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THE BATTALION

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1893 - A Century of Service to Texas A&M - 1993

Wednesday, August 25, 1993

Regents to revote on name change

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents will take a new vote Friday to decide if the names of three System schools should be changed.

The revote is a result of a lawsuit filed by five Texas A&I University alumni and one current student charging the Board violated the Open Meetings Act by not posting notice 72 hours in advance for the March 5 meeting, at which the vote to change the names was made.

System spokesperson Terri James Bond, A&M system vice

chancellor and general counsel, told The Battalion last month the lawsuit is a result of an inadvertent clerical error.

The name change, which was scheduled to go into effect Sept. 1, would change the name of Texas A&I University to Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Corpus Christi State University to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Laredo State University to Texas A&M International University.

System spokesperson Terri James Bond, A&M system vice

would be easier to revote rather than challenge the lawsuit.

She said they assumed the new vote would probably cause the lawsuit to be dropped.

The schools affected by the name change have been put under a temporary injunction not to act on the name change until after the final vote is made, she said.

Doug Vannoy, executive director of the Texas A&I Alumni Association from 1980-1991 and one of the filers of the lawsuit, said he is pretty certain that the vote will

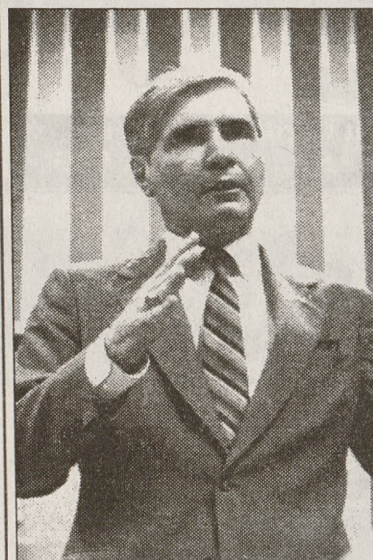
be in favor of keeping Texas A&I as it is. He said he thinks the Board will vote to change the name of the other two schools because they haven't made themselves heard as much as the A&I community has.

"The regents finally understand that we will have a great deal to lose if we lose our name," he said.

Vannoy said he is optimistic about the vote and he has not considered what will happen if it doesn't go in his favor.

"If the unexpected happens, we will plan accordingly after that," he said.

Southerland named to replace Koldus as Student Services VP



Southerland

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, associate vice president for student services, was named Texas A&M University's interim vice president for student services on Aug. 20, replacing Dr. John J. Koldus III, who is retiring at the end of the month.

Southerland was selected by Dr. E. Dean Gage, who is scheduled to be named interim president of A&M by the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M Uni-

versity System later this week.

"Dr. Southerland is an exceptional administrator who has served Texas A&M and its student body with distinction for many years," Gage said. "I find his willingness to accept this interim position a clear indication of his commitment to our students and to the University and look forward to working with him to maintain our momentum in the Division of Student Services."

