Wednesday, September 26, 1990

System Regents expected to decide A&M-Galveston's independence

By CHRIS VAUGHN of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M at Galveston is expected to lose its administrative independence this fall and rejoin he College Station campus under the College of

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The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents has not approved the reintegration of A&M-Galveston to the main A&M campus yet, but the Board is expected to make the decision sometime this fall.

Discussions about the reintegration could begin this fall, with the actual transition process be-ginning in September 1991 and continuing for several years. A committee to oversee the transition already is being formed.

The reintegration, however, does not mean the Galveston campus will be closed.

Legally, A&M-Galveston always has been part

of the main campus, but it gradually became

more independent as years progressed.

It now is widely considered a separate univer-

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A&M-Galveston has its own administration, faculty senate, student government and other student and faculty services. Graduates, how-ever, still receive diplomas from the main A&M

A&M President William Mobley on Monday outlined reasons spurring interest in reintegration. He cited the school's growing oceanography and marine programs, which have offered a boost in graduate programs, increasing enrollment at Galveston and increased contact between faculty members.

'We can enjoy some synergy on both campuses by having a closer alignment with each other,"

If A&M-Galveston rejoins the main campus, its administration, faculty senate, student government, placement center, ROTC and other independent groups could be absorbed into the main University's groups.

But Bill Presnal, executive secretary to the Board of Regents, said he doesn't believe this will

"The changes that will take place are important to the administration," Presnal said. "But to the student body, I don't think the changes will affect them much.

College Station, Texas

Mobley said one plan being studied is to make the president of the Texas Institute of Oceanography, an A&M University component, the ranking administrator of the Galveston location.

Though A&M-Galveston graduates receive diplomas at the main campus and sometimes didn't have to meet the same academic standards as students in College Station, Mobley said this has

'A&M-Galveston has excellent academic standards," he said. "Its student profile is similar to this campus'.

The approximately 1,200 students in the university's marine and oceanography programs would join A&M's College of Geosciences.

A&M-Galveston was formed in 1962 as a maritime branch campus of the main University for naval cadets, but it grew during the years to its present size. The university's emphasis, however, still lies in marine-related courses.

Local NOW refuses to support Souter

By SUZANNE CALDERON Of The Battalion Staff

Members of the local chapter of the National Organization for Women say they refuse to support the nomination of David Souter as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice because he will not answer questions about women's rights is-

Souter's refusal to answer questions about his stance on topics such as abortion and other women's rights issues has the national organization refusing to support his nomination to the high court.

Dr. Wendy Stock, associate professor in psychology and ad-viser to Texas A&M's NOW chapter, says Souter is a dangerous candidate.

"Part of his dangerousness de-rives from what little knowledge we do have of him as a candidate and the other part derives from the fact he is unwilling to disclose

his views," Stock says "It seems absurd for somebody who is applying for that type of position not to make their personal or political views known," she says. "To act as if the public has no right to know who he is, would be preposterous and

highly suspicious."
What NOW does know of Souter is reason enough to reject his nomination, Stock says

Quoting a national publication explaining NOW's reasons for its rejection, Stock outlined Souters' past views on issues ranging from abortion to affirmative action.

For example, when Souter was attorney general for New Hamp-shire he argued Medicaid fund-ing for abortion was "morally of-fensive" to New Hampshire residents who did not want to support the "killing of thousands of unborn children." This means women who often

were the poorest, youngest and most economically deprived would be unable to get an abortion to limit family size, she says.

Basically, Stock says, Souter is unwilling to talk about his beliefs on abortion. Jennifer Arnold, co-president of A&M's NOW chapter, says Souter's record suggests he is

Arnold, a sophomore general studies major, says she believes the nominee is conservative.

"The major cause for concern is his conservative stance and his conservative background which would lead us to believe he would be pro-life.

According to the NOW publication, Souter also opposed the right of lesbians and gays to become foster parents or adopt chil-

dren.
When ruling on two rape cases,
Souter excluded a New Hampshire law stating a woman's sexual history (whether they dressed suggestively, their sexual status prior to the rape) cannot be brought into questioning.

"It seems absurd for somebody who is applying for that type of position not to make their personal or political views known."

> ---Wendy Stock, A&M professor

Stock says it appears Souter believes information about a woman's sexual history is revelant in

rape cases.

In the area of affirmative action, Stock says the publication quoted Souter as calling affirmative action rules "affirmative discrimination.

To fight for the rejection of Souters nomination, the national and local chapters of NOW started a letter-writing campaign to Sen. Joseph Biden, nomination

committee chairman.

NOW wants Biden and other committee members to know about its dissatisfaction with

Those interested in participating in the campaign are invited to attend the NOW meeting tonight at 8:30 in 404 Rudder.



W.O. Boecker, a resident of Bryan, took advantage of the cooler temperatures by playing a round of golf on the A&M Golf Course early Tuesday morning. The avid golfer said he hoped the weather would help his average of 80.

Classroom difficulties concern A&M majority

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M students responding to the Batt Poll did not give high marks to classroom communication, but the administration is hoping a new program will bridge that com-

munication gap.

When asked if they have had an instructor at A&M whose lack of English-speaking skills made it difficult

When asked if they have had problems understanding course material because the instructor was not properly prepared, 57 percent said yes, 34 percent said no and 9

A&M administration implemented he Classroom Communication Enhancement Program this fall. The program provides students opportunities to complain about teacher-student communication problems and promises responses within seven

ancement program last week.

