


Texas A&M The Battalion



WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:
Mostly sunny
HIGH: 80 LOW: 53

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College Station, Texas

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A&M answers Bush's questions

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

A high-ranking Bush administration official met with two Texas A&M committees Monday to ask questions about A&M's proposal to build Bush's presidential library in College Station.

Don Wilson from the U.S. Archivist's Office met with the University's Academic Program Planning Committee and the Steering Committee to ask questions and to clarify points in A&M's library proposal.

President Bush gave Wilson a series of questions to ask the committees and the committees were to answer the questions during the meeting, according to a source close to the issue.

The source declined to specifically say what the questions were.

Wilson is scheduled to meet with officials from the University of Houston and Rice University this week.

A&M System Chancellor Perry Adkisson, Board of Regents Chairman Bill McKenzie and Michael Halbouty presented Bush with a formal proposal for the library site in January.

UH officials and Rice officials, the other two schools active in pursuing

the library, also presented the President with proposals in January.

Bush has kept his first choice under wraps, however, and has still not made a firm choice about the site of the library.

The source, who said Bush is the first to do such an intensive search for a library, said the meeting was a follow-up to the formal proposal.

Dr. Daniel Fallon, chairman of the Academic Program Planning Committee, said Bush wants the publicity kept to a minimum.

"The President wants to conduct this in an orderly manner," Fallon said. "We have just been responding to specific questions that he has."

McKenzie was unavailable for comment.

Wilson is conducting the meetings because the U.S. Archivist's Office is in charge of maintaining and staffing presidential libraries.

His office will play an even larger role in the construction of Bush's library following a recently enacted law that gives the Archivist's Office a large input in the actual planning and architecture of the library.

Bush has set no timetable for announcing the site of the library, according to most sources, but there is speculation that he will make the decision this year.

Woman seeks place as senior yell leader

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

Her motivation for seeking office is not unlike that of her opponents: her father is an Aggie, her grandfather is an Aggie and she said she was born an Aggie.

Senior journalism major Melissa Martin wants to be a senior yell leader — not a cheerleader.

"I've been around A&M all my life," Martin said. "I enjoy the traditions and thought it would be fun to be a yell leader and lead the Twelfth Man."

Campaigning for the March 29 election officially opened Sunday at 6 p.m. Northside residence halls opened for candidate campaigning Monday and today and Southside dormitories will be open Wednesday and Thursday.

Martin said if she had 20 people helping her she could get more name recognition, but the constraints of having a one-person staff, working in an on-campus job, and serving as president of Aggie Allemanders, a square dancing club, are real.

"I'd love to have time to knock on doors and meet people in the halls but I'll probably just slip flyers under the door and meet as many people as I can between classes," Martin said.

Martin said she can lead yells as well as the men, but that there were some things that she could not do anatomically.

"I do not want to be a cheerleader," Martin said. "I want to be a yell leader."

Martin said she hadn't talked to any truly negative people although some people didn't think she could win.

Martin is not the only woman to campaign for yell leader, Director of Student Affairs Carolyn Adair said. In the past one woman applied and went through the entire election process but lost. Another woman entered her name in the campaign but withdrew it later the same day, Adair said.

Martin said she will not be president of Aggie Allemanders after this semester so she would have enough time to devote to the activities in which yell leaders participate, such as all freshman summer conferences and Fish Camp sessions.

All candidates are limited to spending \$75 on their campaigns. Martin said she thought this would help her.

"If anything, I think the limit will make my signs more noticeable," Martin said. "People realize, 'Hey that's a girl! I'm different.'"

