



Senate looks at Corps integration

Resolution leaves A&M grading system, drop-add dates intact

By JILL BUTLER
Of The Battalion Staff

The Student Senate last night passed resolutions to leave the grading system at Texas A&M and the drop-add date intact, although recent resolutions passed by a Faculty Senate committee recommended changes in both.

Sophomore Senator Steve White reported a Faculty Senate committee passed a resolution to change the current grading system to a 13-point system of A plus, A, A minus, B plus, B, B minus, C plus, C, C minus, D plus, D, D minus and F.

A committee in the Faculty Senate also recently passed a resolution to change the current drop-add date. Currently, students can add classes until the first Friday after classes start and can drop classes without record up to 15 days after the first day of class.

However, the Faculty Senate committee approved a resolution to change the calendar so the last day to drop classes and the last day to add classes is the same, the first Friday of class each semester.

The Student Senate passed a resolution stating the drop-add dates should not be changed.

The Student Senate also discussed the issue of racism at A&M. Terris T. Burton, representing Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the African-American student population, wrote a resolution with Speaker of the Senate Ty Clevenger.

Burton introduced the resolution, which stated the Student Senate condemned "recent covert and overt acts of racism at Texas A&M."

The resolution also stated the Senate would at-

tempt to educate prejudiced offenders and would support the proper authorities imposing "the most serious and severe terms of punishment, within University guidelines, for those responsible."

Burton said African-American students have been getting increasingly agitated with racial events at A&M.

"We (African-American students) are fed up with what we've had to endure," Burton said. "It is time we work with the Texas A&M University System to eliminate racism and create a more

"Our course of integration is the best course for male and female cadets."

— Matthew Poling,
Corps Commander

positive atmosphere for African-American students at A&M.

In another approved resolution, the Senate stated they would not create a committee to oversee the integration of male and female cadets in the Corps. The Senate also stated all other organizations should refrain from unnecessarily interfering with internal matters of other organizations.

The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets has become an integrated military organization, with seven out of 40 outfits made up of both male and female cadets.

Outfits in the Aggie Band were the first to become integrated in 1985, Lieutenant Colonel Donald Johnson, assistant commandant of the Corps, told the Student Senate.

Integration of Corps outfits means female and male cadets are members of the same outfit, including living in the same dorms.

"We are intending to integrate in the most effective way possible, by putting at least 6-8 females in each outfit to provide mutual support for each other," Johnson said.

Corps Commander Matthew Poling said the perception of two or three females being placed in male military outfits is wrong.

"The female cadets don't want that and neither do the males," Poling said. "Our course of integration is the best course for male and female cadets."

Johnson said the previously all-female outfit W-1 will be integrated next fall and will be commanded by a male cadet. The integrated outfit has been renamed G-1. Johnson said he is unsure if the all-female outfit Squadron 14 will integrate.

Corps student leaders have been responsible for most decisions regarding integration, Johnson said.

He said integration occurred because female cadets approached the Corps commandant and wanted to feel a more important part of the Corps. A&M is one out of four military colleges that have integrated units.

Play ball!

