

The Battalion

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Wilson forum angers gay community

By GARY P. CARROLL

City Editor of THE BATTALION

Rep. Ron Wilson's forum at Texas A&M University Monday night struck a sensitive chord with A&M's gay and lesbian community, according to a letter delivered to The Battalion on Tuesday.

Gay and lesbian leaders at A&M were upset by a statement of Mr. Quanell X, national spokesman for Rap a Lot Records, in which he insinuated that homosexuality was wrong.

"We have a society today that teaches us that homosexuality is okay," X said, "and not to make a mockery of anyone who's a homosexual — but you're sick."

Dr. Larry Hickman, professor of philosophy and faculty adviser of the Gay and Lesbian Student Services (GLSS) at A&M, said he had one word for X's remarks — "homophobic."

"His remarks were blatantly homophobic," Hickman said.

Both Wilson and X had ample opportunities to explain themselves, said Dr. Jim Mazzullo, GLSS faculty adviser and associ-

Hickman, along with other A&M professors, wrote Wilson a letter that stated, "... we were deeply pained by Mr. X's remarks, which were a gratuitous insult to our community, and doubly hurt by your

ments was a "sin of omission." "I hope this is a simple mistake and that it will be quickly rectified so we can build toward a unified campus where everyone is welcome," Mazzullo said.

The letter, signed by Mazzullo, Henrietta Andreadis (associate professor of English and GLSS faculty adviser), and Hickman, called for Wilson to apologize for failing to clarify his position on homosexuality, and creating a rift between African-American students and members of the GLSS.

The letter stated, "You came to our campus to fight the vicious disease of racism, and you had the strong support of the gay and lesbian community in this fight. However, you left behind the germs of the equally-vicious disease of homophobia..."

Brian Walker, speaker of the Student Senate, said X's comments about homosex-

"You came to our campus to fight the vicious disease of racism, and you had the strong support of the gay and lesbian community in this fight. However, you left behind the germs of the equally-vicious disease of homophobia..."

— from a letter sent in response to statements made by Quanell X Monday night

ate professor of geology.

"He had the opportunity to repudiate the statement twice," Mazzullo said. "But he side-stepped the issue both times."

failure as a leader and role model for African-Americans to refute his remarks."

Mazzullo said Wilson's refusal to respond to two questions regarding X's com-

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Quanell X

3 Northside dorms could become co-ed

By TANYA SASSER

Staff Writer of THE BATTALION

Fowler, Keathley and Hughes Halls may be converted to co-ed dorms by Fall 1993 if members of the Residence Hall Association approve a proposal Wednesday night, said the assistant director of Student Affairs/Residence Life.

Tom Murray said the University has been looking all year for a dorm that is willing to convert to co-ed. Surveys were conducted in the three halls and the results were favorable, he said.

"Eighty percent of the residents were interested in going co-ed," he said. "That really says a lot. The key ingredient in any proposal is if the residents want it."

Krueger, Aston and Dunn Halls were considered for the conversion earlier this semester, but the residents of those halls preferred that the halls not be converted to co-ed, Murray said.

Greg Mead, resident director of Fowler Hall, wrote the proposal that will be voted on during Wednesday night's RHA meeting. "Our hall council was interested in turning co-ed because Fowler just turned from a female hall to a male hall last year," he said. "We thought this might be the best time to try to go co-ed."

Mead said that since all three of the halls are connected, it is difficult to enforce the visitation policy. He said this is another reason that it might be beneficial for these halls to convert to co-ed.

Mead said there are three different housing options outlined in the proposal. The dorms might be co-ed by floor, suite or section, he said.

If any of the three halls were converted to co-ed by floor, there would be two all-male floors and two all-female floors. If it was co-ed by suite, males and females might live next door to each other, but would not share bathrooms.

If it was co-ed by section, one side of the dorm would be all-male and the other side would be all-female, he said.

"The different needs of the students need to be taken into consideration," Mead said. "This proposal provides the unique opportunity to try out different living situations."

Murray said that if the proposal is approved by the RHA Wednesday night, the final decision will be left up to the Department of Student Activities.

"Depending on the RHA's recommendation, Student Activities will consider the proposal," he said. "Final approval is up to Dr. Koldus."

Murray said he hopes the final decision will be made this December.

"We hope to move fairly quickly on this," he said. "Contract renewal is coming up in March and we need to let the residents know what's going on by then."

Mead said it is important that the decision is made this semester so the residents know what to expect.

