



WEATHER

FORECAST for SATURDAY:
Mostly sunny and warm. Watch
for possible showers Sunday.

HIGH:78

LOW:55

Buchman elected student president

By Kelly S. Brown

STAFF WRITER

Kevin Buchman, the next Texas A&M student body president, swept 69 percent of the vote in Thursday's Student Government elections.

Buchman, a junior speech communications major, ran against Michael Kelley, a senior political science major.

"I took the issues to the students and didn't have any gimmicks," Buchman said. "I just told the students what I wanted to do. I guess they liked my plans."

Kelley said, "I was reading before I came here tonight how Abraham Lincoln lost many of his races before he became president. So I know there is a purpose for me elsewhere for now."

Buchman received 3,044 votes, beating Kelley by 1,665.

The contest for yell leaders attracted the most voters, with Corps of Cadets members clinching all positions in the race. Senior yell leaders will be Steve Coan, Ed Allred and Waylan Cain. Junior yell leaders will be Brant Ince and Kevin Fitzgerald.

Katherine Smith won a second term as president of the Class of '90. Kathleen Broderick will be vice president and Jason Kappel secretary. The social secretary will be Jennifer Evans and the historian will be Sharon Brunner. The treasurer position will be decided in a run-off election April 4. Vying for the spot are Karen Hodge and Chris Leist.

The Class of '91 presidency will be decided in a run-off between Phillip Robertson and Billy Flanagan. Vice president of the Class of '91 will be Christy McBride. Tracy Butler was elected secretary; Leah Bennett treasurer; Leslie Willingham social secretary; and Gil Delgado historian. Trenton Kelley was re-elected Class of '92 president. The vice presidency will be determined in the run-off election. Candidates are Patty Warhol and Bill Van Eman.

Jennifer Collins was elected secretary; Terri Welch social secretary; Jason Scott historian. Steve Beller and Rod Garrett will be in a run-off to decide the Class of '92 treasurer.

Curtis Rick was re-elected president of Off-Campus Aggies. Keith Powell won vice president, Millicent Thompson was elected secretary and La Ray McKay treasurer.

Leah Hanselka will be Residence Hall Association president and Kyle Jacobson will be vice president. Martina Seyfert will be secretary.

All Student Senate chairmen races were unopposed. Kerrie Neck will be Academic Affairs Committee chairman, Christi Choat will be Student Services chairman, David Wieland will be Finance Committee chairman and Kenny Gossett will head the External Affairs Committee.

In the College of Agriculture, the at-large senator positions will be filled by Jason Baird and Jeff Darby. The senior agriculture senator will be Jason Grier. The agriculture junior senator will be Dawn Wayne. Stephen Weber will be the sophomore senator.

The at-large seats in the College of Architecture were won by Philip Chen and Tim Hagen.

The business administration senator at-large will be Jason Peterson. The senior seats will be filled by Thomas Donna and Diane Purinton. Meredith Brown and Chris McClain won the junior seats while Jennifer Darr and Jojo Yiu will be the sophomore senators.

The seat in the College of Education will be decided in the run-offs. Both John Hubert and G.G. Grant received one vote.

The College of Engineering senior senators will be Kurt Thomlinson, Tim Dillman and Jeff Starr. The junior seats will be filled by Charles Keffer, Joel Bittick and Jeff Chapman. Coy Kouba, Steven White

See Elections/Page 6



Photo by Jay Janner

An ecstatic Kevin Buchman, surrounded by friends and supporters, celebrates as he is announced student body

president for 1989-90. The results were announced about 11:45 Thursday night outside the Academic Building.

Exxon fires tanker captain for drinking

VALDEZ, Alaska (AP) — The captain of the oil tanker Exxon Valdez was fired Thursday following a federal investigation that determined he was legally drunk around the time his ship ran aground, causing the nation's worst oil spill.

The National Transportation Safety Board said Capt. Joseph Hazelwood, who had turned over command of the Exxon Valdez to an unqualified third mate before the accident, had a blood-alcohol level of .061 when he was tested nine hours later.

