



# THE BATTALION

Vol. 93 No. 53 (12 pages)

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

Wednesday, November 10, 1993

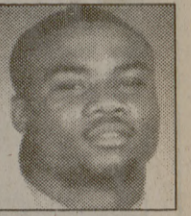


Jim Peterson and three other alumni had knowledge of Hill's two jobs, according to a letter obtained by The Battalion



Four members of the Twelfth Man Foundation knew Greg Hill was working for two A&M boosters

Greg Hill was suspended by the NCAA in September for five games because he was paid for work he did not perform.



## A&M boosters knew of job scandal

### 12th Man Foundation members discussed Hill's employment

By Juli Phillips

THE BATTALION

Four members of the Twelfth Man Foundation could have headed off the current NCAA investigation of Texas A&M's football program a year before it started if they had reported information that came out in a meeting, according to a letter obtained by The Battalion.

See Editorial . . . Page 11

According to the letter, Jim Peterson, Cliff Taylor, James Stormy Kimrey and Warren Gilbert, all of whom at that time were members of the executive board of the foundation, took part in the meeting. The Twelfth Man Foundation is an alumni booster club for Texas A&M athletics.

The letter, dated March 23, 1993, was written by Kimrey to Byron

Wrotenbery, son-in-law of Gilbert.

Gilbert, a prominent A&M booster, was disassociated from the athletic program after allegations that he knowingly paid players for work not performed.

Kimrey stated in the letter that during a meeting of the investment committee of the Twelfth Man on Jan. 13, 1992, some members engaged in small talk concerning Christmas break employment of the Texas A&M players.

"Warren (Gilbert) named a few (players) he had employed including Greg Hill," Kimrey wrote. "At that time, either Jim Peterson or Cliff Taylor informed Warren that Greg Hill was working for Weldon Jaynes in Fort Worth."

Taylor told The Battalion Tuesday, "We just didn't take what Warren said seriously. If I would have thought that he wasn't just boasting, I would have contacted the University."

Both Taylor and Kimrey told The Battalion that there is a rivalry between Fort Worth and Dallas when it comes to employing players.

"I just took it as somebody's loose talk," Kimrey said. "After (Gilbert) was told about Greg's employment with Weldon Jaynes, we assumed that a man with his integrity would take care of it."

Texas A&M Vice President of Finance and Administration Robert Smith said last week that his office was not contacted about the Twelfth Man members' prior knowledge of Greg Hill's employment situation until Jan. 6, 1993.

"At that time," Smith said, "we immediately reported the information to the NCAA."

The NCAA investigation began after an article appeared in The Dallas Morning News on Dec. 20. A subsequent article in the Jan. 9, 1993 edition of the

Morning News detailed employment records from Weldon Jaynes and Warren Gilbert and reported that Hill could not be working in both places.

Bill Willms, attorney for Gilbert, would not comment about the Kimrey letter, but in a prepared statement said, "Mr. Gilbert has fully cooperated with Texas A&M and the NCAA and has met with representatives of both and answered all of their questions."

Gilbert's son-in-law, Byron Wrotenbery, also would not comment on the letter.

The incoming president of the Twelfth Man, Jim Peterson, who was also named in the letter as one of the participants in the conversation, did not return any of The Battalion's phone calls.