"This is the single most important advance we have made in years as far as our undergraduate program is concerned," Clevenger said.

tion complaints must complete reporting forms available in the offices of department heads and deans' of-

Forms must be returned to the ollege in which the class is being

After receiving a complaint, the department head and associate dean of the college will try to solve the

Students can appeal to the dean of the college and to the provost's of-

88.95

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The Batt Poll is a survey of Texas A&M students intended to measure opinions about campus-related is-

The poll, which will be conducted periodically, is taken from a random sample of students. A sample of 400 students was obtained from telephone interviews.

Candidate promises less spending

By JULIE HEDDERMAN

Bottom-line business mentality will return Texas to greatness, said State Comptroller candidate Warren G. Harding Jr. at Texas A&M's College Republican's meeting Tuesday night.

"I am going to centralize the office, not expand it; I'm not going to spend more of your money, I'm going to spend less of your money; and I'm going to do a better job than Bob Bullock," he

> Harding, who received 61 per-cent of the Republican primary vote, will face a \$3 billion debt left by Bullock if he is elected.

> One of the comptroller's duties is to supply the governor, lieutenant governor and legislature with an accurate figure of revenues, Harding said. Overestimating and not collecting enough taxes are two problems that can occur,

"One of my platforms is to de-politicize the office and leave large and small businesses alone," Harding said.

Harding said he also plans to be on the redistricting committee and do away with the gerryman-dered districts on A&M's campus, which is divided into several dis-

Harding closed by saying that the best system of checks and balances is to have two strong parties, and that the Republican Party has seen to it that there will be checks and balances in Texas.

State Representative candidate Steve Ogden also spoke at the meeting.

Ogden said the results from the polling data reported that the biggest lead enjoyed by the Republican Party in the Brazos County is from the 18- to 25-yearold age group.

He said this is because the Re-

publican Party message is appeal-

ing to that age group.

Ogden said the Republican Party emphasizes individual responsibility, economic opportunity and individual initiative.

Raul Fernandez

Success follows A&M Regent wherever he chooses to lead

Editor's note: The Battalion will focus on members of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents during the upcoming weeks to better acquaint students and faculty members with the System's leaders.

By BILL HETHCOCK Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M Regent Raul Fernandez of San Antonio is a builder and real estate investor.

He graduated from A&M in 1959 with a bachelor of science in civil en-

After graduation, Fernandez served as a U.S. Army artillery cap-

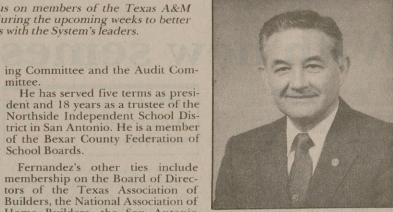
Gov. Bill Clements appointed Fernandez to the Board in 1989. He serves as chairman of the Name Selection Committee.

Fernandez acts as special liasion to the Association of Former Students and is a member of the Executive Committee, the Planning and Building Committee and the Audit Com-

He has served five terms as president and 18 years as a trustee of the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio. He is a member of the Bexar County Federation of School Boards. Fernandez's other ties include

Builders, the National Association of Home Builders, the San Antonio Medical Foundation and the Alamo Water Conservation and Re-Use District of the City of San Antonio.

He is a former president of the Greater San Antonio Builders Association and was selected the 1989 Builder of the Year.



Raul Fernandez

In 1980, Fernandez served as president of the Texas A&M Association of Former Students, and he now is a member of the Corps of Cadets Development Council.

Distorted views

Speaker clarifies Arab, Western culture clash; discusses Iraqi leader's actions, motivations

By MIKE LUMAN Of The Battalion Staff

Most people in the United States have a distorted view of Middle East cultures, a Middle East historian from the University of Houston said Tuesday.

Dr. Jean-Luc Krawczyk, speaking in a program by Texas A&M's MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness, said Arab leaders including Saddam Hussein should not be seen as fanatics

'You don't get to be president of your country by being insane," he said.

He said Hussein came from a cultural and political background different from any Westerner.

When Hussein was 19 he attempted to assassinate the Iraqi president of the time.

He was shot in the leg by security forces, and afraid to get medical help he cut the bullet out with a penknife. Krawczyk said.

"He came from the political school of hard knocks,"

He also said there is much to learn about the Iraqi

people.

The tradition in the Arab world is to welcome strang-

'Most would like you as an individual, but not like what your government is doing. They will make that distinction

Geographic boundaries in the Middle East are not as distinct to Arabs as they are to others, he said. The lines and demarcations on a map were essen-

tially created by Westerners. From the mid-1900's to the present the Middle East has a history of domination by the United States and

European countries, he said. He said the West helped establish Kuwait, so Iraq can argue it is a fictitious creation. He said the Middle East was in a state of change, the

result of a long-brewing social and political process. "All geopolitical aspects of the Middle East have been

The Institute promotes international awareness through programs including travel opportunities, exhibitions, cultural programs and international career seminars.

Playin' a round

understand lectures, 71 percent said yes, 25 percent said no and 4 percent had no opinion.

percent had no opinion. To cope with such problems, the

Ty Clevenger, student body president, praised the communication en-

Students who have communica-

problem within seven days.

fice if the problem is not solved.

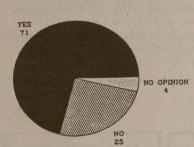
A random sample of 400 responders yields a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

The poll was conducted exclusively for The Battalion by Research Associates, a firm operated by A&M graduate students Alister Miller and Mitch Peck, both of the sociology de-

Students were polled Sunday through Tuesday.

Cindy McMillian, editor of The Battalion and senior economics major, asks students to call the newsroom at 845-2647 if those participating in the poll encounter any problems.

Have you had an instructor whose lack of English-speaking skills made it difficult to understand lectures?



Have you had problems understanding course material because the instructor was not properly pre-

