



### AGGIFE

Organization gives A&M students exposure to Japanese animation.

Aggife, Page 1B

### PRESIDENTIAL PICK

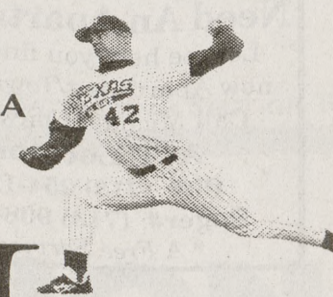
The Battalion editorial board endorses a candidate for Texas A&M student body president.

Opinion, Page 7A

### ROAD TO RECOVERY

Justin Atchley returns to the mound after an arm injury.

Sports, Page 5A



# THE BATTALION

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## Student body presidential candidates debate issues

**□ The candidates discussed their platforms and answered questions during Monday night's forum.**

By Kasie Byers  
THE BATTALION

Candidates for student body president spoke about their platforms and answered panelists' questions Monday night during a debate in the MSC Flagroom.

Panelists representing different stu-

dent groups asked the candidates how, if elected, they would handle certain problems facing their groups.

From breaking down barriers for students with disabilities to putting an end to racism, unity was a main concern of the panelists.

Candidate Jeff Livingston said the best way to unify students would be to hold campus meetings and get direct student input for the Student Government.

Candidate Jeff Wilson said a lack of unity on this campus is a major problem. "We need to specifically address this problem by bringing together the leaders from across the campus," Wilson said. "We need to set them down and find out the problems each group faces."

"Diversity isn't just a white, black, brown, red issue. Bringing these

groups together will allow for strong relationships between these various organizations to be built."

Candidate David Washington said that a lack of communication among student leaders results in a breakdown in unity at A&M.

"If leaders don't communicate with other groups, then, as a result, followers don't," Washington said. "We need to utilize the other education and bring this leadership together."

Candidate Toby Boenig said he does not view campus unity as a major problem.

"I believe that first we are all Aggies," Boenig said. "The infrastructure is already set up to deal with these issues. We just need to make better use of them."

Candidate Carl Baggett said he is aware that certain groups just do not work well together.

"Lack of unity is definitely a problem that needs to be dealt with, but it is not an impossible problem," Baggett said. "The best example of how we can work with this thing is when Bonfire fell this year. All the Aggies bonded their Aggie spirit to rebuild Bonfire and I want to bring this same Aggie spirit to the executive branch of student government."

