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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	73	High	67
Low	45	Low	42
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	10%



Photo by Janet G. Joyce

Ted Hajovsky, staff attorney, left; Dr. John J. Koldus, vice president for student services, center; and James B. Bond, vice chancellor for legal affairs, leave the courtroom in Houston

Wednesday after six hours of testimony at the GSSO vs Texas A&M University trial. Koldus is expected to be called as the defense's final witness today.

Testimony to end today in GSSO-A&M case

By DENISE RICHTER

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Battalion Staff
HOUSTON — Testimony in the Gay Student Service Organization vs. Texas A&M University trial is expected to end today, attorneys in the case say.
Lonny F. Zwiener, assistant attorney general representing Texas A&M, said the defense plans to call Dr. John J. Koldus, vice president for student services, as its final witness.

In November 1976, Koldus wrote a letter to the GSSO, explaining why its request for University recognition was denied. In the letter he said it would be inappropriate for a state institution to support a student organization which is likely to incite, promote and result in illegal acts.

A few months later, the GSSO filed a federal civil rights suit against the University. And after a four-year battle over a legal technicality, the case finally landed in federal court in Houston this year.

In testimony Wednesday, Dr. Kenneth Nyberg, former faculty adviser and author of the GSSO, said that 80 percent of the universities granting doctoral degrees have gay groups on campus. The other 20 percent have no gay groups; however, the groups are not prohibited on any campus, he said.

Nevertheless, Dr. Paul Cameron, a psychologist and witness for the defense, said recognition of a gay group could lead to an increase in the rate of homosexual behavior.

"Homosexuality is an infection with social consequences," he said. "It is an appetite which ... results in adverse social and personal consequences ... and appetites are acquired."

"It would certainly appear that having a place for gays ... on campus for social events and recruiting activities would increase homosexual activities on campus."

"As one legitimizes a particular form of sexual behavior, one opens the door for people who otherwise wouldn't countenance seeing (homosexuality) as a possibility."

Dr. Charles Webb, a physician with the Texas Department of Public Health and a witness for the defense, raised another argument against recognition of the organization, saying that male homosexuals are more susceptible to venereal diseases.

The University is seeking to prove that, because the rate of venereal diseases such as infectious syphilis and gonorrhea is much greater among homosexuals than among the rest of the population, condoning homosexuality would contribute to a spread of the diseases.

Webb said of the 3,896 males who contracted infectious syphilis in 1980, 1,704, or 44 percent, were homosexuals. This figure is disproportionate to the number of homosexual males in the population, he said.

However, he said the incidence rate of venereal disease in female homosexuals is extremely low. "We don't direct our attention to female homosexuals because they're not a health problem," he said.

Despite testimony addressing the possible effects of GSSO recognition, U.S. District Judge Ross N. Sterling said Wednesday that the only question the court will deal with is whether the Constitution requires recognition of a

group whose members have not been deprived of individual rights.

Patrick Wiseman, attorney for the GSSO, said the plaintiffs will base their case on the First Amendment guarantee of free speech and assembly: "All the plaintiffs have to show is that their rights were violated and then the burden (of proof) shifts to the government."

The government must then show that the denial of University recognition was not a violation of the First Amendment or that there was compelling reason to override the First Amendment, he said.

Zwiener said: "With the background of extremes to which the First Amendment has been taken (as a defense), it's very difficult to ever restrain anything if you can put a First Amendment gloss on it. If (the GSSO vs. Texas A&M case) is a First Amendment case, we have trouble."

However, Texas A&M will try to use the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause as a defense, he said.

The 14th Amendment says that no state will be allowed to make or enforce any law abridging the privileges of United States citizens; deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, nor deny any person the equal protection of the law.

If Texas A&M is permitted to use the 14th Amendment as a defense, it will only have to show that there was a rational basis for denying the GSSO recognition, Zwiener said. Using the amendment, the University can argue that recognition of the GSSO will threaten heterosexuals' rights to equal protection of the law.

The University is prepared to do this, Zwiener said.

Student Senate votes against Greek recognition

By NANCY FLOECK

Battalion Staff
After two months of consideration, the Student Senate Wednesday night voted against recommending University recognition of Greek councils.

This decision was made after Student Body President Ken Johnson presented a committee report which said the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council withdrew their requests for recognition because they felt University financial policies were not in their best interest. The Senate then decided not to take favorable action toward recognition until the groups are willing to comply with student organization policies.

The Senate also approved five other proposals.

One recommended that Aggie Muster be included as a University excused absence, and that the event be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. each year.

Beth Castenson, education senator and author of the proposal, said this will allow students with late classes to attend Muster without being penalized. The consistent time will help the administration in implementing this, she added, as well as allow the Muster Committee to hold a barbecue before the ceremony.

The main objection to the bill was that faculty would not be able to determine which students attended Muster and which used it as an excuse to skip class.

After minimal debate, the Senate also approved three bills that deal with pedestrian-vehicle safety.

One asks University police to increase ticketing of illegally parked motorcycles and mopeds and encourages impounding the motorcycles and mopeds of repeat offenders.

Graduate Off-Campus Senator Fred Seals, who wrote the bill, said the proposal does more than punish offenders; it lets students and administrators know the Senate is concerned about the safety

and appearance of the campus.

