

# The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

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## Market remains calm during IBM storm

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The stock market closed modestly higher Tuesday after a heady blue-chip rally fizzled.

The market got a jump start

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with news that IBM would slash its quarterly dividend and replace its top executive. IBM, a component of the Dow, surged to 531/4, propelling the key index sharply higher.

But while the timing of the announcement came as a surprise, the dividend cut had been widely expected, and that the embattled computer maker would replace John Akers after posting a record

### Compaq counters competitor's record loss with report of substantial growth

\$5 billion loss for 1992 also appeared logical.

IBM eventually sold off, ending the day at 49, up just 1/8.

"After that burst of excitement, there was little justification for IBM to barrel higher," said Eugene Peroni, an analyst with Janney Montgomery Scott in Philadelphia.

Computer-triggered buy programs kicked in after the IBM announcement, but by the end of the session, sell programs were dumping stocks and traders were taking profits.

"It was fairly orderly buying and selling," said Richard Meyer,

head of equity trading at Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co. He characterized the selloff as a "normal consolidation."

There was an unusually heavy supply of corporate news, with a steady stream of earnings and restructuring announcements. "Everyone went off on their own, chasing news in different directions," Meyer said.

Compaq Computer Corp. said Tuesday its profit rose 33 percent in the fourth quarter and 63 percent for the year, increases executives credited to stronger sales and cost-cutting.

The Houston-based personal

computer maker earned \$89 million, or \$1.10 per share, in the three months ended Dec. 31. A year earlier, Compaq earned \$67 million, or 77 cents per share.

Sales during the quarter were \$1.4 billion, up 60 percent from \$873 million from a year earlier.

For the year, Compaq earned \$213 million, or \$2.52 a share, up from \$131 million, or \$1.49 a share, in 1991.

Sales totaled \$4.1 billion in 1992, compared to \$3.3 billion in 1991.

The company shipped more than twice the number of PCs in the fourth quarter of 1992 as it did a year earlier and is backlogged into this year, chief executive Eckhard Pfeiffer said.

The company started 80 new

products, upgraded support and doubled sales locations in 1992, he said.

The company's sales grew worldwide in 1992, but especially in Japan, Latin America and the Pacific Rim, Pfeiffer said.

"We've seen record-setting demand for our entire product line since June when we began implementing our new strategy of offering price-leading products that feature Compaq quality and the best service and support in the industry," he said.

Operating expenses as a percent of sales dropped from 26 percent in the fourth quarter of 1991 to 16 percent for the same three months of 1992, the lowest level in Compaq history.

Compaq, the world's fourth-

largest computer maker, announced last October it would eliminate about 10 percent of its worldwide work force, or about 1,000 employees.

The company about a year earlier laid off 1,400 workers and embarked on a low-cost PC strategy after reporting the first loss in its 10-year history.

Pfeiffer said although it could be necessary to balance employees in different areas at Compaq, no more major layoffs were in sight.

"We have taken the necessary steps in restructuring the business to meet the needs of the '90s," Pfeiffer said.

"You see us on such a strong growth trend now that we really need the people we have on board."

## A&M schedules assault hearing

By GINA HOWARD

The Battalion

A formal hearing will be held Thursday to investigate claims by a female member of the Corps of Cadets that a senior male cadet sexually assaulted and sexually harassed her, Texas A&M University announced Tuesday.

The female cadet, a sophomore whose name has not been released, filed an incident report with the University Police Department on Dec. 14.

She stated in the report that she was raped last April and was sexually harassed this fall by the same male cadet who is a member of the Aggie Band.

She decided to file an incident report because she had reason to believe the suspect was considering the same type of harassment toward a freshman female cadet, according to the incident report.

Dr. John J. Koldus, vice president for student services, said in a press release that the matter was first brought to the University's

attention on Dec. 7 and an investigating officer from the Office of the Commandant was then appointed to follow up on the reported incident.

"The young woman met with the officer on Dec. 11 and subsequently filed a report with the University Police Department on Dec. 14," Koldus said. "I want to reaffirm that Texas A&M University will not tolerate sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind."

The accused cadet has been temporarily suspended from leadership responsibilities in the Corps and has been notified of the allegations, he said.

Bob Wiatt, director of university police, said UPD is not involved in the hearing or the investigation in any way.

"All we did is take her statement," Wiatt said. "She said she did not want any criminal charges, so at that point all we are is a reporter to the Commandant of the incident."

## Minority recruitment

### State to examine schools' race relations

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — State officials will examine minority recruitment and race relations at Texas' public colleges and universities in the wake of racist incidents and concerns about stagnant black enrollment.

Andrew Melontree of Tyler, a member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, said the inquiry is in response to new figures that show minorities are underrepresented in college enrollment compared with their total of the state population.

He also said that a recent surge in racial incidents at some universities has heightened the concern.

"Historically, it has been a problem retaining and graduating minority students," Melontree said. "The numbers remain unimpressive."

From 1983 to 1991, black student enrollment increased from 9 percent to 9.2 percent of total enrollment in Texas public colleges

and universities. Blacks represent 12 percent of the state population.

The number of Hispanic students increased from 13.3 percent to 18 percent. Hispanics are about 26 percent of the state population.