That exceeds the standard of intoxication under federal law for operating a commercial vessel at sea, which is .04 percent, said William Woody, who headed a four-member NTSB team investigating the tanker accident.

Shortly after the NTSB announcement, Exxon Shipping Co. announced it was firing Hazelwood, who has been convicted twice of drunken driving.

Maximum criminal penalties for operating a ship while intoxicated include a \$5,000 fine and up to a year in jail, Coast Guard authorities said. In addition, violators face the loss of their seaman's license and up to \$1,000 in civil penalties.

The NTSB investigation found no indications of drinking by the third mate who was piloting the ship without certification when it ran aground, or by the ship's lookout, the helmsman or the radio operator. However, a Coast Guard employee who was working in a radio room in Valdez had a blood-alcohol level of .20 when he was tested more than 12 hours after the accident, Woody said.

The worker, Bruce Blandford, told investigators he had begun drinking only after he got off work and was not drunk at the time of the tanker accident. Woody said his superiors reported that Blandford's performance appeared normal.

Meanwhile, another ship arrived Thursday to take the remaining oil off the crippled tanker, and an oil slick continued to spread over 500 square miles of what once was one of Alaska's most beautiful marine habitats.

"Anyone who goes up and looks at the slick has to be humbled by it," Coast Chief Petty Officer Todd Nelson said.

Horak left notes to family, roommate says

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

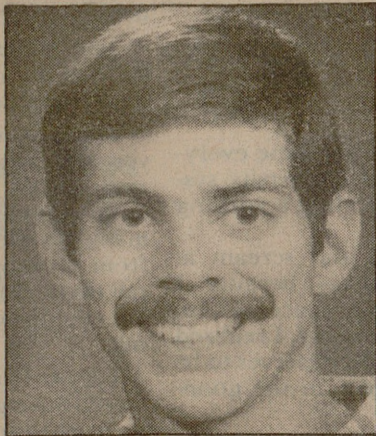
Harry Louis Horak, charged with six felony counts in the March 21 attack on two female Texas A&M cadets, apparently wrote notes saying he would not return from the attack, his former roommate said.

Mike Morris, Horak's former roommate in Aston Hall, said he found a tablet with eight or nine notes to Horak's family, to the family of the sophomore cadet whom he is charged with attacking, and to some of Horak's other ex-girlfriends saying goodbye because he would "not be back."

A man identified by police as Horak entered the fourth-floor dorm room of Tricia Sexton and Sandra Alcalá, both members of Squadron 14, on March 21 with two rifles, about 160 rounds of ammunition and a hunting knife, Bob Wiatt, director of A&M University Police, said.

Alcalá awakened and grabbed the barrel of one rifle, Wiatt said. During the struggle, Sexton woke up and grabbed the other rifle barrel, he said.

Wiatt said eight shots were fired during the scuffle, but the only inju-



Battalion file photo

Harry Louis Horak

ries sustained were minor powder burns by Sexton and Alcalá.

The women took the rifles from the suspect and fled to the hallway, leaving the attacker armed only with the hunting knife, Wiatt said. He said the suspect then went to the closet and remained there until removed by five UPD officers.

Sexton and Alcalá have been relocated since the incident, Wiatt said.

Morris said he could not remember the exact wording of the notes,

but paraphrased them from memory.

"One of (the notes) was to the mother of (Sexton) saying what happened, but if she wouldn't have been such a bitch it wouldn't have happened," Morris said.

"One was to his parents (saying) sorry about all the expenses, but if you wouldn't have made me come back to A&M, this wouldn't have happened."

"One was to Trish saying something about if only she had tried harder. All he had asked was for her to try a little bit harder."

"One was to (Alcalá), saying something about that's what you get for hanging up on me."

"One was to his sister saying he hoped she met a nice boy someday, but to try not to be like Trish."

"One was to his brother telling him to have a nice time at AggieCon (an annual convention on the A&M campus)."

"There were a couple to some ex-girlfriends he had been dating before he met Trish."

Morris said the notes were picked up by police as evidence.

Bob Wiatt, director of University Police, confirmed the messages were picked up and are part of the evidence for any upcoming trial. He

said he could not confirm the information because it is vital to the case.