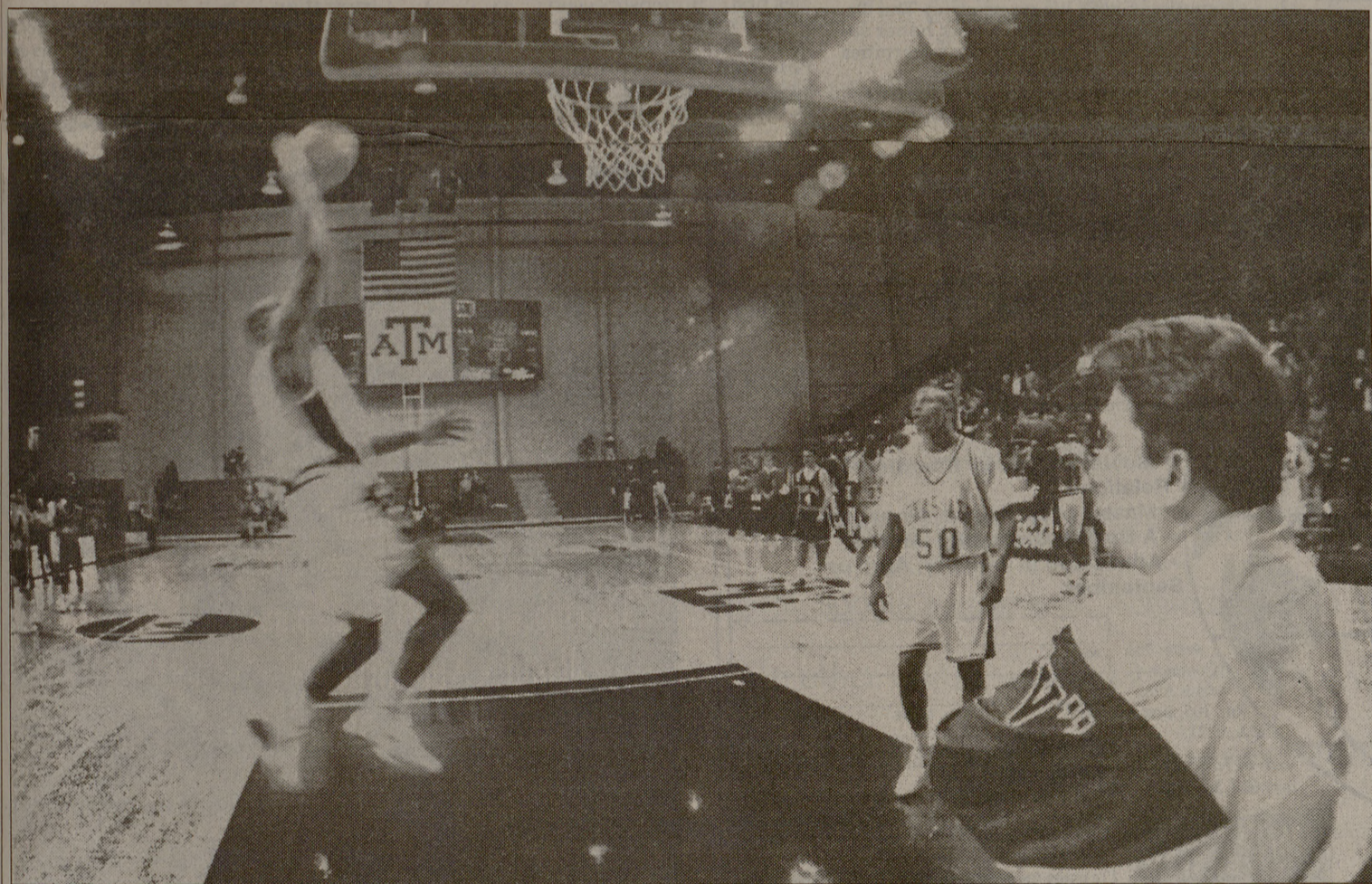
On Sunday, Nov. 14, officials from the University will meet with the NCAA Infractions Committee to discuss the investigation.



The following excerpt of a letter written by Stormy Kimrey shows that members of the 12th Man Foundation discussed Hill's employment before a meeting.

On January 13th of 1992, the Investment Committee met in Ft. Worth, Texas. Those present that I can recall were Mr. Jim Peterson and Mr. Cliff Taylor of Ft. Worth, Mr. Durwood Chalker of Dallas, Mr. Frank Shannon and Randy Howard of College Station, maybe a couple of others with Warren and myself. Small talk before the meeting centered around the past Cotton Bowl and some mention of where players were being employed during the holidays. Warren named a few he had employed including Greg Hill. At that time, either Jim Peterson or Cliff Taylor informed Warren that Greg Hill was working for Weldon James in Ft. Worth. Warren quickly responded that he was certain Greg was employed by his firm but he would certainly check it out upon his return to his office. After the meeting Warren dropped me at BW Airport on his way back home. On the way to the airport we again discussed the question about Greg's employment and he reassured me he was going to check on this that same afternoon.

