

Quanell X calls for sacrifice

By Eloise Flint

THE BATTALION

The black community needs to pull together and do things for themselves, said Quanell X, a controversial black minister who was featured at a fraternity speech Wednesday night in Rudder Tower.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity sponsored Quanell X as part of their seventh annual Alpha week.

Quanell X said blacks often strive to attend basically white universities "because we think inferior."

Black students shouldn't pass

Minister says African Americans should pull together, takes shots at white women

up universities such as Prairie View and Texas Southern because they are passing up making something for themselves and their children, and instead are trying to integrate with whites.

"You as black people must ask yourself what you're doing here," Quanell X said. "You look over the black institutions because you feel superior on the plantation."

Kia Carter, a junior business analysis and research major, was pleased with the speech.

"It really makes you think about yourself, but I'm not going to get up and change schools or anything," Carter said.

Quanell X urged students not to consider money when choosing a university.

"Too often we sell out for a dollar bill," Quanell X said. "Don't let money determine how you guide your life, somebody needs to sacrifice."

Cynthia West, a senior recreation parks and tourism sciences

major, said Quanell X was degrading his own race.

"With the statements he made about black students at A&M he's putting them down in general for the school they chose to attend," West said.

Quanell X said the white population is responsible for the wretched condition that the black people are in, and they should apologize for what their ancestors have done.

"You know you don't like us or want us, but have to give us justice," Quanell X said.

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Board of Regents meeting to emphasize campus construction

The Facilities Planning and Building Committee of the Texas A&M Board of Regents will discuss the progress of construction within the System.

Among the items of discussion are:

- A report on the Special Events Center.
- A report on the widening of Texas Avenue.
- A report of West Campus parking improvements.

The regents also will tour the Riverside Campus. After the tour, the regents will hear a report on the Texas Growth Fund.

The regents will reconvene Friday to discuss and vote on the following agenda items:

- Authorization to increase tuition for graduate students.
- A policy stating all University meal plans and current food service operations, including the Sbsa Food Court, will be operated by the University and will not be privatized.
- Authorization for A&M to contract for the provision of electricity, steam, chilled and hot water for a new co-generation facility.

'X' marks the spot



Stew Milne/The Battalion

Quanell X speaks about how white women want lips like that of black women in a speech called "Do for self, or suffer the Consequences." The

two-hour speech, presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, was at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Tower Wednesday evening.

Proposed bill will allow Student Senate to vote on mandatory fees

By Kim McGuire

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Student Senate heard the first reading of a bill Wednesday night that would allow the Senate to approve all changes to mandatory student fees.

Sen. Ben Dale, academic affairs chairman, said students should have a say in determining their fees.

"We don't feel the current system of determining fees is mismanaged or unfair," Dale said.

"However, we feel if students have to pay fees, they have a right to say if they want it or don't."

Dale said the Senate is asking that all requests to change fees be presented to the Senate Finance Committee so they can research the requests.

The committee would then present the request to the Senate for a vote.

Sen. Chad King said the Senate has voted on student fee changes in the past and asked why the bill would be necessary.

"We got to have a say in the changes in the MSC and International student fee, why do we need this

bill," King asked.

Sen. Darla Marburger, co-author of the bill, said the Senate should have a say in fee changes because students are often not aware a change is taking place.

"A lot of times a student doesn't know if a change takes place until it shows up on their fee statement," Marburger said.

"This way, students will be aware of a change before it takes place and also they'll have a say in it through their senators."

In other business, the Senate heard the first reading of a bill that calls for the creation of an Interdisciplinary Council of Honor Societies to facilitate the coordination of every honorary group on campus.

Dale said he wrote the bill because of the lack of coordination among existing honor societies.

"It seems there is a lack of communication between the seven recognized honor societies on campus," Dale said.

"By establishing an Interdisciplinary Council of Honor Societies, we would set up some form of coordination. Students would know how many are out there and the opportunities they offer."

Both of the bills were sent to committees for further review before their next meeting on Feb. 9.

"... we feel if students have to pay fees, they have a right to say if they want it or don't."

-Ben Dale, academic affairs chairman

Health Reform Petition to be circulated around campus

Signatures will be used to emphasize student

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION

The A&M Student Health Services Advisory Council will circulate a petition to student organizations in an attempt to persuade President Clinton to include college students in his health care plan.