Morris said Horak's Hewlett Packard calculator had been programmed with a threatening message about Sexton, but Wiatt said officers searching the scene could not confirm this report.

Horak remains in Brazos County Jail on six felony counts including two counts of attempted murder. He faces a maximum of 169 years in prison. Bail has been set at \$100,000.

Brazos County District Attorney Bill Turner issued a statement through Wiatt saying Turner and Wiatt will do everything in their power "to prevent at all costs any early release on bond of Mr. Louis Horak."

Horak was a member of E-2 during his freshman year, but Lt. Col. Donald Johnson, assistant commandant, said Horak was dismissed from the Corps at the end of the Spring 1988 semester. Johnson said he could not give the reason for Horak's dismissal.

Corps Commander Todd Reichert said Horak was dismissed for academic cheating, an Honor Code violation. Reichert said he did not have details on the incident.

Horak remained in school for the Fall 1988 semester, moving in with

Morris in Aston Hall.

Wiatt said Horak attempted suicide Dec. 3, two days after Sexton refused to attend the Alabama football game with him. Morris said Horak began attending psychiatric counseling sessions after the attempt so he could stay in Aston. University policy requires counseling after a suicide attempt for a student to continue living on campus.

Wiatt said Horak signed a standard student counseling "contract" after the attempt saying he would not harm himself or others. Wiatt said the contract was hanging above Horak's desk when officers searched his room.

Morris said Horak had appointments to attend counseling as late as the week before spring break, March 13-17.

University officials have refused comment on whether Horak was enrolled for the spring semester, but Morris said he thought Horak had attended classes up to the day of the attack.

Wiatt said a decision was made to expel Horak the day of the attack and a letter was prepared to inform the suspect of the decision. The letter was delivered to Horak at the jail the following day by a UPD officer, Wiatt said.

Religion classes broaden theology spectrum

By Melissa Naumann

REPORTER

Religion means different things to different people, but the religious studies courses at Texas A&M can satisfy almost anyone's religious interests.

Philosophy courses at A&M cover Indian, Oriental and Near Eastern religions as well as the New and Old Testaments and the philosophy of religion. Courses in other departments include the Bible as literature, the sociology and psychology of religion and primitive religions.

Religious studies courses have changed considerably since Dr. Richard Stadelmann, associate professor of philosophy, came to A&M 20 years ago.

"The dean at that time thought they (religious studies courses) were particularly inadequate in an academic sense in that the local pastors taught them," Stadelmann said. "There was one pastor who had a

reputation for giving everybody A's if they were baptized at the end of the semester."

"Then there was another pastor who required some knowledge of Greek and Hebrew, so I don't mean to indicate that they were incompetent."

The courses evolved into objective presentations of different religions combined with elements of philosophy, said Stadelmann, who teaches Old Testament, New Testament, Indian/Oriental religion and Near Eastern religion.

Many of the students who sign up for the Old and New Testament courses don't expect critical thinking to be applied to the Bible, he said. Stadelmann begins his Old and New Testament courses with epistemology, the theory of knowledge, to teach students how to argue whether something is true.

Maintaining objectivity is important in teaching these types of classes even though some students don't expect it, he said.

"We have a number of students

Religion minor expected in Fall '90

By Melissa Naumann

REPORTER

Students who want to minor in religious studies probably will be able to do so by Fall 1990, Dr. Jonathan Kvanvig, associate professor of philosophy, said.

Although the establishment of the minor has been approved by the Educational Planning Committee, the requirements for the minor have not been outlined, said Kvanvig, who is chairman of the committee.

Because people usually are interested in religious studies for pre-seminary training or academic purposes, this program was created for those who take religious studies courses solely for academic reasons, he said.

who expect a Sunday school type of class," Stadelmann said. "But one must aim for objectivity in teaching at a state school."

Stadelmann said he tries to as-

sume his students know nothing about religion, but this is not a realistic goal.

"I say that I don't assume anything, but then I realize that I've

been assuming all along," he said. "Religion is culturally conditioned to an extent."

Daniel Lynch, president of the

See Religion/Page 5