## Basketball season starts next week



Kevin Toy/The BATTALION

Texas A&M basketball coach **Tony Barone** overlooks a halftime warm-up during the maroon & white scrimmage at the 'Meet the

Aggies' basketball preview Tuesday night at G. Rollie. There was also a 3-point contest and a slam-dunk contest.

## Transfer students find it harder to get Aggie ring

### New policy requires more hours at A&M

By Lisa Elliott

Changes in the ordering policy of the Aggie ring have been challenging for some students to get their ring.

Transfer students at Texas A&M as well as non-transfers will have to wait longer before they can get their Aggie ring because of the new policy approved by the Board of Directors of the Association of Former Students.

Starting Jan. 1, 1994, undergraduate transfer students must complete 60 credit hours at A&M, instead of 30, before ordering their Aggie rings. If transfer students graduate before completing 60 hours at A&M, they can order an Aggie ring after they receive their diplomas. Non-transfer students will have to complete 95 hours before they can place a ring order.

Carolyn Swanzy, director of the Aggie Ring Program, said the changes were made to reduce the confusion about when students can place an order.

Porter Garner, associate director for alumni programs, said the policy wasn't meant to punish anybody but to keep the Aggie ring special by making it more challenging for transfer students to get.

"We're not trying to penalize anybody, we wanted to make sure that the ring represents more than a two-semester experience at A&M," he said.

Garner said he talked to a lot of students about the new policies and could not find one that disagreed with it.

"Most students want these policies to be strict," he said. "All the Board is trying to do is make sure the Aggie wearing that ring fully understands what it means to wear that ring."

Swanzy said the Board also took into consideration students who need loans from the financial aid office to order the ring.

The policy at the financial aid office states that students wanting loans for a ring must have completed 95 hours at the time they apply for a loan.

Swanzy said that because students who are in the process of completing 95 hours aren't eligible for a loan for a ring, the Board felt the same policy should hold for ordering the ring.

However, she said, the new policy won't prevent the students from getting their ring in time for important functions.

Students that place their orders after the spring semester will get their ring before the football games, and students placing an order after the fall semester will get their rings before Ring Dance.

Garner said the Association has been discussing the changes for more than a year.

## Inside

### CAMPUS

• Ross Perot, Al Gore duke it out over NAFTA Page 5

### SPORTS

• Men's soccer advances to national tournament Page 7

### OPINION

• Column: Megliola prepares for the dreaded job interview Page 11



## Student Services VP candidate catches 'Aggieman'ia'

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

"This is a vice president for student services dream," is the way Dr. Richard J. Correnti, a candidate for vice president of student services, described his first impression of Texas A&M University.

"There is something really special happening when students participate at the level that they do here," he said.

Correnti, currently the vice president for student affairs at Florida International University, was on campus this week to interview with the vice president for student services search committee.

He said he caught the Aggie spirit when he received the "300

pounds" of information sent to him by Ron Sasse, head of the committee.

"Aggieman'ia is very contagious," he said. "When I first got here, I wanted to see Bonfire. When I got there, I had to get out of the car and see if it was real."

Correnti, who said he was impressed with the students here, said his most important role is as an educator.

If selected for the vice president position, Correnti said he wants students to leave this University with a greater understanding of people, especially those that are different from themselves, and to have a sense of commitment to service and others.

"Student services plays a big

role in all of these things," he said.

Correnti said he would have the most impact in the multicultural area if he were to get this position.

"I have a lot of experience and success in this area," he said.

Because of his interest in multiculturalism, Correnti said he was especially pleased to learn of the vote passed in the Faculty Senate Monday, which approved a multicultural requirement. "This is a major step for the University," he said.

Kevin Carreathers, director of multicultural services, met with Correnti and held a dinner for him Monday, so he could meet with minority faculty and staff.

See Candidate/Page 5



Correnti

## Tomorrow in Aggieworld

Interview: German journalists visiting A&M

Reviews: Aggie Players' "Seascape"



• Films "Flesh & Bone," "Fearless" • New albums by Bob Dylan, Kate Bush