

A&M leaders to attend higher education summit

By Kim McGuire

THE BATTALION

Several Texas A&M University administrators and student government leaders will be attending a higher education summit Friday at the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi campus to discuss issues that will affect the University during the next meeting of the Texas Legislature.

State Rep. Todd Hunter, chairman of the house appropriations subcommittee on education, organized the summit in order to inform University administrators and students about legislation concerning higher education that will most likely be discussed at the next meeting of the legislature in January of 1995.

Hunter said the summit will help University administrators approach the legislature in a positive manner.

"The summit is an important method of discussing higher education issues facing the state of Texas prior to the legislative session," Hunter said. "It is a positive way of developing future legislation that is well-thought out. The summit will be a great way to prioritize higher education funding issues for the future, as well as

ics include: "Technology in Higher Education," "Formula Funding and its Future Role in Higher Education in Texas" and "How Clinton's Health Care Plan Affects Texas Health and Medical Institutions."

Also during the summit, John Sharp, comptroller of Public Accounts, will give a report concerning higher education, and members of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Education will respond to issues discussed at the summit.

Russell Langley, Student Senate speaker, said he looked at the summit as a means of obtaining useful information about the next meeting of the legislature.

"We hope to get a feel of what will be going on during the next meeting of the legislature," Lang-

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- State Rep. Todd Hunter

erving as an effective way to develop interim studies on higher education issues before the legislature meets."

Summit participants can choose between seven one-hour discussion groups led by administrators, faculty and staff from different Texas universities and colleges. Some discussion group top-

Bush emphasizes state education, justice system in gubernatorial race

By Mary Kujawa

THE BATTALION

Emphasizing changes in education, the criminal justice system and the state budget, George W. Bush spoke of his candidacy for the governor of Texas to an enthusiastic crowd at Easterwood Airport.

This was Bush's fourth stop on a five-day, 27-city tour of Texas to officially launch his candidacy for the Republican nomination for governor.

"If you want someone to tinker with the current system, I'm not the person," Bush said. "I'm the person for new ideas. Funny sound bites are not my mission. My mission is to change the state of Texas."

Bush acknowledged that it will be a tough race because he is running against a well-liked person.

He asked the crowd if the schools were better, if the funding system was fair or even understand-



Bush

able and if the people were happy with the leadership in Austin after four years.

Resounding "no's" echoed through the room in response to each of the questions.

"Everywhere I go, I hear the same answer, from all kinds of people, in all kinds of places," Bush said.

"People want a change. People want new leadership. So I am confident that in 363 days, we will be celebrating a victory for Texas because I am going to win."

Bush said government leaders should be held responsible for their individual behavior.

"Government must be open and honest," Bush said.

"We simply cannot tolerate leaders who imply the lottery will fund education and then it doesn't. We simply can't say as a state we don't like Robin Hood I, but here comes Robin Hood II."

One of Bush's top concerns is education. He said education is to a state what national defense is to the federal government.

"Right now, we do it backwards in Texas," Bush said.

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War veterans remembered



Amy Brouning/The BATTALION

Adam DeMasellis, a freshman geology major of the Academic Building Thursday. The flag from Marshall, takes the flag down from in front flew half-staff in observance of Veterans Day.

Minors in possession face major fines

More jail time, longer suspensions in store for violators

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

The drinking laws have changed for minors and legal adults.

Under the new law, which went into effect in September, students under 21 who are cited for MIPs (Minor In Possession) could face higher fines, and if cited for a DWI (Driving While Intoxicated), they may face longer suspensions and a lower blood alcohol content to be convicted. However, the fines and jail time for adults cited who receive DWIs have decreased.

This year the Texas Legislature raised the fine for subsequent MIP convictions to \$500-\$1,000, the exact amount being up to the judge. First offenders will still pay the \$25-200 fine but will now also have to attend an alcohol awareness course.

Previously, drivers under 21 needed a blood alcohol content of .10 to be convicted of a DWI, but under the new law, minors only need .07 to be convicted.

Minors can now have their licenses suspended for up to one year if they refuse to take the breath alcohol test, compared to 90 days, under the previous law.

The new DWI laws for adults take effect September 1994.

County Attorney Jim Kubovi-

ak said the laws have been changed to reflect the penal code. Flying and boating have been added to the DWI laws, but Kuboviak said the biggest change is in the smaller range of punishments. Fines and jail time have also decreased.

Cpl. Betty LeMay of University Police Department said the new laws will affect many students because UPD has been is-

he said.

During the first two months of the 93-94 school year, 166 MIPs and 13 DWIs have already been handed out. Last year, 289 MIPs and 91 DWIs were issued.

LeMay said because Bonfire is approaching and it is the time of year when most MIPs are given, she wants the students to be aware of the new laws.

"We want students to understand the new laws before Bonfire," she said. "Students should already know alcohol is not allowed on campus. That is in the University Regulations."

During last year's Bonfire, the College Station Police Department issued 49 MIPs, the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission issued 92, and UPD issued 90.

"Lately, we've seen more sensible students at Bonfire because of the risk of losing it," LeMay said. "Each year we have fewer problems."

"Those that stay sober can look back at Bonfire with fond memories rather than remembering a hospital or jail stay," she said.

Boyette said he will keep his office open until 9 p.m. the day of Bonfire to handle inquiries about tickets.

"Since most students will be leaving town the next day, and the office will be closed for the

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Angel Kari/The BATTALION

suing more citations to minors. "We have very aggressive enforcement," LeMay said. "Our job is to help keep peace and save lives."

"Curtailling the amount consumed by minors will decrease things such as accidents, alcohol poisonings, dropout, assaults and date rapes," she said.

Justice of the Peace George Boyette said that although he doesn't see many second offenders, he will be forced to give a minimum fine of \$500.

"I can't say that I will max the fines, but they will be heavier,"

Conflict Center to help resolve alcohol offenses

By Carrie Miura

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University students who are charged with alcohol-related offenses on campus will now have to contact the Student Conflict Resolution Center to resolve the matter.

Eugene Zdzarski, coordinator of the center, said the Student Conflict Resolution Center hands down punishments to students who break University regulations. "Students do not realize that when they receive a MIP on campus, not only are they committing a criminal offense, they are also violating University Regulations," Zdzarski said.

Dr. Bill Kibler, interim assistant vice president of student services, said students who are issued alcohol-related citations on campus must go through the SCRC.

"Any student who violates disciplinary policies on the campus, whether it's during Bonfire or anywhere else, the student must face two jurisdictions - the SCRC and appear in court."

This year the University Police Department will issue citations with a note on the

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Reveille VI to make first public appearance at game

By Jennifer Smith

THE BATTALION

Reveille VI will make her first public appearance as Texas A&M's new mascot at the A&M-Louisville football game Saturday.

Reveille VI will not officially take her position as the highest ranking cadet in the Corps of Cadets until after the Texas A&M-University of Texas football game on Thanksgiving Day. Reveille V, who has served as A&M's mascot since 1984, will retire after this game.

But Reveille V will probably make another appearance at A&M's bowl game.

The new mascot is a 10-week-old American collie from a litter of six. Company E-2, the company responsible for taking care of Reveille, decided last spring to retire Reveille V.

The search then began for her replacement. Members of the Mascot Company contacted breeders across the state and nation to find a replacement for Reveille V.

They found her in Plano from a man named Pat Marshall. She was chosen based on her background, medical history, coloring, physical features and personality.

Reveille V recently had surgery for a stomach ailment, but this did not play a part in the decision to retire her.

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