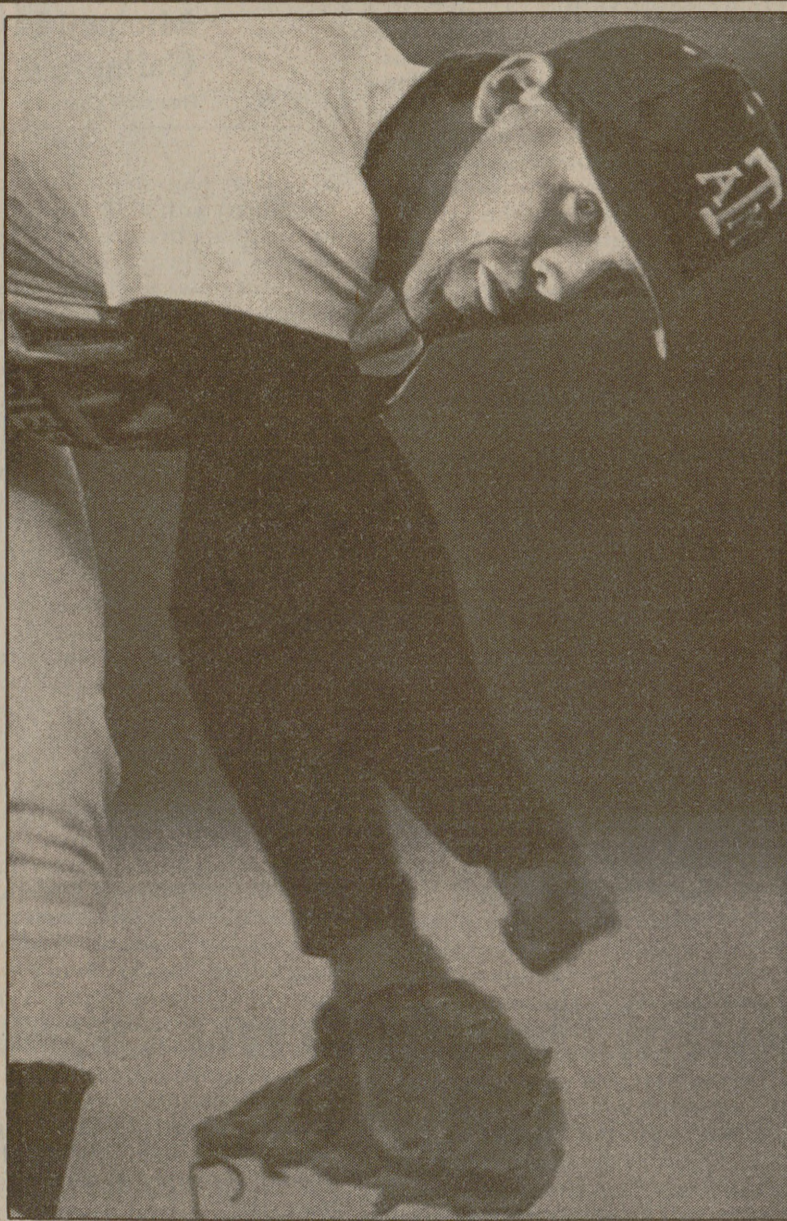


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Texas A&M starting pitcher Brad Gilbert pitches during the first game of the doubleheader Tuesday at Olsen Field against Southwestern University. See Baseball/Page 9

Silence will recognize movement

By STACY E. ALLEN
Of The Battalion Staff

Silence will be observed on the Texas A&M campus at noon May 4 and June 4 as students, faculty and staff recognize the anniversary of the student democratic movement in China.

The Student Senate passed a resolution for a moment of silence on the two days to recognize the anniversary of the movement in China.

The noon observance will bring a lull in the sounds of bells ringing and people talking on campus.

Chinese students began to gather in Tiananmen Square on May 4, 1989, to begin a peaceful movement for democracy. June 4, 1989, was the day the massacre of Chinese protestors by the government began.

Brennan Reilly, a junior economics major at A&M and co-sponsor of the resolution, said the resolution, which was passed unanimously by the Student Senate, shows that the A&M student body agrees with the Chinese students' rights to a peaceful protest. "This is students helping other students," Reilly said.

Student Body President Kevin Buchman and Student Body Vice President Craig Sandlin have sent

See Silence/Page 7

AIDS helpline offers training to volunteers who want to help

By STACY E. ALLEN
Of The Battalion Staff

Students wishing to spend a little spare time helping others have the perfect opportunity Saturday to put their energy to use.

The AIDS/Crisis Helpline will have an eight-hour training session Saturday for those interested in helping people concerned with or suffering from AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

Sarah Oates, AIDS/Crisis Helpline coordinator, said the line is under the umbrella of the AIDS Foundation of Brazos Valley and exists to provide Brazos Valley residents with up-to-date information about AIDS, answer questions and address concerns of the community.

Oates said the helpline also offers

support to those who have firsthand experiences of the effects of the disease.

"We help those who are looking for support," Oates said. "It can be the person with AIDS or it can be a friend, relative or lover of that person."

Oates said the helpline is open 24 hours to receive calls and volunteers generally are scheduled to answer the phones on week nights from 5 to 11.

The goal of the helpline is to have volunteers on staff seven days a week, but a shortage of volunteers has made that impossible, she said.

"We always need more volunteers," Oates said. "We look for people with compassion and common sense and people who have confidence in their ability to help others."

Oates said the volunteers are required to work two three-hour shifts a month and must attend the eight-hour training session.

Volunteers are taught basic information about AIDS and are trained in crisis intervention.

"This type of work is very rewarding because you do help people," Oates said. "Whether it's answering a question or listening to someone's problems, it's a worthwhile and rewarding experience."

Other services provided by the AIDS Foundation of Brazos Valley are a speakers bureau, a buddy program and a support group.

Call 690-AIDS for more information about becoming a volunteer or for additional information concerning AIDS.

Student applauds Panama invasion

By DAPHNE MILLER
Of The Battalion Staff

John Stephens, a Texas A&M student from Panama, said Tuesday night at the College Republicans meeting that the Panamanian invasion Dec. 19, 1989, was necessary and it was a solution to a problem.