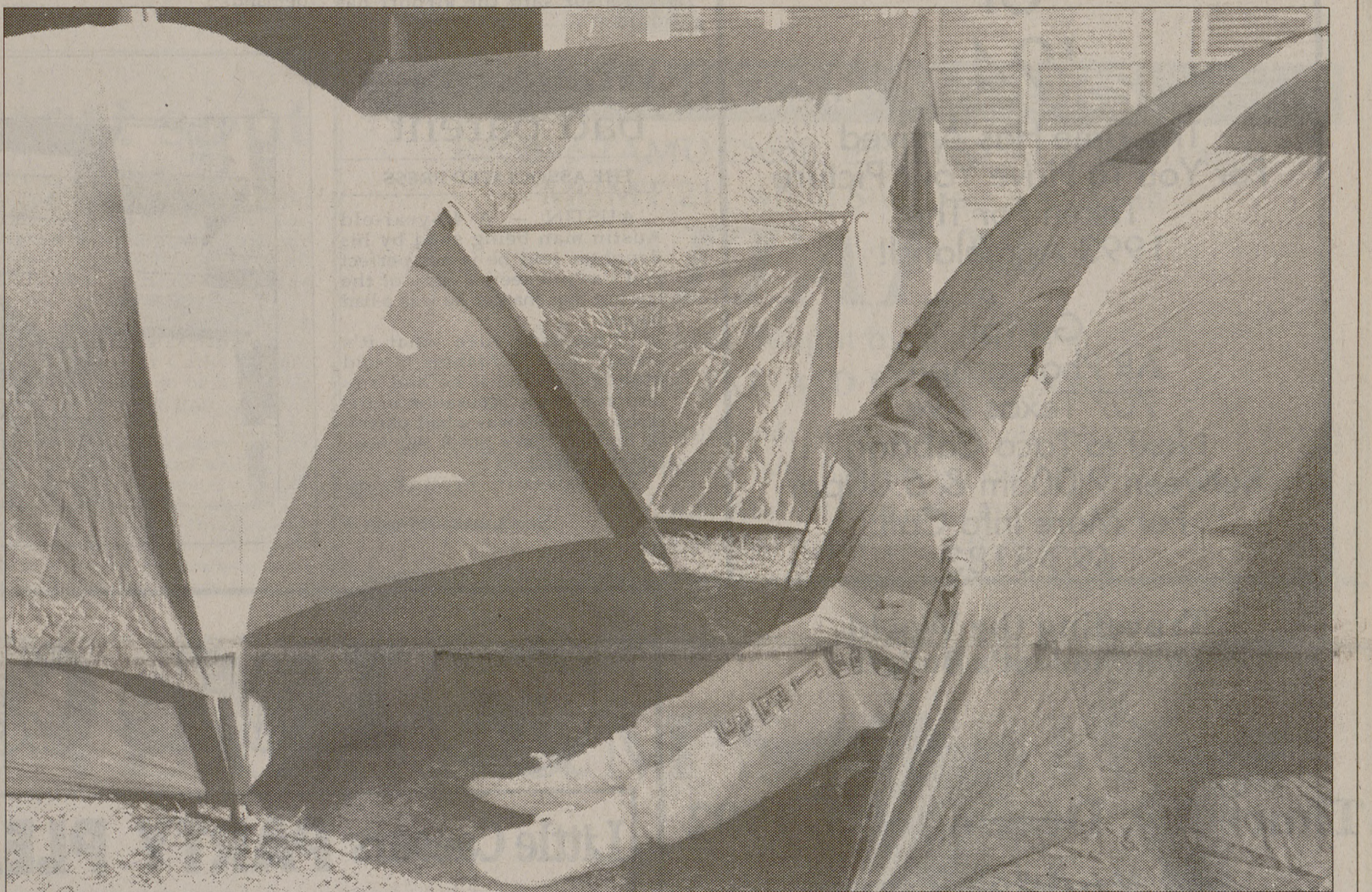
"Some people will be upset because they will be losing their rooms, he said. "I hope the option will be given to the students that already live here to stay in the rooms that they are in now."

Mead said the housing office might be reluctant to have balcony style dorms converted to co-ed.

"We have met some resistance," he said. "I think the housing office thinks it may be hard to get people to live in balcony dorms, but a lot of the students I've talked to disagree."

Mead said that, as of a few weeks ago, there were eight requests for every one space of co-ed housing available on campus.

"There is a definite need for co-ed housing space on campus," he said.



Tamara Malloy, an agricultural economics major, camps outside G. Rollie White Coliseum for Cotton Bowl tickets. She has been outside the coliseum since 2 p.m. Tuesday. The tickets go on sale today.

ROBERT J. REED/The Battalion

Sources show N. Korea hiding building

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea has sought to camouflage a building under construction near a mountainside nuclear complex, intelligence sources said Tuesday. One source said the concealed site could be a weapons-grade plutonium plant.

