

RADIO WAVES

A brief history of local radio stations KANM and KEOS.

Aggielife, Page 3

RISING TO THE OCCASION

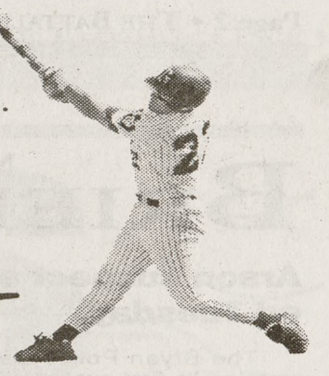
Preston: Too often Christianity and Resurrection Week do not practice what they preach.

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AND THE BEAT GOES ON...

The Aggie baseball team beats SWTSU 5-0 for its 10th straight win.

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THE BATTALION

Vol. 101, No. 130 (12 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

Wednesday • April 12, 1995

University Plan strives for equality

The Access and Equity 2000 Plan's goal is to increase the number of minority staff and faculty members.

By Tracy Smith
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University is striving toward a more diverse workplace by focusing on ways to increase the number of minority and women faculty members.

Part 3 of 3

The University's Access and Equity 2000 Plan's goal is to continually increase the number of African-American and Hispanic faculty, administrative

and professional staff to a number more equal to their proportional representation in the population.

The Plan began in September 1994 and is a continuance of the Texas Plan, which was designed to end segregation of African-Americans and under-representation of Hispanics in Texas schools. The Plan will continue through August 2000.

The Plan reports that in the fall of 1994, 21 positions out of the 363 executive, administrative and managerial (EAM) jobs were held by minorities, 136 positions out of 1,482 professional positions were held by minorities and 89 positions out of 1,730 faculty positions were held by minorities.

The Access and Equity 2000 Plan's goal is to increase these

numbers to 63 EAM positions, 275 professional positions and 130 faculty positions held by minorities by the year 2000.

These goals were determined using criteria from the



1990 national census data for African-Americans and the State of Texas data for Hispanics.

The Plan strives to increase the total number of women holding faculty, professional staff and EAM positions by increasing the number from 1,001 women holding these positions in September 1994 to 1,250 women by 2000. The goals for women were assessed using both national and state data.

Paul Catucci, retirement services manager for the Department of Human Resources and Access and Equity 2000 committee member, said the planning and implementation for Access and Equity 2000 looks at what the University can do and current programs that can help the Plan's goals.

"We first looked at what we currently have on the campus right now," he said. "Then we looked at what we could do."

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RHA objects to funding Corps scholarships with rent money

Two scholarships that benefit the Corps of Cadets cost an average of \$30 per on-campus resident a year.

By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

The Corps of Cadets and on-campus residents are at odds over a recent Residence Hall Association bill urging that hall rents not be used to fund two Corps scholarship programs.

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The RHA bill, passed March 30 through emergency legislation, condemned the use of residence hall rents to pay for the Corps Room Scholarship Pro-

gram and the Corps Leadership Training and Adviser Program.

The bill recommended that the Corps find other sources of funding.

The bill stated that the two programs cost on-campus residents \$337,972 every year, at an average cost of \$30 per student.

The Corps Room Scholarship Program waives housing fees for up to 100 freshmen with ROTC scholarships. The Corps Leadership Training and Adviser Program funds the hiring of five tactical advisers in the Corps administration.

Matt Segrest, Corps Commander, said the two programs contribute greatly to the Corps.

"The programs are very important," Segrest said. "They add a lot to the experience of the

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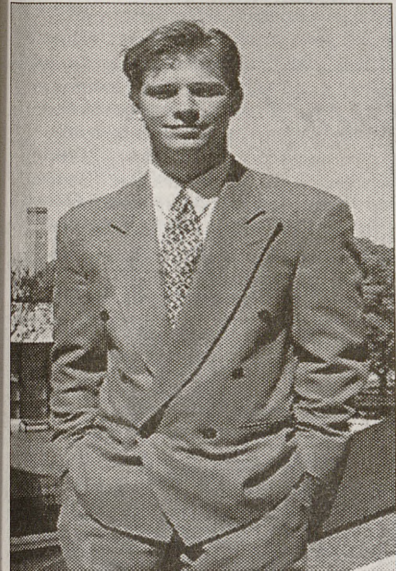
Boenig prioritizes platform goals

Student body president-elect says he will work to represent the students' needs.

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

Although his role has changed from speaker of the Student Senate to student body president, Toby Boenig said the one thing that won't change is his push to make sure his constituency is heard.

