

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 87 No. 66 USPS 045360 10 Pages

College Station, Texas

Thursday, December 3, 1987

Official: Dates not set to hear hazing-law case

By Clark Miller
Staff Writer

No date has been set for the hearings that could find some Texas A&M Corps of Cadet members guilty of violating state and University hazing laws, an A&M official said.

The hearings will be held because of the Nov. 15 incident that left A&M senior George Russell Pulliam handcuffed and tied to a post on the University of Texas campus.

Dr. Brent Paterson, student development specialist with the Department of Student Affairs at A&M, said letters have been sent to 22 students charging them with either directly participating in the incident or of having knowledge of the incident and not reporting it to the proper University officials.

Pulliam, a member of the Corps and the commanding officer of Squadron 10, reportedly was taken from the A&M campus by freshman cadets in his squadron.

In an interview shortly after the incident, Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling, commandant of the Corps, said Pull-

iam's abduction was a freshman prank.

"It was a case of freshmen trying to earn their Corps brass," Darling said.

Darling also added that it wasn't something he condoned.

Paterson said his office knows the students who are involved and they all have received the letters that tell them what they are charged with. However, Paterson said the names are confidential and cannot be released.

A member of Squadron 10, Trampus Black, a freshman general studies student, declined to comment on the incident when contacted by telephone.

Black said he wasn't involved in the incident and added that he was told not to discuss it with anybody. When asked who told him this, he said it was his commanding officer, who is Pulliam.

Despite repeated efforts to reach Pulliam by phone, he hasn't been available for comment.

Paterson said that the dates of the hearings have not yet been set.