"We should all be concerned about this," said Dr. Carlos Godinez of McAllen, a member of the Coordinating Board. "If we look at the entire issue of education, we see that minorities are severely underrepresented in the master's and doctoral programs, in health care, research and engineering programs."

In addition, some Coordinating Board members have issued a statement saying they were appalled by the "racial incidents, slurs and stereotyping that continue to occur on some of our campuses of public higher education without serious intervention."

State Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, has proposed bills that

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JEN LOCKARD/The Battalion

Dr. Joe Novak, a professor in horticultural techniques, places plant names in front of specimens to be used in his horticulture 301 and 302 classes. These classes are taken by students who want to become master gardeners or by students who garden for

therapy. Novak said that while some classes participate in gardening work at local halfway house, most of the students garden for leisure activity.

## Bryan resident aims to change politics

By JEFF GOSMANO

The Battalion

Lou Zaeske, independent U.S. Senate candidate and Bryan resident, said his campaign will focus on voters who are irritated with the two-party system and special-interest groups.

"I am trying to target the independent voters in the state who vote for persons and not parties," said Zaeske, who is vying for Lloyd Bentsen's vacated Senate seat in a special election May 1. Bentsen gave up the seat to serve as secretary of the treasury.

"I am aiming for Americans, citizens and voters in this state

who work and pay taxes and have felt ripped off by big money interest groups," he said.

Former independent presidential candidate Ross Perot's support in the previous election shows that voters are upset with the two major parties, and independent candidates are now an acceptable alternative, Zaeske said.

Like Perot, Zaeske said he can change the political process because he is a Washington outsider who will not answer to special-interest groups.

"If citizens of the state want more of the 'inside the beltway' mentality, they should vote for Joe Barton or Jack Fields," Zaeske

said.

Dr. James E. Anderson, professor of political science, said Zaeske lacks political organization.

"I don't know that he has any real political organization," Anderson said.

"He draws on support of like-minded individuals," Anderson said he recognizes Zaeske from the 1990 Texas Senate race and Zaeske's involvement in the official-English movement which would make English the official language of businesses and government.

Dr. Warren A. Dixon, assistant professor of political science, agrees that Zaeske is identified with the English-only movement.

"My impression is that Zaeske is tagged with the English-only movement," Dixon said. "So that gets him classified as odd, strange, bizarre and even fringe."

"Once you get tagged, fairly or unfairly, with a single issue," he said, "It's hard to shake that image, particularly if you've run in a previous election."

Zaeske said although he does not have the name identification of Joe Barton and Jack Fields, name identification does not win elections.

"George Bush has broad based name identification but wasn't elected," Zaeske said. "Name ID is not the whole story."

## Support group to explore myths

By JASON COX

The Battalion

A new program will focus on helping men adjust to newer, non-traditional roles and overcoming the taboos of having close relationships.

"Men in the Nineties" is an exploratory support group sponsored by the Department of Educational Psychology's Counseling Psychology Program.

"A lot of men are finding that the ways they have been brought up to act, think and feel aren't really that appropriate anymore — things like being competitive, being the breadwinner," said doctoral student Rod Hetzel said. "Being the dominant person in the relationship are causing men a lot of stress these days."

The program is led by Hetzel and doctoral

student Debbie Barton under the supervision of psychologist Dr. Donna Davenport.

Men often see women as their only source of intimacy and tend to have "stereotypical" relationships with other men, Hetzel said.

"Playing hoops and playing cards, these are real appropriate friendships and are real satisfying in a lot of cases," he said, "but a lot of times men feel that there is something lacking in those relationships so they look to women for some true intimacy and true compassion."

The men's movement has been the object of some spoofing in the media, Hetzel said, and many people don't see the need for a men's study program.

Still, the time is right to explore issues such as communication, trust, intimacy and family life in hopes of making men feel more comfortable with themselves, Hetzel said.

Dr. Wendy Stock, assistant professor of psy-

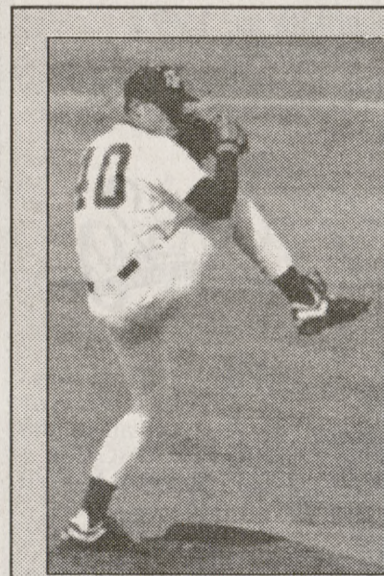
chology, said she feels men are laboring under myths which society has perpetuated.

"It is unfortunate that the development of a men's support group has lagged behind women's," she said. "I would be supportive of the group as a psychologist and a feminist."

Hetzel and Barton are conducting interviews for the group throughout January and February. They are looking for "people who are interested in examining how being a man affects their lives and people who are having difficulties with various issues."

Hetzel said, "We're not asking anyone to change what they believe in or what they value. We're just asking people to take a look and then make a decision about whether they're willing to live that way."

The program consists of five or six meetings centered around different themes, such as work or competition.



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