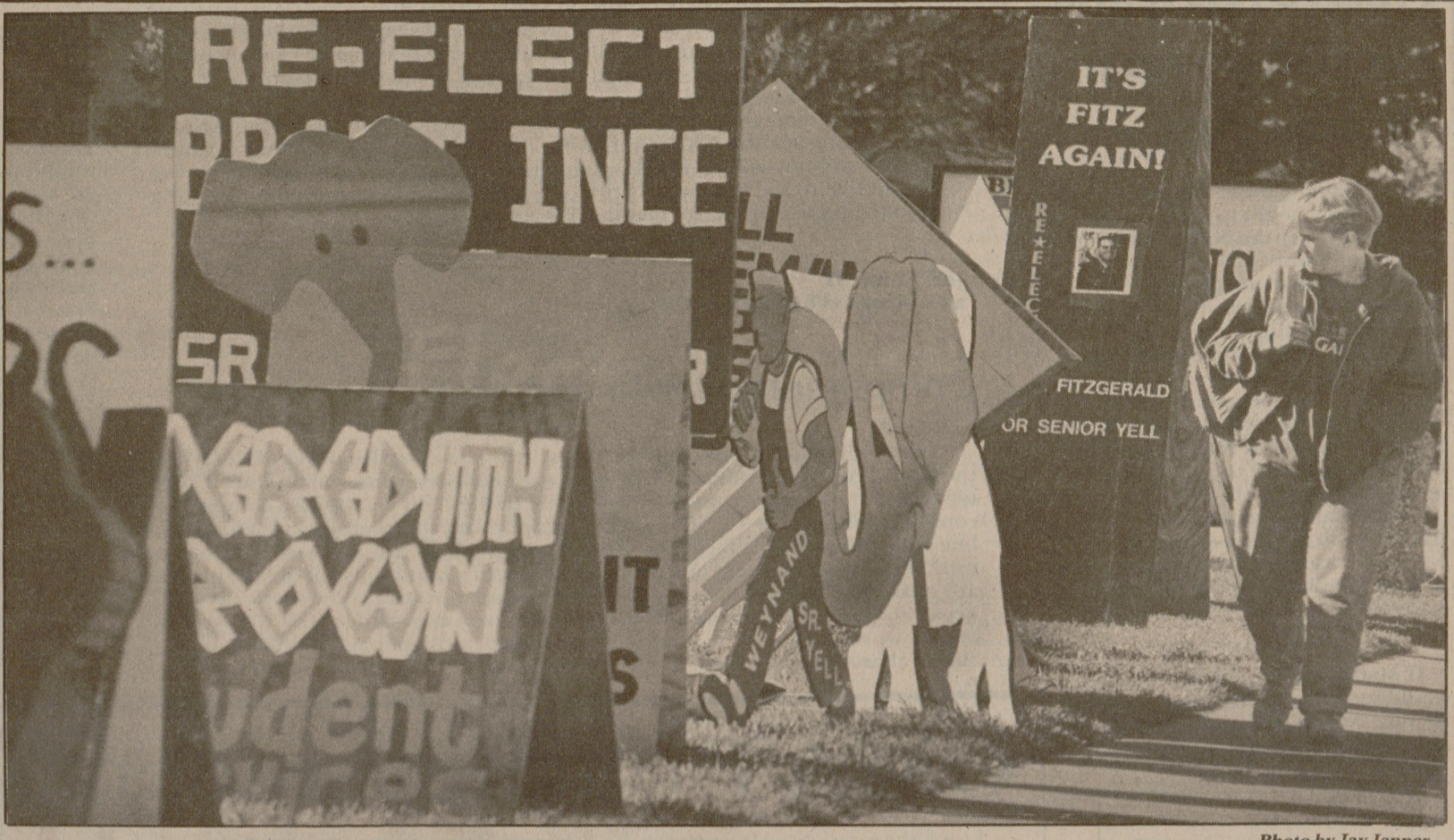
Martin said that students' lack of involvement in campus elections could mean the difference in winning and losing.

"I have a lot of support if people will just vote," she said.

Martin said she is hoping to garner enough support to counter the Corps of Cadets votes.

"If the Corps goes out and votes as a block and defeats me, that's the way it goes," Martin said. "It was a fair election. For those that choose not to vote, they practically voted with the majority."

The campaign trail



Cathy King, a sophomore psychology major from Nashville, Tenn., looks at the mass of campaign signs posted along Spence Street.

The signs try to boost students' awareness of candidates running for office in the upcoming student elections on March 29.

A&M faculty salaries above average among state-supported universities

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M faculty salaries are above the state average for state-supported universities and senior-colleges, according to a recent report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Dr. Dean Gage, acting provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the 1989-90 average nine-month salary paid to an A&M faculty member is \$47,365. This salary reflects an average of the combined salaries of professors, assistant and associate professors.

Faculty at Texas public senior institutions now earn an average of \$41,642 a year (all ranks) compared to the average of \$47,089 paid in the 10 next largest states.

"Texas is no longer in the top 10 states in faculty salaries — and that is with an average 5 percent salary increase this past fall," Kenneth Ashworth, higher education commissioner, said in the report.

In order of highest average salaries, these 10 states are California, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Illinois and North Carolina.

Gage said the average salaries for the 11 states quoted in the report were accurate but differences in costs of living must be taken into account. The cost of living in California or New York, for example, is higher than Texas which could actually lower the buying power of faculty in those areas.

"Those (top 10) states have more fringe benefits," Gage said. "Their benefit packages offset most differences in the cost of living index factor."

Ashworth said the Legislature and the coordi-

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**Kenneth Ashworth
higher education
commissioner**

nating board have shared the goal of moving Texas faculty salaries up to the average of the 10 most populous states.

"It is sobering to find out that we are now outside the big 10 competition and are also falling short of the national average by four percent."

The report compares the average budget for faculty salaries and salary ranges by faculty rank for Fall 1989 and Spring 1990.