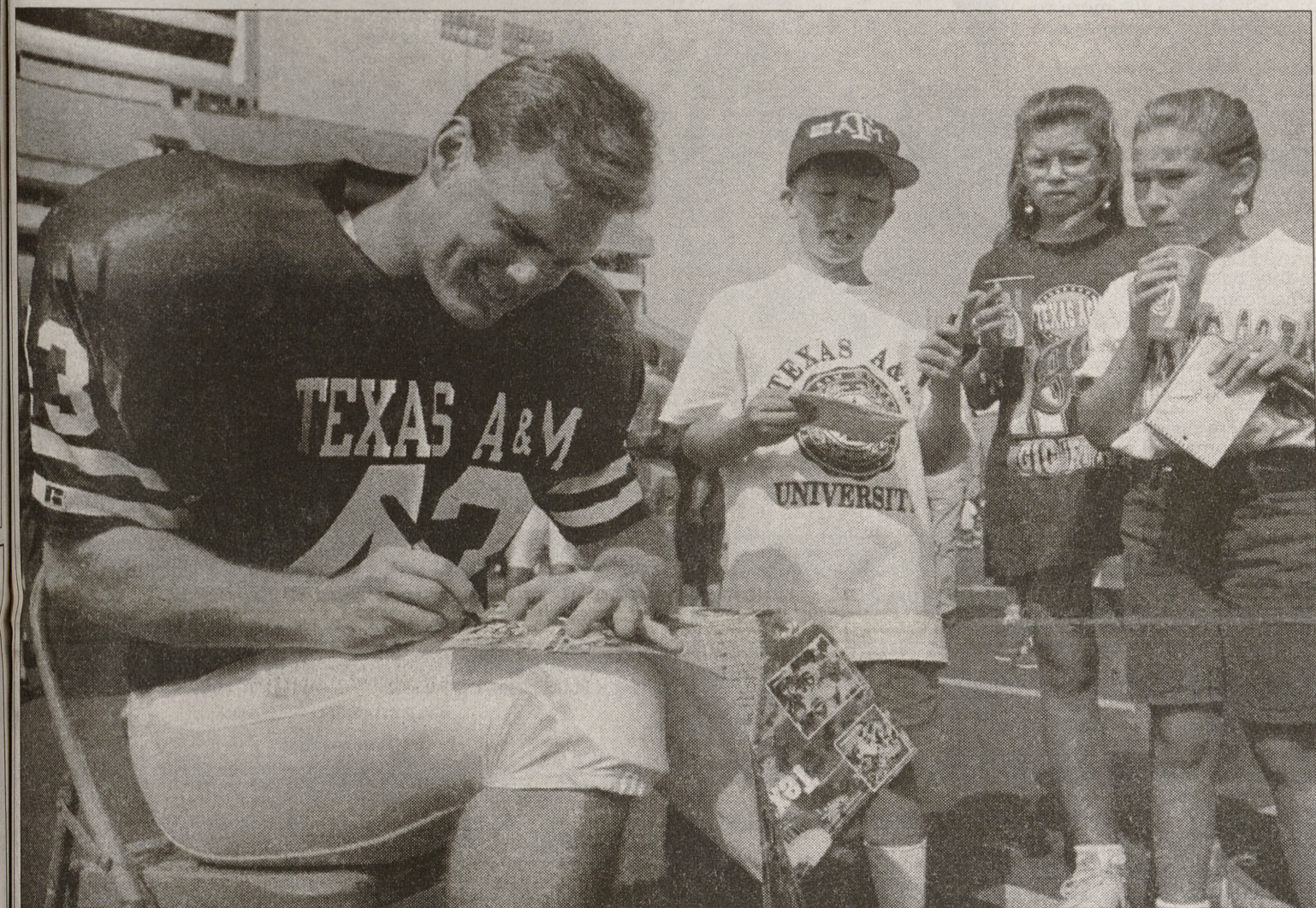
Gage said a national search is currently underway to find a permanent replacement for the position.

Southerland said following a legend like Koldus will be a challenge, even on a temporary basis.

"John Koldus is recognized as one of this nation's top student services professionals," Southerland said. "It has been my distinct privilege to work with him, and I look forward to the challenge of continuing the many outstanding programs he has put into place during his 20 years at Texas A&M."

Southerland graduated from A&M in 1965 and has been with the University since 1968. He is a past recipient of both the University's Distinguished Achievement Award for Individual Student Relationships and Texas A&M Student Government's Outstanding Administrator Award.

Time out for fans



Kyle Burnett/The Battalion

Senior Texas A&M linebacker Jason Atkinson signs an autograph for some young fans at the annual Aggie football Photo Day held at Kyle Field last Saturday. More than 500 fans crowded the field to

meet their favorite Aggie players. Atkinson was one of eight Aggies who had a line of fans that stretched over 20 yards. Atkinson and the rest of the A&M football team will open the season on Sept. 4.

U.N. creates new agency to handle money complaints

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS — Addressing repeated complaints of U.N. waste and mismanagement, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Tuesday created a new post to police the way U.N. money is spent.

Mohamed Aly Niazi, a fellow Egyptian and U.N. insider who had previously been in charge of internal U.N. audits, was appointed to take charge of the new watchdog agency.

Asked whether such an insider could be objective, spokesman Ahmad Fawzi told reporters Niazi is expected to take a "responsible and zealous look" at management problems.

A congressional critic blasted the move as "window-dressing." Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., said in a statement the investigator lacks the authority and independence to do a good job and will be using "the same personnel, the same bureaucracy that has been part of the U.N.'s serious mismanagement problems."

The United States has complained for years that the United Nations is poorly equipped to investigate corruption, waste and mismanagement.

It has been pressing for appointment of an inspector general, similar to the post found in many U.S. federal agencies.

Gage appoints interim provost

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

Dr. E. Dean Gage, soon-to-be interim president of Texas A&M University, appointed Dr. A. Benton

Cocanougher, current dean of business administration, to serve as interim senior vice president and provost beginning Sept. 1.

