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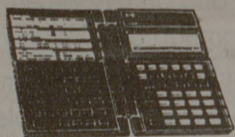
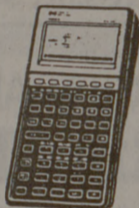


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Koldus

Continued from Page 1

cheons. After the meal, the floor is opened for a discussion in which everything is fair game, Koldus said.

Many know Koldus for a card file which contains an index card with information on each student he meets.

"I add between 2,000 and 2,500 new cards each year," Koldus said. "This year, I have a feeling it has been more than that."

Dr. E. Dean Gage, senior vice president and provost, said Koldus' efforts to remain close to the student body are extraordinary.

"The card file is unbelievable," he said. "He has a special relationship with the students which has worked very effectively."

Koldus also is responsible for FACT, the First Aggie Contact Team, in which students are contacted six weeks into the semester to make sure they are adjusting to campus life. "It is one other way to reach out," he said.

Koldus came to Texas A&M in August 1973 after working at East Texas State University for 10 years in several different capacities. When he arrived at Texas A&M, enrollment was 18,000.

Since his arrival at A&M, Koldus has overseen the division of student services which consists of nine student departments ranging from the Corps of Cadets to Student Health Services to the Memorial Student Center. The departments deal with students outside of the classroom.

James R. Reynolds, director of the MSC, said Koldus has shown genuine support for the students in the MSC.

"The students in the MSC have a tremendous amount of authority in dealing with its programs," Reynolds said. "John Koldus has always asked the right questions and has been very supportive and courageous in his support of the students."

Koldus does not limit his contact to students at Texas A&M.

"I also write to youngsters (usually 7th, 8th and 9th graders) I meet and keep up a correspondence with them to try to interest them in going to school," Koldus said.

Koldus also attends Mother's Clubs meetings in order to meet the parents of A&M students. "Not a day has gone by at A&M where a parent has not called," he said.

As Koldus has been reaching out to help the students, the students have reciprocated his feelings, he said.

"The students in turn stay in

touch with me when they leave," he said. "I follow their careers, and they come by the house and write letters. The announcement of my retirement has just brought in a stream of calls and notes. That's been the fun part."

Koldus and his family have lived in Texas for 32 years. He will continue to live in Bryan-College Station after his retirement.

"We love A&M," Koldus said. "It is a great place to live. Plus, the kids surround us."

His four children live in Fort Worth, Dallas, Lake Jackson and Houston.

Koldus has lived on campus in the white, two-story house next to the parking garage on the southside of campus. A basketball goal sits in the drive.

His wife, Mary Dell, even had a spotlight installed with a switch outside so students can play whenever they want. Koldus and his wife raised all four of their children on campus. Three graduated from A&M.

"The reality is John's wife, Mary Dell, and the four Koldus children have all made a great impact on the campus," Reynolds said. "They have lived in the middle of the campus. Their family values have illustrated and influenced the Aggie spirit."

Upon his retirement, Koldus plans to write, research, travel, play a little golf and update his

computer skills as well as spend more time with his wife and children.

"I plan to be in more control of my time," he said. "I've enjoyed my job immensely. I've been a vice president for 25 years. It's not like I'm retiring at an early age. I'm not retiring from life, just from this position."

Those who have worked closely with Koldus hate to see him leave.

"It has been an absolute privilege and joy to work with John and to work on the same goals and priorities on providing the best education we can," Gage said. "He will leave big shoes that I would hate to fill. He has done a superb job in providing an overall supportive atmosphere for students to achieve in the classroom and in their personal development."

Reynolds said, "John Koldus has never been too busy to help an individual student. This is one of the reasons the Aggie spirit is still alive. This is his legacy."

Koldus said, "The central theme to my life has been people. I enjoy being in service with others. It has been both very fulfilling and rewarding to have this opportunity."

As for the future of A&M, Koldus sees the quality of academic and student life only getting better.

Senate

Continued from Page 1

there are over 148 pages of lawyers," Zaeske said. "That is entirely too many lawyers and that causes a problem in the medical field because they are always looking for a place to sue."

Besides federally funded medicine, the candidates said, another issue confronting Texans is government-supported abortions.

Most of the candidates agreed that while abortions could be considered murder and should not be

used as a birth control method, it is still a woman's choice.

"This is the biggest bill in front of Congress in probably its history," Republican candidate Thomas Spink said. "Pro-life is the way but the decision belongs to the woman."

Republican Stephen Hopkins, who recently began running anti-abortion advertisements, said shock treatment is the only way to inform the public about abortions.

"Four thousand and four hundred innocent human beings are being ripped apart in their mother's womb everyday," Hopkins said. "This is no laughing matter

and one that I want to change."

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between Canada, Mexico and the United States drew mixed responses from the panel of candidates. Some said they supported the agreement as it stood, others wanted to make changes, while others wanted to do away with it totally.

"This is a great opportunity for America to expand into Canada and Mexico," Democratic candidate Sonny Payne said. "But we need to make sure we have sensible people to look at and make sure it is fair to both countries.

Partisan politics need to be purged."

Independent candidate Louis Davis had a simple answer.

"I am an isolationist and I would hate to see American companies go out of business," Davis said. "This needs to be forgotten."

Draheim said NAFTA should be left as it is, with no changes.

"It is a good idea that will increase returns to high skilled workers," Draheim said. "We will be able to forge partnerships with our close neighbors."

The Texas A&M student chapter of United We Stand, America and MSC Political Forum served as hosts for the debate.

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