

Local

# Johnson: Student government a forum for all



By GRETCHEN RATLIFF  
Battalion Reporter

Student government is trying to see things big but keep them simple, Ken Johnson, student body president of Texas A&M University, said Tuesday night.

Speaking at a meeting of the Class of '83, Johnson said that, as an organization that represents the entire student body, the student government has to accurately represent the needs and wants of all.

"We're dealing with a lot of administration and a very diverse student body," he said. To be effective, he said, the student government has to have a system, and they have to develop policies and procedures.

"We've got the system now and we're trying to get your input and the input of students across campus," he said.

One of the ways student government is trying to do this is through a campus canvass.

The canvass, which will be a monthly activity, is being circulated by student senators to their constituents. It is a means of providing students with information and bringing their opinions back to the system, Johnson said.

He said the first canvass listed questions dealing with the recognition of the Greek clubs on cam-

pus, night exams, user fees, and contacting major airlines about the possibilities of flying out of Easterwood airport.

It is the responsibility of the student government to provide a forum for both sides of issues to be heard, but the decisions on those issues rests with the students, he said.

Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Student Body President Ken Johnson makes a point during his address to the Class of '83 Thursday night.

## RHA turns down dorm activity fee

By NANCY WEATHERLEY  
Battalion Staff

RHA members defeated a proposal Thursday night which would have required head residents of university dorms to pay an activity fee.

Because of new drinking policies concerning dorm parties, head residents are required to attend all dorm functions where liquor is served.

Nicole Williams, president of Hobby Hall, said Hobby didn't require head residents to pay a fee before and considers it a privilege of head residents to attend dorm functions.

RHA delegates were also given a survey to poll dorm leaders on the proposal before student government concerning university recognition of sororities and fraternities.

The survey will be used to determine RHA's stand on the issue, which Tim Ryan, president of RHA, will take to the student government.

Stacy Graf, director of external affairs, said this is the first time a

survey like this has been taken. "We want the personal opinions of our members, with equal representation from each dorm, to take to the student government," she said.

Richard Myers, Bonfire chairman, said RHA will have a benefit barbecue honoring H.B. Pat Zachry, whose equipment and manpower help build the bonfire, Saturday on the main drill field following the University of Houston football game. Tickets, which are \$5 for students and \$7.50 for non-students, will be available the day of the barbecue.

A benefit dance with the Max is also scheduled the Saturday night after the Arkansas game at the Starlight Ballroom in Snook.

The next RHA meeting will be October 22. Members will meet at 8:30 p.m. in the MSC main lounge in their dorm t-shirts for their group Aggieland picture before the meeting. Delegates were asked to bring their dorm banners for the picture.

## Blood drive next week

The Brazos chapter of the American Red Cross will hold its monthly blood drive Monday and Tuesday at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Activities Center, at

Main and Cross Streets.

The drive will be open from noon until 6 p.m. both days.

Sigma Chi Fraternity is sponsoring this month's drive.

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