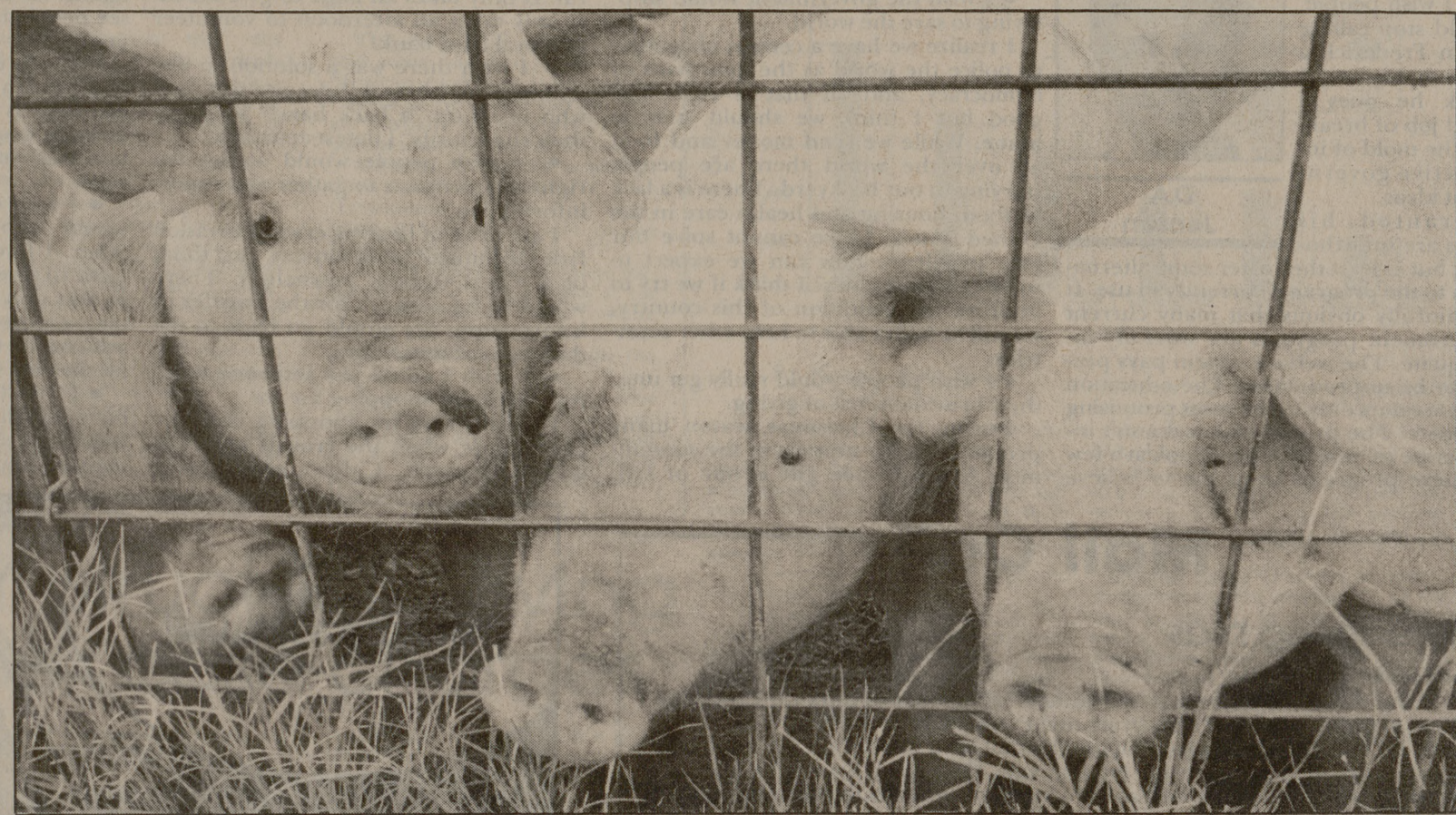


Photo by Sarah Cowan

Hog heaven

Four hogs line up and try to eat grass through the fence at the Texas A&M Swine Center.

Former A&M student gets vital liver transplant

By Janet Goode
Staff Writer

John Stone, the former Texas A&M student who called upon the support of his fellow Aggies to raise money for a desperately needed liver transplant, underwent surgery and received a donated liver Tuesday.

The surgery began at 9:30 Tuesday night and successfully was completed at 3:30 Wednesday morning. Stone now is in serious condition and is in the in-

tensive care unit at the Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas.

Susan Hall, spokesman for the medical center, said that this is typical for a transplant patient, and that Stone is doing as well as can be expected.

Hall said Stone will spend two or three days in an intensive care unit and then three to four weeks in a regular patient room, if all goes well.

Stone, 25, suffers from Alpha-1-Anti-

Trypsin Deficiency, which keeps his body from controlling his digestive enzymes, resulting in cirrhosis of the liver.

"Basically, I'm digesting my own liver," Stone told *The Battalion* earlier this semester before he was put on the donor list.

The cirrhosis of his liver kept his blood from circulating properly, so if he had not received the operation, doctors feared he would have hemorrhaged and bled to death.

Scott Donahue, Stone's friend and chairman of the John Stone Liver Transplant Fund, said about \$35,000 has been raised through various channels including donations, leaving about \$85,000 still needed to pay for the deposit on the donor waiting list.

The medical center let Stone receive a donor and undergo the transplant without the full funds. Donahue said in a earlier interview that he thinks the hospital officials

realized how serious Stone's condition was and felt pressure from the media.

Stone also needs about \$250,000 more to pay for the operation itself.

Persons wishing to donate should write the American Transplant Association, Box 822123, Dallas, Tx. 75382-2123, or the American Transplant Association, care of the John Stone Fund, Post Oak Branch of First State Bank in Caldwell, P.O. Box 10130, College Station, Tx. 77840.

Student Senate backs plan cutting funds, health care

By Drew Leder
Staff Writer

The Student Senate Wednesday backed a student-service fee budget proposal recommending the elimination of all-night, inpatient care at the A.P. Beutel Health Center, an almost 98 percent decrease in shuttle bus funding and no funding for the newly created Multicultural Services Center.

In what Speaker of the Senate Jay Hays called "one of the most productive meetings in three years," the Senate also approved a bill recommending that next semester faculty be given the option of providing a separate final exam to graduating seniors or exempting seniors from finals.

The budget proposal, written by the Student Government Finance Committee, was unanimously approved by the Senate

with virtually no debate and serves as a recommendation to the Student Services office of how student service fee revenues should be allocated in the 1988-89 school year.

The budget proposal calls for a per-student increase of \$2 that will bring the fees up to \$67. This will increase funding for the 17 campus organizations that receive student-service fee allocations 2.35 percent to \$5,070,176.

The major area of funding is the health center, which is to receive 28.1 percent of the fees. Although the health center's funding over last year will increase almost 37 percent to \$1,424,719, the Finance Committee didn't meet the center's request, recommending that health care services from midnight to 8 a.m. be discontinued because they aren't cost efficient.

The proposal also calls for a 98

percent decrease in funding for the University shuttle bus service, allotting \$2,000 to help fund free bonfire shuttle service. According to the budget, shuttle bus funding should come solely from the students who utilize the service. To make up for the lost student-service fee money, the budget suggests that the price of a bus pass be raised \$10 over the next three years.

Funding for the Multicultural Services Center, which was \$106,000 this year, is eliminated completely. The Finance Committee stated that the center affects only a small portion of students, and the center's goals — to work with and aid minorities and minority programs on campus — are duplicated in other on-campus services.