The petition was started by a student at the University of California at Berkeley who feared college students would be overlooked in the Clinton Administration's health care plan.

The student, who began working with the American College Health Association, has circulated the petition to universities in eight states in order to make the petition available to students all across the country.

The Council hopes to complete the petition project by mid-March, once they have collected as many signatures as possible.

The petition will then be sent back to the University of California at Berkeley, where it will be

added to the other signatures and sent to Clinton.

A&M's Council will attempt to attend as many student organization meetings as possible to circulate the petition.

Copies of the petition will also

"Right now we, as college students are concerned that we could potentially lose our health care."

-Lori Lindemuth, secretary for the A&M Health Services Advisory Council

be available at the receptionist's desk of the A.P. Beutel Health Center, as well as the health education office.

Members of the Council will have a booth in the MSC between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. next week for interested students.

Dr. Kenneth Dirks, director of Texas A&M's Student Health Center, said the petition is not against the health plan or against Clinton.

"What we want to do is make sure that whatever plan is adopted, it should include college students," he said.

Lori Lindemuth, a senior community health major and secretary of the Council, said the petition will not be associated with any particular political party because it will affect all students.

"Right now we, as college students, are concerned that we could potentially lose our health care," she said.

Dirks said even if college students are included in Clinton's plan, they may end up paying more and getting lower quality health care.

He said students should be identified as a separate group instead of lumped together with the rest of the population, as they would be in Clinton's plan.

Genetically screened baby born

The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. - A baby who was tested when she was only eight cells old to ensure she would be free of the deadly Tay-Sachs disease was born Wednesday. She was the first child to be screened for the incurable disease as a pre-embryo, a doctor said.

Brittany Nicole Abshire and her mother were doing well, said Dr. William E. Gibbons, the family's doctor at the Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine in Norfolk.

Brittany was born at Baptist

Baby tested outside the womb for deadly disease, then implanted

Hospital in Orange, Texas, near the DeRidder, La., home of her parents, David and Renee Abshire.

Brittany was tested as an eight-cell pre-embryo that had not yet been implanted into her mother's womb. Doctors used a needle one-fifth as wide as a human hair to withdraw a single cell from each of the eggs that were fertilized "in vitro," or outside the mother, said Dr. Gary D. Hodgen, leader of the

team that performed the procedure.

The eggs were tested for Tay-Sachs, and three "clean" eggs were implanted in Mrs. Abshire's uterus. One developed into Brittany.

She was the first child in the world to be screened for the inherited disease at that stage, Hodgen said.

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Politicians squabble over health of Clinton plan

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The White House offered concessions on the scope of its health plan Wednesday just hours after President Clinton drew a no-exceptions line on universal coverage.

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole pronounced the Clinton health plan "in trouble," but Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., asserted that Americans won't stand for a Republican filibuster.

The president met with House Democratic leaders and key committee chairmen to map strategy for the struggle over the Clinton Health Security Act and a half-dozen competing bills.

The president later canceled a speech at a local school on doctors' orders to recover his

voice.

Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen told business groups that Clinton was willing to let more big companies self-insure rather than being forced into the regional alliances where most Americans would have to buy their insurance.

White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers also said that while Clinton stands firm on universal coverage, the timetable for achieving it is "something that has to be worked out."

House Speaker Thomas Foley said, "It's possible you will have some kind of a phase-in."

"His program is in trouble," Dole said on NBC-TV. Repeating his argument that the current system works well for 85 percent of Americans, Dole told Fox-TV, "We don't need a triple bypass to take care of the health care

delivery system or this massive overdose of government that President Clinton proposes."

Bentsen acknowledged that big business has problems with Clinton's proposal to force all companies with up to 5,000 employees into regional insurance-purchasing alliances.

"You think the 5,000-employee threshold ... is too high," he told the National Association of Manufacturers and a pension group. "We hear you. We're willing to discuss this one and the other details of our plan."

"We got the concept right, but the president couldn't have been more clear when he said we're open for discussion on this as well as other issues," said Bentsen.

Bentsen said he was troubled by suggestions that only companies with 100 or fewer

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