guess, in the Methodist's blood donor department, could not locate the hospital's records of Williams'

blood needs. Williams was unavailable for comment. Guess denied that Methodist re-

ceived blood shipments from Red Cross.



"We know that our Red Cross national office has said, under dire threats from all 57 administrators and chapter chairmen, that we will never get into a system again where we ship credits or where there's any indebtedness built up," she said. Robert Harvey, newly-elected Student Body President, said there's a chance both groups will have blood drives on campus next year. A committee to research that possibility will form in September.



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