

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Judicial board dismisses election fines

Technicality causes commission to drop memo penalties

By Jan Higginbotham
The Battalion

The Texas A&M University Student Government Judicial Board last night dismissed all fines issued against those students whose names appeared on a memo circulated by the Corps of Cadets last week during Student Body elections.

Michael Crain, 1994 election commissioner, recommended the fines be dismissed because of a technicality in the election regulations.

According to Crain's interpretation of election regulations, the commission cannot penalize candidates for campaign materials found within thirty feet of the polls on the days of elections.

"We knew the fine wouldn't stand," Crain said. "We didn't find that out until too late. This meeting needed to go on to make the point that there are flaws in the regulations. There was no way I was going to fine everyone in here. My intention has been to make a point that the regulations do need a lot of work."

The judicial board also recommended that no student body elections be held until the Student Senate reviews and revises the regulations. David Hall, chairman of the judicial board, said the decision calls for further action.

"The regulations need to be looked at carefully," Hall said.

Hall also recommended that any revision of rules focus on the definition of organizational endorsements and how they relate to campaign material.

Will Haraway, Corps commander, said he was pleased by the decision to drop the fines and look into revision of the regulations.

"I planned to attack the regulations as being unsound," Haraway said. "I hoped to approach it from the angle that the regulations need a lot of work."

Haraway said he was surprised a resolution was reached so quickly.

"I expected them to lessen the fines down to maybe \$1 and leave the \$1 fine to make a statement," he said.

Haraway said the regulations violate a student's right to due process.

"That makes the entire election process null," he said.

Crain said some of the problems with the

regulations arise because many of the rules are open to personal interpretation.

"I don't want any election commissioner after me to go through what I've gone through," Crain said. "These need to be reworked. That is the bottom line."

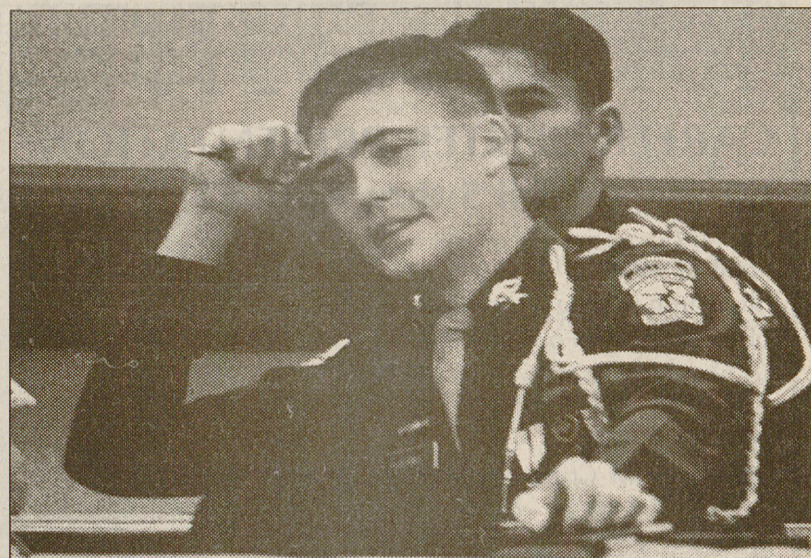
Brooke Leslie, newly elected student body president for 1994-95, said she was surprised at Crain's decision but pleased that changes will be pursued.

"I felt Michael Crain and the judicial board did the right thing," Leslie said. "One of my first actions of president will be to appoint a committee to glean the regulations and make necessary corrections."

"I believe it's important for all involved parties to realize that we are Aggies first and the reason we're all here is to serve the University and make it a better place. The actions taken tonight by all the parties reflect that."

Haraway said he thinks the controversy over his actions last week ended with the judicial board's decision.

"As far as student government and the memo are concerned, this ends it," he said. "There should be nothing else about the elec-



Stew Milne/The Battalion

Corps Commander Will Haraway takes part in a judicial board meeting, Monday night, that reviewed fines against candidates in last week's election.

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Tent revival this week by Rudder Fountain



Raun Novahitzal/The Battalion

Paul York speaks at the Chi Alpha Christian fellowship Tent Revival on Monday night. The revival takes place all week in the Rudder Fountain court yard at 7 p.m. The revival is led by missionaries from Ethiopia.

Black lawyer appointed Texas secretary of state Promises to continue King legacy

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — The first black man to serve as Texas secretary of state, Ronald Kirk, was sworn in by Gov. Ann Richards on Monday's anniversary of the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Kirk, 39, a Dallas lawyer who grew up in East Austin, spoke to hundreds of supporters at his swearing-in ceremony about the "rich symbolism" of the date.

King's effort was about "self determination and the fundamental right of people of all colors to participate without limitation in the rich economic and political heritage of this country," Kirk said.

"As the quest for self-determination is ultimately defined by the right to vote, it is humbling for me to stand before you as the state's chief election officer, considering the price that Dr. King and others were willing to pay in order for me to have the privilege of standing before you," he said.

It was the 26th anniversary of the day King was gunned down, and 20 years since Kirk got his first exposure to Texas politics after taking a leave of absence from college and getting a legislative job.

Richards recalled seeing Kirk around the Capitol in those early days, when he was "a kid" and she was doing some legislative and political work but had yet to hold an elected office. "I thought, that is a young man that is worth watching," she said, citing his energy and enthusiasm.