"If there is one thing I have learned from Student Senate, it's how to relate to my constituents better," Boenig said. "I plan to continue this communication and work to improve it



Nick Rodnicki/THE BATTALION

Toby Boenig is the next Student Body President.

even more.

"My office door will be open all the time and I want everyone to feel free to come by anytime and speak with me about concerns."

Out of his 11-point platform, Boenig said he thinks three points are the most important: financial aid, campus safety, and cultural respect.

To improve financial aid, Boenig said he will actively oppose financial aid cuts in both the federal and state legislatures.

"I plan on making sure that the student viewpoint is voiced in both the Texas legislature and federal legislature about stopping these cuts," he said. "One idea I have is initiating a national letter writing campaign."

"Students could obtain form letters about opposition of financial aid cuts to send to their representatives. Our representatives may not read them all, but they won't be able to ignore the numbers."

Boenig said he wants to improve campus safety by increasing the number of emergency phones, the number of self-defense courses in the kinesiology department and the number of University police on campus at night. He also wants to ensure that lighting is improved on campus.

"I think it's important that the administration hears the students' viewpoints on the safety of its campus," he said. "Every year I've been here, I've heard of more and more problems as far as campus safety is concerned."

"I feel these ideas won't be hard to implement since the administration recognizes that these problems exist."

Boenig said the most important step in increasing cultural respect is for leaders of different student groups to gather and open the lines of communication.

"Before we can even begin to talk of solutions about our campus' racial tensions, we must be able to communicate calmly, intelligently and rationally," he said. "It's important for all of us to try to understand others' problems."

"I know I can never fully know what minority students go through, but it is my responsibility to try to understand what they are going through."

Boenig said he will try to continue Student Body President Brooke Leslie's platform achievements in order to make a smooth transition between the administrations.

"I think the transition will go pretty smoothly," he said, "considering how closely Brooke and I have worked this past year and because we are close friends."

"I plan on sitting down with her platform and evaluating her achievements. I hope I can carry these accomplishments over and even improve on them."

Boenig said that although he hasn't moved into his office yet, he has already started working on his platform goals.

"I want all of these to be accomplished by the time my term is up," he said. "When I leave this office I hope the students will say, 'Toby Boenig was someone who was always there for the students and did everything possible for this University.'"

"That's why I'll work 60 hours a week to get the job done and implement all my platform goals."

Official critiques system expansion

Higher education commissioner says UT - A&M campus fight should stop.

HOUSTON (AP) — The two largest universities in Texas need to quit squabbling over new campus sites, the state's higher education commissioner says.

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"There are more schools and students in either the (Texas) A&M or UT (University of Texas) system than many states in this country have in their entire state university systems," says Texas Higher Education Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth.

Recent moves by both schools to add more campuses have some education observers speculating that both Texas A&M and UT are getting too big for the good of Texas.

There's the recent action by legislators to transfer a Laredo

university from the Texas A&M system to the University of Texas system.

There already has been animosity stirred among alumni of state public colleges gobbled up by UT or Texas A&M because their alma maters have changed names to adapt to new ties.

Ashworth believes management of such diverse systems might become too unwieldy and too much responsibility for just two governing boards of regents, particularly since the number of college students is expected to grow to more than a million during the first decade of the next century.

"Some of the campuses are just not going to get the attention they need from a board of regents whose attention span is spread too thinly," Ashworth said.