Gage, who is scheduled to be named interim president of A&M by the Board of Regents on Aug. 13.



Gage

Gage currently serves as senior vice president and provost, the University's top academic position. Cocanougher has been dean of the College of Business Administration and Graduate School of Business since 1987.

"This appointment will keep the rest of the provost's staff in place to maintain greater stability for all of us during this interim period," Gage said.

"With several interim situations across the University at this time, we must all commit to be supportive partners in fulfilling our responsibilities," he said.

Gage said he has asked Robert Smith, vice president for finance and administration, to remain in his current position as the University's top business officer.

"I am aware of the various me-

dia reports that Mr. Smith would be taking a position within the Texas A&M University System, but I have asked him to remain in his position at the University and am delighted that he has agreed to do so," he said.

Cocanougher previously served on the faculties of the University of Texas at Austin, University of Southern California and Southern Methodist University and also served as dean of business and senior vice president and provost at the University of Houston.

Smith, who graduated from A&M in 1962, has served as vice president for finance and administration since 1987, following 23 years of service in a number of positions of increasing responsibility within the University.

Conference prepares Corps leaders for year

By Jennifer Smith

THE BATTALION

At a conference last week, the Corps of Cadets familiarized outfit and unit commanders with changes in Corps policies and prepared them to lead cadets during the 1993-94 school year.

Marc Bertamini, Corps adjutant and a senior political science major, coordinated this year's commanders conference. He said the conference informs the commanders of basic Corps policies and procedures so that they can inform other cadets.

"It's a time for commanders to prepare themselves for the year," Bertamini said. "We want to reflect any new policies and give the commanders the opportunity to ask questions."

Deputy Corps Commander Mando Avila, a senior industrial distribution major, attended the conference and said it helps cadets in leadership positions prepare themselves to lead.

"It gives them leadership training and lets them know what is expected of them," Avila said. "It helps because the commanders are not coming back cold turkey from the summer break."

Avila said training the commanding officers is just as important as training the freshmen because freshmen learn good or bad qualities from their superiors.

"We want to make sure the company commanders are good enough to lead the freshmen," Avila said. "If they aren't, poor leadership traits are developed."

Bertamini said 29 outfit commanders, four major unit commanders and seven minor unit commanders attended the conference that began last Wednesday and ended Saturday.

The Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling spoke at the conference, as well as University President William H. Mobley and Senior Vice President and Provost E. Dean Gage.

Sorority fall Rush '93 stresses Aggie pride

By Cheryl Heller

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M sororities started Fall Rush 1993 on Monday with the theme "A Tradition of Excellence."

About 642 women are participating in this fall's Rush, a weeklong series of parties and skits at sorority houses that allow rushees to visit with active members and learn about the different sororities.

At the conclusion of the week, rushees will indicate the sororities they are interested in and receive bids from the sororities who would like them to join.

Panhellenic Council President Stephanie Johnson said this year's Rush will provide an interesting experience to everyone involved.

"Rush gets bigger every year," she said. "It's definitely an exciting time for the sorority members and the rushees."

"Our slogan is that Greeks are Aggies first, and that keeps our school spirit strong."

-Stephanie Johnson,
Panhellenic Council President

Women decide to join sororities for many different reasons, but one of the main reasons they join, Johnson said, is because of the friendships they develop with other members.

"A sorority is a great place to meet friends, and it gives students a chance to get involved with the other education at Texas A&M," she said. "Our slogan is that Greeks are Aggies first, and that keeps our school spirit strong."

Another big part of belonging to a sorority is philanthropy, Johnson said.

"It makes us feel really good to get involved in order to give something back to the community," she said.

Alpha Delta Pi Rush Chairman Monica Perez said this year's Rush is a positive movement for the Greek system because of the emphasis on Aggies and Greeks.

"We've been promoting that we're all Aggies before Greeks, and I think Panhellenic has done a great job of that this year," she said.

Johnson said, "Belonging to a sorority is a lifetime experience that will last beyond college, and it gives girls who have had sisters or mothers in the system a chance to carry on the tradition."

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Aggielife

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WEATHER

• Wednesday: cloudy in morning, clearing by afternoon, high in 90s

• Forecast for Thursday: morning cloudiness, partly cloudy by afternoon

• Your Battalion extended forecast: slight chance of afternoon showers, highs in the 90s lows in the 70s