Stephens, a junior chemistry major, said the Panamanians unequivocally applauded the invasion. He said it stopped Noriega from continuing to destroy their country. That problem has finally been solved, Stephens said.

"I know American and Panamanian history," he said. "I have seen mistakes happen, and I believe people should be more informed about what is going on in the government."

For starters, Stephens said, former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega is a killer. He said it was a fact that Noriega kept a list of people who opposed his dictatorship, and all of them would have been assassinated if the United States had not invaded.

Stephens' family was active in the government and they were on Noriega's list, he said. They had to escape to Costa Rica for a short while to avoid any trouble, he said.

Also, Noriega was a paid employee of the CIA with the responsibility of catching cocaine traffickers. Stephens said Noriega was selling the cocaine that he

See Panama/Page 7

Super dog



Photo by Scott D. Weaver

Tim Pratt, a senior biology major, watches his golden retriever fetch duck decoys at the Research

Park. Pratt and other students spent yesterday, the first day of spring, outdoors.

Corps of Cadets, IFC sponsor anti-hazing program at A&M

By ANDY KEHOE
Of The Battalion Staff

Eileen Stevens knows firsthand the dangerous results of fraternity hazing.

In 1978, her son Chuck Stenzel was a Klan Alpine pledge at Alfred University in upstate New York.

Chuck was locked in the trunk of a car after being given a pint of bourbon, a fifth of wine, and a six-pack of beer and told he would have to consume it before being released.

This was supposed to make the pledge sick, induce vomiting and fulfill a traditional part of the pledge program for the fraternity to which he pledged.

When Chuck was released 40 minutes later, he was unconscious. He later died of acute alcohol poisoning.

Twelve years later, Stevens is dedicated to her fight against hazing. With the help of her sister, she began a national campaign called the Committee to Halt Useless College Killings (CHUCK).

The program hopes to bring about an awareness of hazing practices in schools across the country.

The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets and Interfraternity Council will present Stevens' CHUCK to the campus at 8 p.m. April 2.

"We feel that this is an important issue that must be addressed," Darren Smith, Interfraternity Council president, said.

Stevens documented at least 93 hazing-related deaths as of 1988. In "Death By Hazing," by Bruce D. Hornbuckle, it says acute intoxication is the leading cause of death in fraternity hazing incidents.

The second most common cause of deaths is acci-

dents which occur during "road trips" or "kidnappings."

Following closely in statistics are accidents resulting from "exercise sessions" or "workout nights."

In recent years, Texas A&M has had several hazing incidents. First, in April of 1982, eight junior members of the Corps of Cadets were dismissed as a result of their participation in hazing against freshman cadets.

Then, in 1984, Cadet Bruce Dean Goodrich collapsed and later died of heat stroke after participating

"We feel that this is an important issue that must be addressed."

— Darren Smith,
IFC president

in an early morning, off-hours exercise session.

Earlier this month, two A&M cadets were discharged after Shannon George withdrew from the Corps, complaining of excessive exercise training.

Hazing issues now are receiving growing attention from America's state legislatures. In 1988, 27 states, including Texas, enacted anti-hazing legislation.

Stevens testified before many of the legislative committees which have adopted these laws. She noted that fraternity and sorority members and alumni usually are the strongest supporters of these bills.

Egg-throwing incidents result in woman's arrest

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M University Police Department filed a Class C Simple Assault charge and trespass warrant against Lynda Copeland White, a College Station resident, Tuesday for throwing eggs at international students from a passing vehicle.

UPD Director of Security Bob Wiatt said that, since February, five separate incidents have been reported to UPD regarding assaults directed at Oriental students near married student housing. Wiatt said the College Station Police Department had received two similar complaints.

White was identified by Advanced Police Officer Roy Horner March 12 during a stakeout to identify who was responsible for the recent assaults. At 10:33 p.m., Horner was

advised of an incident that had just occurred at Skaggs Alpha Beta where the victim was assaulted by someone throwing eggs.

Horner located the suspect vehicle, which had been described by the victims of previous attacks, on U-V Row at Hensel Drive. As the marked patrol units moved into the area to stop the vehicle, Horner saw a man walk toward the car and get hit by eggs.

White was identified as one of the passengers in the car who threw an egg.

The witness said that one of the people in the car had asked directions to the MSC. As he approached the car, White and one of the children threw eggs, striking him in the chest. Charges cannot be filed against the child.

Wiatt said that although the vic-

See Assault/Page 7