Of the five university systems operating in Texas, the

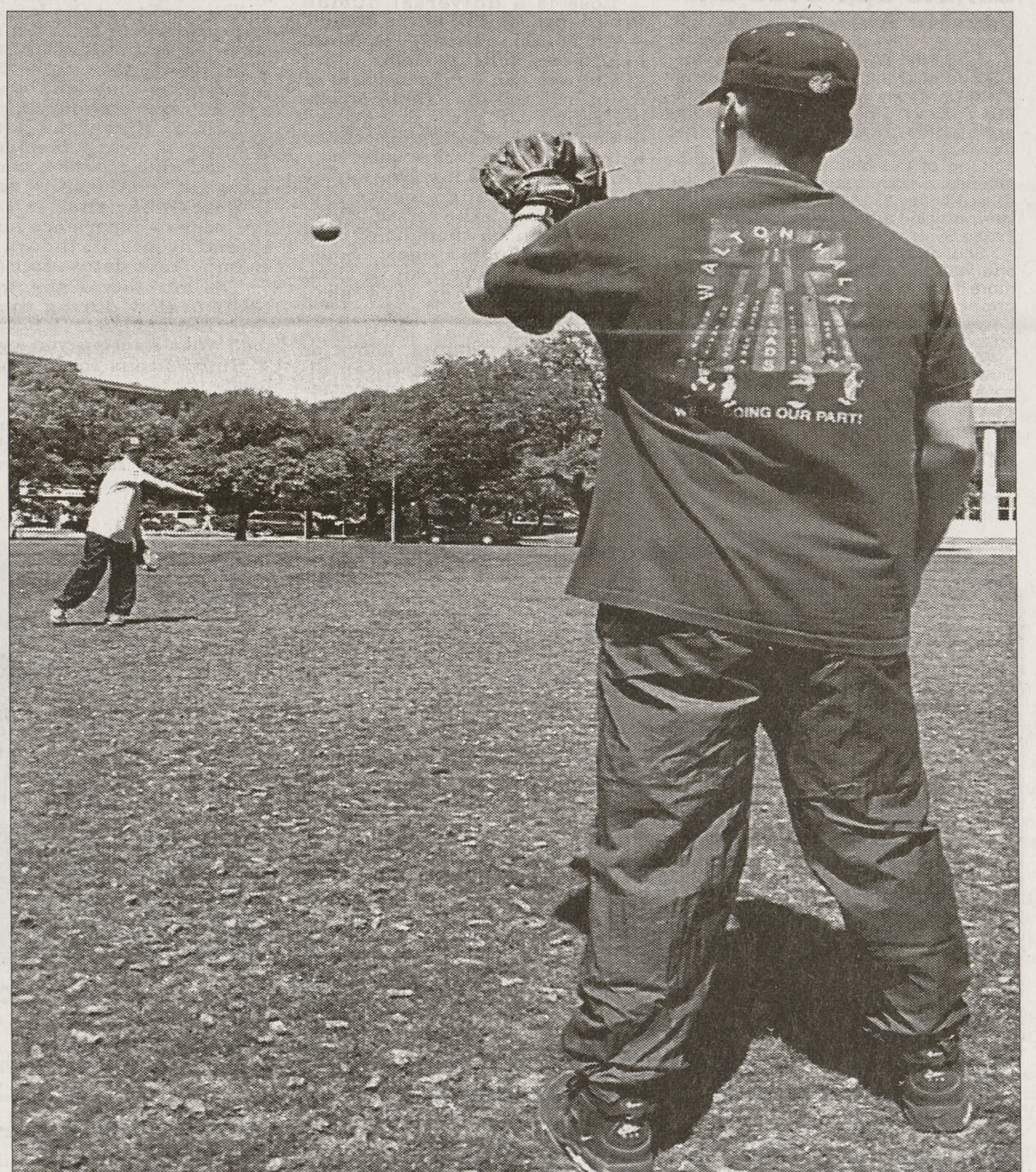
University of Texas System is the largest, with nine academic campuses and six medical school campuses. Total enrollment: 152,014 students. Texas A&M is second, with eight academic campuses and 75,906 students.

Focus on university systems

"Some of the campuses are just not going to get the attention they need from a board of regents whose attention span is spread too thinly."

— Kenneth Ashworth,
Texas Higher Education Commissioner

intensified recently because of an effort by Rio Grande Valley legislators to have Texas A&M International University-Laredo, which only recently became part of the Texas A&M system, switched to the University of Texas system.



Nick Rodnicki/THE BATTALION

Spring fever

Matt Ivey, a freshman biomedical science major and James Younts, a sophomore kinesiology major take a break to play catch in the nice weather on Gen. Ormond R. Simpson Drill Field.

Energy, food prices decrease

The Producer Price Index did not increase for the month of March.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The cost of energy and food fell at the wholesale level in March, giving the country its best news on prices in five months and suggesting the economy was still on the Federal Reserve's glide path for a "soft landing."

The Labor Department re-

ported that its Producer Price Index, after posting worrisome gains of 0.3 percent in both January and February, showed no increase at all in March, as the price of gasoline, autos and women's clothing dropped.

Financial markets initially rallied on the news with economists taking heart from the fact that the steep slide in the dollar has so far failed to show up in higher prices.

But the gains melted away later in the day after remarks by Federal Reserve board member

Janet Yellen called into question the market's view that the Fed is through raising interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished the day down 11.07 at 4,187.08. Bond prices, however, were up, pushing the yield on Treasury's benchmark 30-year bond down to 7.37 percent in late trading as many investors continued to hold to the view that benign inflation reports were showing the Fed's string of seven rate increases had accomplished its inflation-fighting goals.