Kirk, who has served as chairman of the General Services Commis-

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ISLAMIC AWARENESS WEEK

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

- Food extravaganza at the MSC Lobby, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Video: 'Book of Signs' at 102 Blocker, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

- Lecture: 'Women in Islam' at 102 Blocker, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

- Lecture: 'The Truth about Kashmir' by Ghulam Nabi Hagro, the chairman of the Kashmir Human Rights Commission, at 224 MSC, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

- Lecture: 'American-Muslims and Their Experiences' at 158 Blocker, 7 p.m.

For more information, there will be an Islamic information table at the MSC lobby throughout the week from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. — or contact Noaman Asar (846-5199). All events are free and refreshments will be served.

Presidential candidate praises A&M

Proenza heads south to interview with Board of Regents

By Kim McGuire
The Battalion

Dr. Luis M. Proenza, a candidate for the Texas A&M presidency, was honored Monday at a reception hosted by Chancellor William H. Mobley.

He is the second candidate to be interviewed for the position of University president, which has been vacant since former president Mobley was appointed chancellor last year.

Proenza will be interviewed today in Houston by the members of the A&M Board of Regents.

Proenza is the vice president for academic affairs and research for the University of Alaska System.

He visited A&M six years ago and was impressed by what he saw both then and now.

"The campus is absolutely beautiful," Proenza said. "Anyone would be envious of the facilities."

Proenza said his meetings with A&M officials were positive.

"Everyone has been very candid and willing to talk about the issues," Proenza said. "There is definitely a movement to create a greater excel-

lence."

He said he was impressed by the programs at A&M and the strong focus on students.

Before becoming vice president for academic affairs and research, Proenza was vice chancellor for research and dean of the graduate school at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks.

He was on the faculty of the University of Georgia for nine years and served as assistant to the president there for two years.

At the University of Georgia, Proenza also served as coordinator for the faculty of neurobiology, and

as a member of the graduate faculty, faculty senate and university council.

Proenza earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Emory University in 1965.

He obtained his master's degree in psychology from Ohio State University in 1966 and his doctorate in 1971 in neurobiology from the University of Minnesota.

Mobley will host a reception Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in 292 MSC for the third presidential candidate, Dr. James N. Corbridge, chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Protests continue as troops leave Gaza Strip

The Associated Press

DEIR EL BALAH, Occupied Gaza Strip — Monday was moving day for the Israeli army here at their Gaza Strip headquarters.

Soldiers took farewell photographs and loaded cabinets, desks and a still-cold refrigerator onto a trailer in the courtyard.

After 27 years of occupation, changes demanded by Palestinian leaders are finally starting to take shape, not only here but at other sites in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

For young militants, dismantling bases is too little to be convincing. Soldiers still patrol the streets, and Palestinians remain wary of Israel's intentions, especially since the army is building new outposts to guard Jewish settlements that will not be uprooted.

So even though the moving was a visible sign of Israel's intent to leave, Palestinian youths with slingshots lobbed stones that bounced off the walls and olive drab jeeps. Troops gave chase, firing plastic bullets and tear gas, wounding two Arabs.

"We don't want peace. There will be stones

every day," shouted the youths.

Some soldiers appeared bewildered about why the Palestinians were throwing stones while they were pulling up stakes. "They don't want us to leave?" asked one.

Soldiers kept loading the trailer during the melee. Women walked through Israeli lines carrying bundles of wash, and a Muslim fundamentalist dressed in white with a black beard bicycled unnoticed between the soldiers as they knelt to shoot at rioters 50 yards away. Arab cars tried to edge their way around army vehicles.

Maj. Udi, a military commander in Deir el Balah, said his unit was being moved to guard Gush Katif in Gaza, where more than 4,000 Jewish settlers live.

Udi said that even while the army was still in full control, his soldiers had orders not to patrol in the nearby Palestinian refugee camps of Bureij, Nuseirat and Mughazi unless absolutely necessary.

"We are not going in because we know the sensitivity of conducting patrols inside the camps," said Udi, identified only by his first name according to army regulations. "We are

in a period of transition, and we are trying to avoid confrontation."

Israel and the PLO resumed accelerated talks in Cairo on Monday. Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said he expected agreement soon on the size and timetable of the Palestinian police force to patrol the autonomous areas.

A trip expected Monday by senior officers to inspect Gaza facilities was postponed. About 300 police are due to be sent in the autonomy areas by Thursday for administrative purposes.

Up to 50 deportees, including some top Arafat aides, are due to cross into the occupied areas from Jordan and Egypt starting Tuesday.

At a seaside army base in Gaza City, soldiers emptied mobile homes and moved them onto trucks. Equipment is either being trucked to Israel or to Gush Katif, where troops are to be posted once autonomy begins.

Palestinians staged a large protest in the streets nearby, hurling stones at troops who detained three Arabs.

Saeb Erekat, a PLO negotiator in Jericho, explained the continued protests as an expression of Palestinian doubt.

SILVER TAPS TONIGHT

Silver Taps will be held tonight at 10:30 p.m. in front of the Academic Building in memory of three Texas A&M students.

The campus will be hushed and darkened at 10:20 p.m. for Shirley Jane Hall, 36, a freshman business administration major from Bryan; Ming Te-Han, 20, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Houston; and John Thomas Robertson, 19, a freshman general studies major from Mission.

The Ross Volunteers honor guard will fire a volley salute and buglers will play a special arrangement of "Taps."



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