The Western and South Korean sources told The Associated Press that new U.S. satellite photographs show recent construction outside the Yongbyon nuclear plant.

South Korean and Western officials believe the hard-line Communist regime is trying to conceal an atomic bomb program at Yongbyon,

despite denials by North Korean leaders and a partial opening this year to international inspectors.

Satellite photos show a side road into the new site off a main road into Yongbyon has been blocked. Trees have been planted at the turnout to obscure it, the sources said.

One South Korean source said a dome-shaped structure at the site was suspected of housing a reactor to produce weapons-grade plutonium.

The new construction had been detected by the time the International Atomic Energy Agency made an inspection of the Yongbyon plant in November, but the agency's inspectors

were not yet aware of it and were not shown the site, the sources said.

In Vienna, Atomic Energy Agency spokesman David Kyd said the agency had heard "nothing at all" about new construction at Yongbyon.

The remote Yongbyon complex, with more than 100 buildings, lies 60 miles north of the North Korean capital, Pyongyang.

The intelligence sources said the significance of the new construction lies in its proximity to suspicious nuclear facilities and in "irrefutable evidence" that North Korea kept the construction secret even after pledging openness about a nuclear program it claims is peaceful.

Attack on plane suspends humanitarian aid

U.S. halts relief flights to Bosnia

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The humanitarian airlift to Bosnia was suspended Tuesday after small-arms fire struck part of the steering system of a U.S. Air Force transport plane on its landing approach to Sarajevo.

Bosnia's president urged "decisive stands" by Islamic states to aid his country.

The C-130 Hercules that was shot in the radiator while approaching the Bosnian capital was able to land safely, unload its relief supplies and return to Zagreb, Croatia, said Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

Kessler said the airlift to the Bosnian capital was likely to remain suspended at least through Wednesday while U.N. liaison officers investigate the source of the shooting.

Twenty flights carrying food, medicine and other relief supplies were scheduled to land Tuesday in Sarajevo, but only 10 arrived before the airlift was suspended.

Earlier, Bosnia's army command had accused the Serbs of shelling the airport runway overnight "with the intention of destroying the

radar system and thus stopping the humanitarian flights."

More than 17,000 people have been killed in the fighting, the Bosnian Health Ministry reported Monday.

Bosnia's Muslim President, Alija Izetbegovic, appealed for Islamic solidarity and action at

"International resolutions have remained empty words and the time has come for decisive stands."

— Alija Izetbegovic, Bosnia's Muslim President

a conference of the 47-member Organization of Islamic Conference in Saudi Arabia.

"International resolutions have remained empty words and the time has come for decisive stands," Izetbegovic told foreign ministers in Jiddah.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd called for an end to a U.N. arms embargo on Bosnia that has crippled Sarajevo's defenders.

The Bosnian army commander said in a newspaper interview that his forces were "preparing intensively" for an offensive to break the Serbian siege on Sarajevo, site of the 1984 Winter Games.

In an interview in Monday's edition of the Oslobodjenje newspaper, Bosnian army chief Gen. Mustafa Hajrlahovic said his forces lacked materiel but were "now capable of some offensive movement."

He refused to say when the offensive would be launched, but that it would be "a battle of many days in which nothing can be left to chance."

Oslobodjenje has had to drastically reduce production. It is often difficult to obtain copies on the day of issue due to popular demand and distribution problems.

Parts of Sarajevo came under heavy shelling, Bosnian radio reported. It said Serb artillery was continuing "a bloody orgy of destruction,"

Rescuers search West Texas for plane crew

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VALENTINE — Military and civilian rescue workers searched a West Texas mountainside Tuesday looking for survivors of a crash of an unarmed B-1B bomber on a low-level night-time training flight.

Although early reports suggested at least one of the four-person crew may have survived, officials at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene would say only that they had received no such word.

The crash is the fourth of the star-crossed B-1B, which has been criticized for its \$280 million price tag. The fleet has been grounded several times, the last coming this summer, since going into service in 1986. There have been problems with radar systems, engine malfunctions and

deicing.

Some defense experts said Monday's crash may raise again the question of whether the fleet should be grounded permanently.

The plane crashed into a small ridge between 6,185-foot Capote and Needle peaks in a rugged area of the Sierra Vieja Mountains.

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Helicopters and other military aircraft circled the site Tuesday while soldiers and law enforcement officials searched on the ground. Rescue and disaster teams were sent from Dyess and Fort Bliss in El Paso.

The search was suspended for the night at sundown because of darkness and high winds in the area, officials said.