

## MBA/Law Committee to sponsor symposium

By BRANDI JORDAN

Reporter of THE BATTALION

The Memorial Student Center's MBA/Law Committee will sponsor a day-long symposium for Texas A&M University students and former students who are interested in law and business.

The symposium will be held in the Memorial Student Center and Rudder Tower on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Tickets to the symposium may be purchased for \$10 in the Zachry Engineering Center, Blocker and the Memorial Student Center through Wednesday, Sept. 23. The ticket price includes lunch.

When students purchase their tickets, they will be preregistered for the symposium and may pick up their symposium schedule at 8 a.m. in MSC 292 Saturday, Sept. 26. The symposium will be held from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Students wishing to pick up the symposium schedule prior to Saturday may pick them up at the MBA/Law Committee tables in Blocker, the MSC and the Student Programs Office.

The symposium will feature discussions, presentations and interaction between current Texas A&M students, former students and other leaders in business and law.

Planned discussion topics in-

clude: co-op opportunities, international business and law, preparing for graduate school, minorities in business and law, special options for students with technical backgrounds and study abroad opportunities.

The symposium will feature two keynote speakers: William A. McKenzie, a Dallas attorney, current member and former chair of The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents; and Edmund Solymosy, former senior U.S. Defense Department representative in Greece and current president of Global Project Management in Houston. Each will speak on experiences and opportunities in their fields.

## Texas schools address corporal punishment

### Districts consider ban on paddling

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT WORTH — More Texas school districts are considering dropping the longtime disciplinary practice of paddling, which some parents and educators say leaves emotional as well as physical bruises.

For years paddling has been the accepted way Texas schools kept order: Kids misbehaved, they got "licks."

In fact, the U.S. Education Department's Office of Civil Rights said of the more than 1 million students paddled at school nationwide last year, 260,386 were in Texas.

"Schools are supposed to motivate kids and build up their self-esteem, and paddling does the opposite of that," said Jimmy Dunne, president of People Opposed to Paddling Students, or POPS. The Houston-area group is working for a ban on corporal punishment.

"It leaves them depressed and humiliated, and that's not something schools ought to be doing," Dunne said.

The Texas Association of School Administrators leaves the question of corporal punishment up to individual school districts, Spokesman Jack Campbell said.

According to the state penal code: "The use of force, but not deadly force, against a student is justified . . . to the degree the teacher or administrator reasonably believes the force is necessary to further the purpose of education or to maintain discipline in a group."

Parents and community groups helped persuade the Austin school board in May to ban school paddlings. Mansfield in Tarrant County also has banned the practice.

"As educators, we're being taught to provide a quality school, where kids are motivated to learn in an environment of caring," said District Spokesman Jeff

Prescott. "You can't motivate children in an atmosphere of fear and violence."

Paddling has been outlawed in 23 states and Washington, D.C. State Rep. Mike Myers wants Texas to join that list. Seth Winick, an aide for the Galveston Democrat, said Myers has agreed to sponsor a bill in the next session that would outlaw or at least restrict corporal punishment.

"We just feel like there's got to be a better way than the way things are being done now," Winick said.

Arlington lawyer Paul Kendall said Texas' law leaves too much discretion to campus administrators.

"There are no legal limits on the size of the instrument which can be used to beat a student; there is no practical limit on the amount of force that can be used; and there is no limit on the number of times a student can be hit," Kendall said.

"Convicted felons have more protections from the use of force by prison guards than young children have with respect to schools," he added.

