

The Battalion

Vol. 92 No. 40 (12 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Friday, October 23, 1992

Tech Greeks insult Blacks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUBBOCK — Black students at Texas Tech University say an apology by a fraternity for a party that reportedly included members dressed in racially offensive costumes won't be enough.

The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity party reportedly included two white members posing as blacks kneeling at the feet of another partygoer dressed as a Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon.

"They (the fraternity) crossed the border and went totally haywire. An apology is not enough this time. We want more," said Sonya Myles, Texas Tech's 1992 homecoming queen and president of black sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Myles said the fraternity and the Fashion Board, which includes some students studying fashion design, held a party Oct. 9.

Myles, who said she has seen photographs of the episode, said the group ridiculed blacks by pretending to have large lips, wearing Afro wigs and painting their faces black.

Myles said she filed a complaint with the Dean of Students office on Oct. 15, the day after she was told of the party.

"I went to Party Time Photos and saw pictures of people running around with Afro wigs and having the physical appearance of blacks," she told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. "There also was a photograph that had a picture of a KKK member with two whites who were dressed as blacks at his feet."

"It was totally atrocious." Myles said Hispanics portrayed as gang members were also among the photos.

Pi Kappa Alpha president Todd Ross refused comment on the alleged incident, the newspaper reported. No one answered phones at the Pi Kappa Alpha office Thursday.

In a prepared statement, Ross said that two members were thought to be dressed in a manner offensive to minorities and were asked to leave.

The fraternity, the statement said, "does not participate in, promote or condone behavior that discriminates against minorities."

"The Epsilon Gamma chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha has taken measures to ensure the same kind of behavior does not recur," the statement said. "The chapter and its members sincerely regret that the incident occurred and offer

See Greeks/Page 12



ROBERT J. REED/The Battalion

Head stack red pot, Steven Owen and the other senior red pots unload the bonfire center pole from the truck at the stack site Thursday afternoon. Center pole will be raised next Thursday afternoon.

Official backs IFC decision

Koldus hopeful sanctions produce campus awareness

By GINA HOWARD

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Texas A&M administrators approved sanctions imposed by the Interfraternity Council last week for the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

The sanctions were set against the A&M chapter of SAE after it was found guilty of violating university rules by hosting a "jungle" party where pledges wore black paint and grass skirts and were allegedly pursued by fraternity members in fatigues.

Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, approved the sanctions and said the event has increased the University's resolve to work to create a campus environment that is culturally aware and sensitive to the feelings of all its members.

"I think it's important that all of us use this as a learning experience," Koldus said.

The sanctions included disci-

plinary probation for two years, administrative evaluation of the fraternity's programs and a \$1,000 fine that will be applied to cultural sensitivity programs for A&M.

Koldus said that much consid-

variety of programs."

There are a wide variety of programs and opportunities already on campus for understanding and multiculturalism and efforts by these groups will contin-



"The key to all of this is education, the sanctions are only part of the solution. A lot of the responsibility rests with the leaders of the institution."

-Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services

eration will go into the decision of how the fine money is spent, and most likely, it will be used to help fund many different projects.

"We are going to do a lot of thinking about how to appropriate the money," he said. "I don't think one single program will be a cure-all. We're thinking about a

ue in the future, Koldus said.

"The key to all of this is education, the sanctions are only part of the solution," he said. "A lot of the responsibility rests with the leaders of the institution. We simply have to do more things to make people more aware."

Charity 'auction' draws multicultural concerns

By MACK HARRISON

Reporter of THE BATTALION

A Texas A&M official said his department encouraged organizers of a charity fund-raiser to change the format because the department felt a date auction might offend people.

The director of Texas A&M's Department of Multicultural Services said date auctions might convey the wrong image or offend people.

"Some people could relate it to a slave auction," Kevin Carreathers said. "It might eventually set a precedent for things that might be very inappropriate and insensitive."

The auction, held Thursday and organized by Eppright Hall, originally was to feature six students and University President William Mobley. Participants could bid for a dinner date with the person of their choice, with proceeds going to the United Way.

Instead, the group sold raffle tickets for the dinner with Mobley and auctioned off the dinners. The winners of the dinners then drew lots for their dates.

Kori Remmler, Eppright Hall secretary, said Multicultural Ser-

vices knew about the auction as early as Sunday but did not meet with hall representatives until Wednesday, the night before the auction.

"We were informed we could change the format or postpone the auction," Remmler said. "We were not given the option to get back to them."

"We didn't have time to plan or consult," Remmler said. "It most definitely hurt us."

Steve Huye, Residence Hall Association delegate for Eppright Hall, said Gloria Flores, coordinator of student development and multicultural programs, met with a group from the residence hall the night before the auction and told them they could either change the fund-raiser's format or postpone the event.

"(Flores) told us she had heard concerns that the format of auctioning people off could be offensive to some people," Huye said. "We as a group decided it would be better to change the format than to have conflict."

Flores was unavailable for comment Thursday night.

Kim Kidwell, vice president of Eppright Hall, said multicultural services should have

shared their misgivings with hall officers earlier in the week.

"The main thing is they knew about the (auction) beforehand, but they only told us about it last night," Kidwell said Thursday.

Elizabeth Culnan, hall treasurer, said the new format detracted from the event. She said Eppright Hall raised \$221 for the United Way, but the hall could have raised more money if the event had gone as originally planned.

"(The change lent a certain amount of confusion," Culnan said. "People didn't understand how the raffle would work."

Kidwell, who served on the MSC All-Night Fair Committee, said the auction the committee held last spring brought in over \$800.

"We had no objections (to the spring auction)," Kidwell said. "It was the same format and place. We saw no reason to change."

Huye said if Eppright's auction had gone as the planners intended, it would have brought in more money.

"I think we'd have been able

Early voting ends October 30

Early voting for Nov. 3rd elections is currently going on in room 138 of the Memorial Student Center.

Anyone who is registered to vote in Brazos County may participate. Voters should bring their voter registration card with them.

Early voting is available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The early voting period extends through Oct. 30th.

Fraternity to carry game ball from Waco to A&M for MDA

By WILL HEALY

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Members of Kappa Sigma Fraternity will carry the game ball for Saturday's football game from Baylor to Texas A&M to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Fifteen bicyclists and 10 people in a caravan will carry the ball from Baylor's Floyd Casey Stadium beginning at 3 a.m. Friday.

The group from Kappa Sigma will then spend the next eight to nine hours riding down Highway 6, carrying the ball from Waco to College Station. Fund-raising in the towns between the two cities has already been done, said Kindle Sanders, a senior history major from El Paso who is in charge of organiz-

ing the event.

Kappa Sigma will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday to prepare to bring the ball to Kyle Field. The football will be brought into the stadium and handed over for the game at 1:30 p.m.

Sanders said he expects the fund-raiser to raise \$200-\$300 for the MDA. All the money raised will stay in College Station to benefit Brazos Valley residents who have muscular dystrophy.

"This event will raise money for MDA's vital research and local patient service projects," said Janice Langlais, program coordinator for the Brazos Valley MDA chapter.

Members of Kappa Sigma started the tradition of carrying the ball from Waco six years ago.

Two years ago the benefit raised \$450.



RICARDO S. GARCIA/The Battalion

A&M student Laci Naylor, second from left, Kathrin Noser and Kim Robertson receive their dinner certificates and names of their dates from

Dwayne Purvis after being the highest bidders at the 'Dinner and Date Auction' held Thursday in the MSC Flagroom.

See Auction/Page 5