The budget also calls for al-

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A&M leaders provide varied views of mascot proposal of Old Sarge

By Shannon O'Neal
Reporter

A familiar "Aggie" face came to life Tuesday when a cadet in an "Old Sarge" costume strolled around the Quadrangle. Cries of disapproval and dismay came from the residence halls he passed.

Some cadets called for the costume to be destroyed and some wanted their picture taken with the animated Old Sarge.

"We need to take that monstrosity out Thursday night and do a replay of the flight of the great pumpkin," Steve Early, cadet captain of company K-2, said referring to the annual smashing of a pumpkin on the Quadrangle at Halloween.

Head yell leader Doug Beall said it was the first time the costume had been in public.

Beall said he picked it up from Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill Thanksgiving morning and stored it in his dorm room until Tuesday.

The *Battalion* contacted the A&M Sports Information Office and was told they knew of no plans for such a mascot.

Sherrill is out of town until Dec. 7 and could not be reached for comment.

Beall said the costume idea had first been presented to him about three weeks ago at bonfire stack.

Sherrill approached Beall and the redpots with the idea of an Old Sarge costume, but he got nothing but negative feedback, Beall said.

At the University of Texas football game, Beall and other student leaders looked at the costume and told Sherrill it was inappropriate for use at the game.

The costume was to be under student control, Beall said, and would wander around outside Kyle Field and on the alumni side of the stadium during the games.

According to Beall, Sherrill said the alumni want something on their side of the field, and they feel the Old Sarge tradition is dying.

Some alumni see the costume as a way to revive the tradition, he said. But Beall said the alumni feedback he has received about the costume is negative.

"The consensus of the old Ags is that they want to watch the game and the students," Beall said. "They did their yelling when they were students, and if they wanted to do it now they would get tickets on the student side."



Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

The Old Sarge mascot came to life Tuesday.

The student leaders' initial reaction was complete rejection, but Beall said as the discussion continued, they admitted the possibility of the costume being worked into basketball or baseball games.

Student Body President Mason Hogan said those responsible should have gotten student input earlier.

"If they really wanted student input, they could have done so much earlier and saved someone a whole lot of money and time," Hogan said.

Although many people say it will succeed because Aggies are too nice

to reject it, he feels it is simply not needed.

"Aggies are going to come to the game — win, lose or draw," Hogan said. "A costume is simply not going to be a draw for a sports event. We don't need it. We already have enough at the games with our yell leaders, cannon, Rev and all the C.T.s in uniform running around down there. I just don't think we need this big head stumbling

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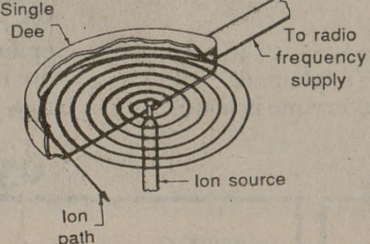
A&M superconducting cyclotron will help reveal secrets of atom

By Lee Schexnaider
Staff Writer

The temperature is near absolute zero. Thousands of feet of superconducting wires are coiled and waiting. The electricity flows through the wires, causing magnetic fields to form. If the maximum amount of electricity the coils could hold was run into them, the magnetic field could break the machine's steel structural support.

Naked atomic nuclei, stripped of their electrons, are injected into this swirling maelstrom of magnetism inside the coils of wire. Radio waves further accelerate the particles until they are traveling almost at the speed of light. The nuclei travel through a vacuum and smash into a thin sheet of aluminum, causing a flurry of atomic collisions.

This is how new discoveries will be made at the new superconducting cyclotron at Texas A&M beginning Monday. Dr. Dave Youngblood, director of the facility, said the new device is one of only three like it in the world, because it uses superconduct-



Graphic by Susan C. Akin

ing technology in a cyclotron. The project cost \$8 million, which included building the cyclotron itself and the structure to house the machine. It will allow A&M researchers to accelerate atoms as large as uranium — which has an atomic number of 92 on the periodic table of elements. The present accelerator can only accelerate atoms up to argon, which has an atomic number of 18.

Youngblood said the cyclotron won't necessarily produce new dis-

coveries from planned experiments. He said researchers learn things when unexpected results arise.

"It is really a success when the experiments don't do what you expect," he said. He pointed to a book containing the proposal for the old cyclotron and said none of the new things A&M researchers discovered were in the 200-page volume. He said if they had proved all of their theories correct, they would not have learned as much.

One of the experiments planned for the new cyclotron involves finding what happens to particles that travel at the speed of sound within the nucleus of an atom. Youngblood said the speed of sound varies in different materials. For example, the speed of sound through air is different than the speed of sound through wood.

An experiment will study the interactions of ions at this speed. He said A&M researchers discovered the speed of sound through atoms is one-third the speed of light using

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