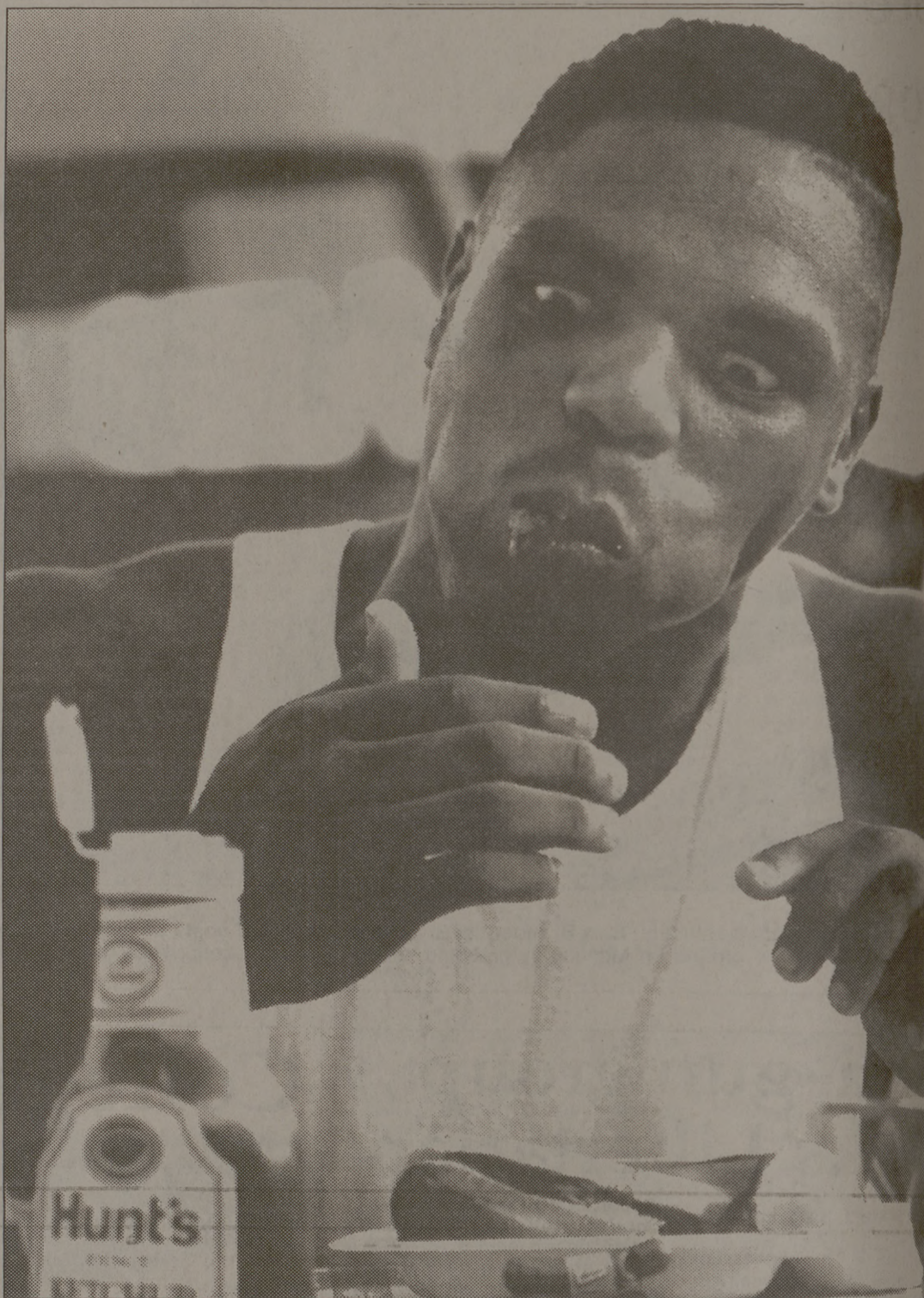
Dunne said POPS has documented cases in which children were spanked for kicking a ball without a gym teacher's permission, or underlining — instead of circling — answers on a paper.

But one child-discipline researcher thinks corporal punishment has its place.

"Certainly it gets misused, both in school and at home," said Robert E. Larzelere of Boys Town in Nebraska. "My differences with the anti-corporal punishment people is that they say do away with it altogether, while I say, let's discriminate between different kinds."

LaMarque in Galveston County has decided against an all-out ban on paddling after a survey showed 61 percent of the district's parents approve of the practice.

## HOT DIGGITY DOG



Karl A. Stolleis/The Battalion

A&M football player, Craig Mitchell reacts to a "hot" hot dog in the hot dog eating contest held at Cain Hall Monday night. The Aggie defense and the offense went head-to-head in a hot dog eat-off. Despite Mitchell's performance the offensive team won 18-17.

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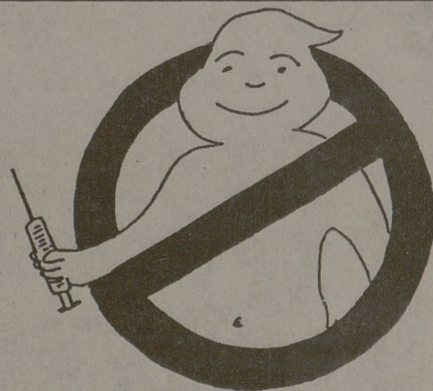
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