

Friday, October 6, 1989

## Activists protest for democracy Chinese visa holders face persecution by protesting

By Selina Gonzalez

Of The Battalion Staff

Activists for Chinese democracy, including some Texas A&M students, demonstrated in Houston Sunday, the day China celebrated the 40th anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

Many of the demonstrators wore bags over their heads because they didn't want the Chinese Communist government to identify them, Irwin Wang, Texas A&M student and Medicine Tribe member, said.

The march, "We have a dream: Freedom and democracy in China," was sponsored by the Southwest branch of the Independent Federation of Chinese Students and Scholars.

Approximately 500 people gathered in Herman Park to support the democracy movement by listening to speeches, singing songs and marching.

Wang and Xen Ge, a Texas A&M graduate student and democracy activist, spoke at the rally. Participants waved banners and posters reading, "Honk for Democracy."

Wang said most Chinese people in the United States are afraid to speak out against the Communist dictatorship.

"There actually was someone (from the Chinese government) taking pictures of the demonstrators," Wang said.

Ge said videocameras are used to tape protestors in the United States. The tapes are then sent

to the Chinese government.

Ge said he has heard of a "blacklist" that the Chinese government is compiling with names of student protestors.

The Chinese students studying here need protection from the United States because those carrying J-1 visas are required to return to China after acquiring a degree, Ge said.

The alternative to the J-1 visa is called the F-1 visa. F-1 visas are privately funded, Noel Tope, Texas A&M international immigration adviser, said.

A&M graduate student Steven Gao said that if the Chinese government recognizes a visa holder as a protester, it fails to renew the visa and the student becomes illegal.

Ge said 70 percent of Chinese students are forced to acquire a J-1 and therefore need U.S. protection.

Gao, who carries a J-1 visa, attended a march in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, sponsored by the IFCSS.

"It doesn't matter if you're scared or not," Gao said. "It is human nature to protest when you consider the students who have given up their lives for democracy. It is my obligation to do something right now. People in China have already died. The least we can do here in the U.S. is carry out the movement."

Gao said he goes by the philosophy, "We only have to struggle right now in order to save us in the future."

Gao said he doesn't want to defect because his family is still in China.

"If they (Chinese government officials) recognize me and connect me to a specific family, some member of my family may get some kind of special treatment," Gao said.

Ge said he hopes that next year, it won't be dangerous for the Chinese people to express themselves.

The United States should place tough sanctions on high technology products exported to China, Wang said. No sanctions should be placed on food products because the people have been punished enough.

Ge said the Chinese government relies on the United States for technological products. But "high technology transport is not moral," he said.

Ge said the Communist dictatorship used traffic control cameras from the United States in the Tianmen Square massacre.

More than \$10,000 has been collected at Texas A&M for the families of those who died in the massacre, Ge said. He said investigation on how to transport the money to the families is being conducted.

"We are the most active university in helping the pro-democracy movement in the Southwest," Ge said.

## Prof: life isn't all roses for black college athletes

By Todd Connelley

Of The Battalion Staff

The notion that the black athlete rides a wave of luxury while in college sports can be a tainted perception, Dr. Harry Edwards said.

Edwards, a tenured professor of sociology at the University of California-Berkeley and consultant to the San Francisco 49ers, detailed the struggle of the black athlete at a program promoting racial awareness.

Edwards said academics remain a controversial area for the black athlete.

"Black athletes have no role model to look up to except other black athletes," Edwards said, "so when they graduate from high school no one demands anything of them intellectually."

"When they get to college they're put into jock courses and easy majors. What they don't real-

ize is that only 1.7 percent of college athletes ever sign a professional contract. They are getting ripped off," he said.

Edwards said recruitment problems and drug-use can be directly tied to racism.

"Black athletes right out of high school are recruited as uni-dimensional athletes," he said. "They are taken out of their homes and the black community and expected to be used as 20th-century gladiators."

"So, coming to a college campus becomes a major culture shock and unfortunately some black athletes react in a negative fashion."

