

Greeks

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residents of Davis-Gary Hall.

Signs and banners bearing the "NO FRATS" slogan — some of which still remain — were posted in the dorm, in campus buildings, on sidewalks, in cars, and on the dome of the Academic Building.

But Nimrod Gumby, Davis-Gary president, said the hall will not run a similar campaign next year because it gives the fraternities too much recognition.

University recognition of the IFC and Panhellenic also stirred controversy in the Student Senate — the fraternity recognition issue was one of the most controversial topics to be taken before Student Government during the fall.

Recognition of the groups would afford them a great number of opportunities, most importantly the use of such University facilities as rooms, mailboxes, office space and equip-

ment. The IFC and Panhellenic League also would be included in the Student Organizations Guide and "Inrol" as well as the University calendar and the Aggieland.

If recognized, the groups would be held responsible to abide by all University rules and regulations and filing group rules and regulations with the University.

Upon application, Student Government voted to establish a committee to study the various alternatives and present a recommendation on the proposal to the Student Senate.

In a memorandum to the committee, the Residence Hall Association said recognition would bring the organizations closer to the University, dissolving the fragmentation that would result if they remained

unrecognized.

"Recognition would also increase University control over Greek activities," the memorandum read.

"Currently, the University can be held liable for the actions of Greek organizations because the University is still considered the parent organization. For this reason, Texas A&M could benefit by having greater control over Greek actions."

The committee then compiled a three-point plan listing requirements for IFC and Panhellenic League recognition.

First, the committee said, the organizations would need to select faculty advisers, possibly incorporating them into an advisory board made up of other advisers.

Second, it was recommended that the organizations prepare a data base of information on

Greek organizations at other campuses for comparison.

Finally, the Greeks were told they would have to maintain accounts in the Student Finance Center for public relations expenses, food services, facilities usage and equipment.

These restrictions on the budget finally caused the groups to withdraw their application for recognition after two months of discussion.

Although the Greek issue did not receive widespread attention before last fall, it has been brewing for several years.

In October 1977, the Texas A&M chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, organized in 1975, requested recognition as an official student organization.

Recognition was denied in a letter to the fraternity from Dr. John J. Koldus III, the vice pres-

ident for student services.

"The University has supported the premise that its social character was developed in the concept of togetherness in that all students were Aggies and that a social caste system would detract from this the most important concept which welded together the students that attended Texas A&M," Koldus said in the letter.

"(We will) attempt to perpetuate these traditions which have added not only to the character of the institution but to its strength."

Sigma Phi Epsilon's application for recognition is the only request the University has received from an individual fraternity or sorority.

"We don't want recognition of the fraternities," Marable said.

"I just shudder at the

"What we do want is acceptance of fratres what they are — club campus Aggies that friendship and fellow-

Marable said the fraternities are just a ment to "Aggieism." IFC Vice President So agreed, saying he wouldn't even consider a fraternity at another

"Fraternities at Te cannot be compared at the University of Ta or Baylor," Marable

"We don't rush on not your father has you drive a Porsche strong believers that Aggie first and what terward."

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Awards

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McCandless also said a Faculty Development Leave Program has been recommended. This program would allow faculty members to take a semester off from teaching to broaden or freshen their teaching techniques.

Dr. Clinton A. Phillips, dean of faculties, announced recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards. Phillips chaired the selection committee.

Each recipient of the awards, sponsored by the Association of Former Students, receive a gold watch, a plaque and \$5,000.

Receiving the Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching were: Dr. Claudia L. Barton, assistant professor of small animal medicine and surgery; Dr. Samuel H. Black, professor and head of the medicine-medical microbiology and immunology department; Dr. John C. Groth, associate professor of finance; Dr. John L.

Hogg, associate professor of chemistry; Dr. Donna E. Norton, associate professor of curriculum and instruction; and Dr. William P. Snyder, associate professor of political science.

The Distinguished Achievement Award in Research was presented to: Dr. William R. Bryant, professor of oceanography; Dr. Jon A. Epps, professor of civil engineering; Dr. Harris J. Granger, professor in the College of medicine-physiology; Dr. Jack H. Luns-

ford, professor of chemistry; Dr. Robert L. Skrabanek, professor of sociology and anthropology-sociology; and Dr. David H. Youngblood, professor of physics and director of the Cyclotron Institute.

Recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Award in Student Relations were Dave Benson, lecturer in finance, and Willard T. Worley, associate professor of electrical engineering. Henry D. Smith, head of the

Fire Protection Training, and Dr. Robert L. Skrabanek, professor of petroleum engineering, received the Distinguished Achievement Award in Continuing Education.

Lt. Col. Joe T. Harctor of the Texas Ag and Mary Ruth Patra, executive secretary for the the College of Agriculture given the Distinguished Achievement Award a member of the staff admin

Are media truth-tellers or bunk-broadcasters?

Editors debate role of press in society

United Press International CHICAGO — A former newspaper editor, playing devil's advocate in a panel discussion, told his ex-colleagues accuracy is nice but not necessary;

although an author warned misrepresenting the facts could harm the public trust placed in the press.

Kurt Luedtke, the former executive editor of the Detroit Free Press who wrote the screenplay for "Absence of Malice," baited Sissela Bok, author of "Lying: Moral Choice in Public and Private Life," in a discussion Wednesday before the annual gathering of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

"Discussing press ethics im-

plies we have some," Luedtke said facetiously. "We get so tangled up in our own rhetoric, we're confusing ourselves about what we do and why we do it."

"All this talk about our duties and obligations to readers implies we have a debt to pay. We have none. We are free to print what we want and take the consequences."

"I really don't think the public has the right to know. I don't know how the press can put on the clothes and act the role and

tell people what they need to know.

"This business is too specific, too immediate and too variable to be accurate all the time. It is nice to be accurate, but not necessary. It is nice not to hurt people, but not avoidable."

"Conscious, discretionary decisions are made by ordinary people like us. We're brokering the relationship between reader and subject, and all that counts is fairness," Luedtke said.

Bok countered by urging greater responsibility from investigative reporters.

"Often reporters feel justified in using deceit when there is no alternative way of getting infor-

mation," she said. "It's editors to question the because deception is wrong, it carries an risk."

"It is always a short often reflects incompe tracking down info through conventional she said. Deception "credibility of the press how can you trust what when I obtain inform ceitfully?"

The third member panel was Pulitzer Prize Jack Nelson, the Wash bureau chief of the Los Times.

Nelson took issue with ke's thoughts about the right to know.

"The press is only do the average person we he had the time and Nelson said. "This is important thing the pre

Nelson said distro cynicism that festered the Washington press ering the Nixon era ha arrogance.

"There are too ma named sources," he think there's been a problem from report was too loose, sometime of frantic attempts to with TV."

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