The Senate also approved a recommendation that calls for continuing expansion of motorcycle and moped parking areas. These new spaces are to be along streets and in parking lots, the recommendation says.

The last of these bills recommends that a committee be formed to study problems and possible solutions of increased bicycle usage on campus. This committee should consist of students, administrators and at least one member of the Texas A&M Wheelmen Club, the bill says.

Judy Marcotte, student affairs coordinator for student services, said the committee was suggested by John Koldus, vice president for student affairs, who felt students and administrators need to address these problems together.

After lengthy debate, the Senate also approved the establishment of a committee made up of nine senators to oversee the development and administration of Campus Canyasses, informal student surveys. Prior to this, the executive branch of the student senate had complete control in this area.

Agriculturist to publish Friday

Agricultural journalism students have completed their fall semester tabloid, the Agriculturist, which will supplement The Battalion Friday.

The purpose of the newspaper is to serve students, faculty and staff in the College of Agriculture and the University.

It will contain articles on research and activities and personalities affecting the future of agriculture at Texas A&M University and throughout the state and nation.

The Agriculturist is published once each semester and serves as a learning project for agricultural journalism students and members of the Texas A&M chapter of Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow.

The students are responsible for all aspects of the newspaper production including story writing, photography, editing, advertising, layout and production work.

The theme for this semester's issue of the Agriculturist is 'Agriculture and the Future,' focusing primarily on research projects in the College of Agriculture at Texas A&M through education, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Julie Standard, editor of the Agriculturist, said.

Senate Republicans try to avert Reagan veto

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Seeking to avert a veto by President Reagan, Senate Republicans are looking for budget cuts small enough for Congress but large enough to satisfy Reagan.

They struggled with the matter Wednesday, planned to meet with all GOP senators early today and then, on the Senate floor, offer an amendment aimed at reducing a \$417.4 billion spending bill that is needed to keep the government from shutting down at midnight Friday.

GOP leaders said Wednesday they were not sure what form the amendment would take. The White House has made it clear that Reagan would veto the measure without further reductions.

Staff sources said the draft contained a smaller percentage cut than Reagan requested because new calculations showed a smaller cut would achieve the

same reduction in dollars that Reagan is seeking.

The proposal developed during a day of frantic negotiations that began after Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker found there was inadequate support for a 5 percent reduction.

Reagan had requested the 5 percent across-the-board cut, saying that would be half of what he originally asked from Congress in September — a 12 percent across-the-board reduction in domestic spending.

But Baker and Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., were expected to press Reagan to accept a 3.5 percent compromise at a blacktie dinner the president hosted for Republican senators Wednesday night. They also hoped to sell him on including defense spending, a sticking point for some senators.

Staff aides said the 3.5 percent figure being discussed would not be across the board.

Academic policy changes take effect in engineering

By TIM FOARDE

Battalion Staff
Changes in the academic policy of the College of Engineering went into effect this week with preregistration for the spring semester.

However, confusion between policy changes made by the College of Engineering and a separate statement of changes effected by the Board of Regents has left some engineering students wondering which changes apply to whom.

Dr. Stan H. Lowy, assistant dean of the College of Engineering, said the changes that affect students already in the college include new probation requirements and admittance standards for junior and senior level engineering courses.

Overcrowded classes and a demand for specific courses, Lowy said, have caused the College of Engineering to raise its academic standards.

With the exception of freshmen students, probation terms will be granted only to those students whose grade point deficiencies are not more than nine points below a 2.0 GPR, Lowy said.

Students whose grades point deficiency is 10 or more points below a 2.0 GPR will not be admitted to the University the following semester.

Students on academic probation who do not meet the terms of their probation will also be dropped, he said.

More than 1,000 students in the College of Engineering, (about 12 percent), have been blocked from preregistration for next semester pending the outcome of this semester's final grades.

Those dropped may be readmitted if they show evidence of "improved potential for academic success" and can reduce their grade point deficiency to nine grade points below a 2.0 their first semester back, Lowy said.

Satisfactory improved academic potential might include successful completion of engineering courses at another institution or engineering work experience, he said.

The College of Engineering will also enforce a new standard for admittance to junior and senior level engineering courses.

Students may not take junior engineering courses if their overall GPR is below 2.0.

And senior engineering courses may be taken only if the student's overall GPR is at least 2.0 and their GPR in their engineering courses is at least 2.0.

The College of Engineering also made changes in the admittance requirements for fall 1982 incoming freshmen, transfer and out-of-state students, that will be printed in next fall's student handbook, Lowy said.

Changes also were made by the Board of Regents in the engineering portion of the Regent's Enrollment Management Statement.

These changes raise the standard for taking junior and senior level engineering courses, Lowy said, but these new requirements apply only to students entering Texas A&M in the fall of 1982 and thereafter.

A minimum cumulative GPR of 2.25 will be required to take junior level engineering courses.

Senior level engineering courses will require an overall GPR of 2.25 and a cumulative GPR of 2.25 in all engineering courses.

These higher standards will not apply to anyone enrolled in the College of Engineering prior to fall of '82, Lowy said.



Photo by Doug Hamaker

It's those flushed job-offer blues

These graduating senior engineers seem to be feeling blue after looking over "flush" letters rejecting them from possible jobs. Mike

Villarreal, left, examines his most recent negative response. Ken Crowe, center, and Mike Perez search the want-ads for jobs.