Edwards issued a challenge to college students, asking them to see people for who they really are.

"Break that social isolation," he said. "If we don't we will become a reflection on what we are becoming as a people."

## Freshman election fills only seven of 13 seats

By Michael Kelley

Of The Battalion Staff

Yesterday's freshman elections resulted in runoffs for all six Class of '93 Class Council elections while seven freshmen were elected to represent their class in Student Government as members of the Student Senate.

Election Commissioners Perry Liston and Margarita Moreno announced the results to a crowd of about 100 freshmen at 8:30 p.m. in front of the Academic Building at the statue of "Sully."

"There were no complications this year with the freshman elections and only one minor com-

plaint," said Liston. "Overall, everything went well."

Moreno said that some votes were illegally cast and therefore were not counted in the election.

"There were 95 votes that were not counted due to a combination of student identification numbers that did not match up with the numbers of currently enrolled freshmen at A&M and some students left their identification numbers off their ballot," said Moreno.

She said that turnout for this year's fall elections was about 300

See Fish/Page 6

## Questions raised in Cardenas case

### Suspect in similar murders may be responsible for grad's death

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

Prosecutors say they are absolutely convinced the right man was convicted of murdering Audrey Cardenas, a 1988 Texas A&M graduate working in Illinois, but an attorney has been hired to review alleged similarities between that case and two recent killings.

Wednesday's action by St. Clair County State's Attorney John Baricevic follows local rumors that the 1988 slaying of Cardenas and that of a Belleville-area woman and her young son in September are related.

"I'm convinced we convicted the right person (Rodney Woidtke) for the murder of Audrey Cardenas," Baricevic said.

Cardenas, of Bryan, was killed in the summer

of 1988, just days after arriving for an internship at the Belleville (Illinois) *News-Democrat*.

The recent arrest of Dale Anderson in the slayings of JoLaine Lanman, 34, and her 3-year-old son, Kenneth, has sparked area speculation that Woidtke did not kill Cardenas.

Newspaper employees said after Cardenas' body was found in a dry creek bed on June 26, 1988, Anderson seemed to be obsessed with that case, even posing for a time as a special investigator looking into it.

A 14-year-old girl has said Anderson persuaded her to write a clumsy letter concocting evidence that three former supervisors at the Illinois Department of Public Aid, where Anderson once worked, were involved in the reporter's murder.

Police have said another note, also aimed at framing the supervisors, was found at last week's murder scene.

Baricevic was not swayed. "I am absolutely, without a doubt in my mind, 100 percent sure that Dale Anderson did not kill Audrey Cardenas," he said.


But Baricevic said he appointed John English, a former prosecutor, to review the killings.

Baricevic said English will be paid a flat fee to review both cases for the state's attorney's office and render an opinion. Baricevic also said he will allow a judge to review the Lanman case in private to see whether it would have affected the Woidtke trial.

**OPAS XVII**  
MSC Opera & Performing Arts Society  
proudly presents ...

**THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS**  
with  
**The Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra**

**SUNDAY  
OCT. 15, 1989  
RUDDER  
AUDITORIUM  
4:00 P.M.**




Tickets available at the MSC Box Office,  
**845-1234**  
and at Dillard's in Post Oak Mall.

**Looking for your '88 Aggieland?  
We've still got it!**

If you forgot to pick yours up, come by, show us your student I.D. and take it home.

'88 Aggielands are also available for purchase.

**English Annex**



**ATTENTION AGGIES!**

Would you like to travel to **Germany** next Summer?  
...as a cultural exchange student in coordination with the Georg August University in Göttingen, West Germany.

Trip is from May 22 to June 19, 1990.  
Fluency in German is not required  
Program is a cultural exchange.  
Room and some meals provided by host families. In Göttingen.  
Trips available to other locations in Germany.

Applications available:  
in room 223G MSC Browsing Library  
Due-October 9, 1989 at 5:00 p.m.

MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness