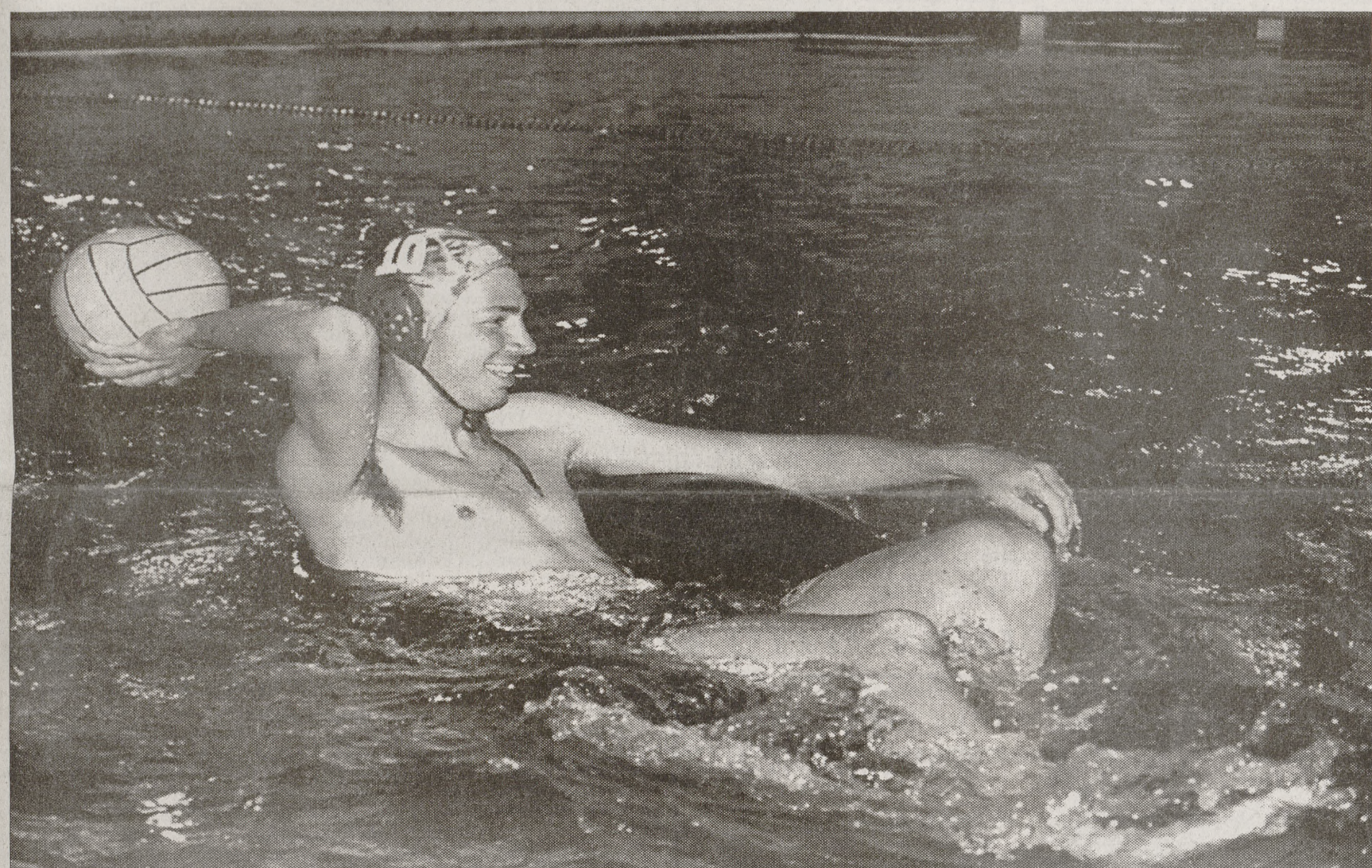
The panelists also answered questions about their leadership experiences.

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Tim Moog/THE BATTALION

Monday night, candidates for student body president talked about their views and answered questions about platforms in the MSC Flagroom in a forum discussion.



Bart Mitchell/THE BATTALION

### Bathing beauty

Mike Miertchin, a senior Geophysics major, passes the ball in a game of inner tube water polo at the indoor pool in the Downs Natatorium as a part of an intramural event Monday evening.

## UPD, Physical Plant work to improve campus lighting

**□ The two departments formed the Security Awareness Committee in response to growing safety concerns.**

By Eleanor Colvin  
THE BATTALION

The Security Awareness Committee of the University Police Department and the Physical Plant will increase lighting on campus in response to growing concerns about safety.

Elmer Sneider, associate director of the UPD, said the committee actively seeks student input to help determine areas needing improvement on campus.

"The Security Awareness Committee is a student, faculty and staff advisory board," he said. "We are addressing issues raised by many students concerning lighting on west campus and in parking lots."

The first project involves improving the number of lights in about 15 campus parking lots.

"Priority has been given to lighting parking lots, especially those with no lights at all," Sneider said. "We've taken some campus lighting tours to find areas that need additional light."

Eugene Ray, interim director of the Physical Plant, agreed that parking lots should be one of the first areas targeted.

"We are doing a lighting study to address issues brought up by the Security Awareness Committee," he said. "These issues have top priority and we hope to have some additional and supplemental lights in sev-

eral lots by the start of the fall semester."

Some of the lots scheduled for improvements are:

- Lots 9 and 42 near Puryear and Law residence halls.
- Lot 63 near Olsen Field.
- Lot 25 between the Corps dorms and the Southside Parking Garage.

• Lots 2 and 3 behind the Northside dorms off of University Drive.

• Lot 5 near Blocker and the Cyclotron off of University Drive.

Ray said as many as 55 light poles may be added to these areas.

Sneider said upcoming University projects will require expanding safety measures.

"We're trying to plan ahead," he said. "Upcoming construction on campus, like the Special Events Center, will call for additional lighting and emergency telephones in that area."

Sneider said replacing lights that are out of order is as much of a problem as having no lights.

"We are researching a way for security officers to be able to accurately notify the Physical Plant of where the lights needing attention are, the type of light and how tall the pole is," he said. "These little things often create a big problem."

Sneider said that in the future the University will have to reduce the amount of trees and bushes on campus.

"The vegetative cover, or canopy, that trees create is a problem," he said. "We may need to clear back some of the bushes, consider how trees are affecting the current lighting system and perhaps change to a new type of lighting."

## Board of Regents appointees await Senate confirmation

**□ The Senate is expected to confirm Gov. Bush's appointees sometime this week.**

By Lisa Messer  
THE BATTALION

Senate confirmation hearings began Monday for the three Texas A&M University System graduates that Gov. George W. Bush appointed to the A&M Board of Regents.

Bush named Robert Allen, an investor from Houston; Fred McClure, a public affairs consultant from Dallas; and Donald Powell, a banker from Amarillo, to the Board last week.

Senate confirmation is expected for the appointments sometime this week.

The men replace regents Raul Fernandez, vice chairman of the Board, Billy Clayton and Gerald J. Ford, all appointed by Gov. Bill Clements.

If the new appointments are confirmed, the men will serve six-year terms that will expire on Feb. 1, 2001.

Allen, who graduated from Texas A&M University in 1951 with a

bachelor's degree in business administration, said discussion about the appointments started a few months ago.

"Initially I was hesitant or apprehensive because obviously an appointment requires a great deal of time, attention and dedication," he said. "However, because I'm a graduate of the University, I have an attitude of dedication and devotion that I might not have toward some other appointment."

McClure, who graduated from Texas A&M University in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics, said he is looking forward to the challenge of being an A&M regent.

"We need to make sure a very high quality of education is offered to each of the seven institutions in the A&M System," McClure said. "We need to continue to have an impact on the lives of our students."

"We also need to meet the needs of the service agencies associated with the System and, in the process, be good stewards of the state."

Allen said the Board should

See Regents, Page 8

## Senate searches for student financial aid fraud culprits

**□ Interviews and government documents show that members of Congress often make it hard to enforce the rules.**

WASHINGTON (AP) — At 1993 hearings on student financial aid fraud, senators wondered why the Education Department had failed to crack down on ineligible schools that continued to receive millions of federal dollars.

Part of the answer was right under their noses.

Interviews and government documents show that members of Congress themselves often make it hard for the department to enforce the rules on home-state schools. Losses to defaulted loans and wasted grants run into the billions of dollars each year.

A stark example had come just a few months before the hearings when Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., called department officials to a meeting in Capitol Hill.

The purpose was to lobby

the department to unconditionally approve Mercy College's proposed takeover of the bankrupt Center for Media Arts in New York.

The college wanted to use CMA as a satellite campus, but wished to avoid having to repay \$900,000 in federal tuition refunds due CMA's students.

The department was insisting the students — and the taxpayers — be protected as a condition of the takeover.

In the wood-paneled Rayburn Room, just a few steps from the House floor, Nadler, Rep. Ben Gilman, R-N.Y., and six aides to other New York lawmakers lectured the bureaucrats for nearly four hours, not letting them go until 8:15 p.m., according to a written summary of the meeting.

"The amount of political pressure exerted against the department was truly extraordinary in this case," department official Diane Sedcum wrote in a memo a few days after the April 28, 1993, meeting. She called the session "politically charged," "volatile" and "potentially intimidating."

## Inside - Voters' Guide

1995 STUDENT ELECTIONS  
**VOTERS' GUIDE**

A&M students set to pick 1995-96 leaders

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT  
SENIOR YELL LEADER  
JUNIOR YELL LEADER  
CLASS PRESIDENTS  
CLASS OF '95 GIFT

Class of '95 Gift  
Six proposals to go before voters

ATM BALLOT BOX

A special pullout section outlines the upcoming student body elections, with campaign profiles and a sample ballot list.