"Texas slide in the national salary rankings makes it all the more imperative that our faculty receive the 3 percent pay raise promised this fall," H.M. Daugherty Jr., coordinating board chairman, said in the report. "Even with the 3 percent, our faculty will earn an average of only \$42,891 — and that's \$6,696 short of what we are projecting will be paid faculty in the 10 states with which Texas hopes to compete."

"The people of Texas are going to have to face up to providing new resources if Texas universities are going to become competitive with the major states again."

Earlier this month, the coordinating board approved funding recommendations for the next biennium that call for a 10.7 percent average fac-

ulty salary increase in 1992 and another 10.8 percent increase in 1993.

Gage said he is optimistic about the pay raise, but historically the Legislature has not funded full recommendations by the board.

"We are doing everything we can to fully support the 10.8 raise," Gage said. "We need to stay close to the eight to 10 bracket to stay competitive."

Because of excellent faculty recruitment in recent years, A&M is under increasing pressure to increase faculty salaries or risk losing them, Gage said.

If A&M were to lose faculty, the best teachers and researchers who now develop various research programs would leave for universities that pay what they are worth.

Furthermore, if A&M lost faculty as a result of uncompetitive wages, Gage said prospective graduate students would not come here and doctoral programs would suffer. Both the number of graduate students and the number of doctoral programs offered at a university increase the amount of funding.

A&M also receives more money than other universities because of its close ties to engineering which costs more to provide instruction.

Gage said there is no other source of funds for salary increases.

"We are stretched to the limit," Gage said.

A&M could get by for a year with only the recent 3 percent faculty pay raise this fall, Gage said, but to go for two to three years without a further increase would place the University in a serious position.

Football returns



Receivers coach Robert Ford and the rest of the coaching staff put the Aggies through drills on the first day of spring workouts Monday afternoon. For complete coverage of Spring Training see Page 9

Photo by Fredrick D. Joe

Driver questions kidnap charges

Mexico (AP) — Four Oklahomans on spring break who claimed they were kidnapped in Matamoros last week paid more than \$500 in fines for public intoxication and other offenses two days later at South Padre Island, police said.

Meanwhile, one of three Mexicans jailed on a kidnapping charge told a Mexican judge Monday that the Americans willingly rode around drinking beer with them late last Thursday night and Friday morning, and could have left their car at any time.

The vacationing students, identified as Marland Crabtree, 25; his brother, Darren Crabtree, 19; and Kerry Ramsey, 19; and a friend, Jeff Jones, 21, were arrested at South Padre Island after police broke up a fight Saturday night, said Sgt. Homer Gonzalez with the resort town's police department. All four are from the Oklahoma City area, police said.

Jones and Ramsey each paid \$42.50 in fines for public intoxication, Yolanda Herrera, deputy court clerk, said. Marland Crabtree paid a total of \$160 in fines for public intoxication and disorderly conduct, the clerk said.

Darren Crabtree paid \$277.50 in fines for public intoxication, disorderly conduct and reckless damage, the latter for damaging an automobile with a tire tool, Gonzalez said.

Darren Crabtree also was ordered to pay \$200 in restitution to the owner of the damaged vehicle, Herrera said.

Last week, the four said they were abducted near an international bridge late last Thursday night and were taken on a wild ride around Matamoros before the Mexicans pulled up to a warehouse.

"At that point we thought they were going to kill us because last year those people got killed during spring break," Marland Crabtree said. "They were telling us that we better go in because they had a gun."

A police officer, suspicious of the activity at the warehouse, pulled up and arrested the three Mexicans.

Their stories brought back memories of violence last year during spring break, when University of Texas student Mark Kilroy was kidnapped in Matamoros and killed at a nearby ranch, allegedly by members of a drug cult. Fourteen other bodies also were found at the ranch.

Jesus Rangel Gonzalez, 21, driver of the alleged kidnapping car, told a Mexican judge Monday that the Americans drove around with him and his friends and could have left the car at any time in the slow-moving traffic on Matamoros' busy Avenida Obregon last Thursday night.

The bars and restaurants near the Gateway International Bridge is popular with students on spring break.

Judge Manuel Ceballos Jimenez has until Thursday to decide whether to accept the prosecutor's kidnapping charges against Rangel, Oscar Garcia Velazquez, 17, and Olga Lidia Castillo, 20, all of Matamoros. The judge read the charges and took statements from the three Monday morning at the state jail in Matamoros.

Rangel told the judge the incident began as a friendly encounter when the Mexicans invited the Americans to party with them and offered them beer.

"We were just driving around the city drinking beer," Rangel told the judge.

They drove around for about four hours, he said, adding "I don't know why they called the police."

Rangel said the four Americans were walking away from the bridge, not toward it, when he gave them a ride and that they could have unlocked the doors and exited the car at any time.

He also said the female student was not molested, as she claimed, and there were no drugs involved in the incident, as the students alleged. Rangel said he stopped at the warehouse that night because Garcia had a key to the building, and the women in the car got out to use the restroom there.