

STARTING OUT RIGHT

The Texas A&M Volleyball Team begins its season with a win over Baylor.

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Landauer: Being a Republican is completely different than being a College Republican.

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THE BATTALION

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College Republicans granted extension to prepare defense

The hearing for the organization was postponed from Friday. The group is facing charges of regulations violations.

By James Bernsen
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's vice president for student affairs granted College Republicans a 30-day extension Wednesday to allow the group to prepare for a hearing on charges of violating student organization policies.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland granted the extension for the hearing that was scheduled for Friday.

"The primary purpose for this or any other hearing process is education for the students involved in the student organization," Southerland said.

"Because there still appears to be a significant amount of misinformation about the purpose and intent of this procedure, ... I have granted the extension to provide additional opportunities to clarify these and any other points of misunderstanding."

College Republicans, A&M's largest student organization, is facing charges stemming from a fund-raising letter that A&M administrative officials said contains misinformation and inflammatory language about multiculturalism and other sensitive issues.

David Brown, College Republicans interim president, said the original date was so soon that the group could not

prepare for it. "None of us have been to class since this whole thing started," Brown said.

Dr. Richard Stadelmann, faculty adviser for the College Republicans, said the extra time will allow the group to develop a legal defense.

"It's a First Amendment issue, and I'm amazed that the administration didn't grasp that," Stadelmann said. "We've been granted time to develop a legal defense."

Southerland said the issue is not about freedom of speech.

"Texas A&M is firmly committed to freedom of speech; for generations our graduates have fought to protect that precious right," he said. "[This hearing] concerns a possible violation of a stated

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Student Senate asked to research requirement

The group will begin reviewing past Senate bills next week to reinform the student body of the proposed multiculturalism requirement.

By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

Two senators asked the Student Senate Wednesday to research the proposed multiculturalism requirement for a second time, in order to prepare for questions resulting from recent events involving the Texas A&M College Republicans.

Senators Chris Miller, on off-campus senator, and Chris Reed, Senate speaker pro tem, requested that the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee look into the multiculturalism requirement and any previous action the Senate has taken about the proposal.

"I think it's important that the student body know our position," Reed said.

Becky Silloway, Senate speaker, said that since the Senate first passed the bill mandating the international and U.S. cultures requirement in 1993, the Senate membership has changed drastically.

"A lot of these senators and a lot of students on campus were not here when this bill was originally passed,"

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Amy Browning, THE BATTALION

GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE

Kris Forks, senior agricultural engineering major, gives blood Wednesday at the West Campus donation location. The blood drive will continue through Friday.

TUBE TALK

Bowen hosts televised forum

Students, faculty and staff can ask questions of A&M's president and administrators on KAMU at 6 p.m. tonight.

By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

Dr. Ray Bowen, Texas A&M president, will host the first of three "Bowen and Friends," television shows Thursday, allowing students, faculty and staff to question the president and administrators about campus issues.

KAMU, the A&M public broadcast system, will carry the show at 6 p.m. Two more broadcasts are planned later this fall.

Bowen will answer questions from a small studio audience in the Moore Communications Center, a remote question site at the Commons Lobby and telephone callers.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs; Dr. Jerry Gaston, interim vice president for finance and administration; and Dr. Charles Lee, interim executive vice president and provost, may join Bowen to answer questions about their specific departments.

A representative from Student Government will join the president as well.

Bowen said the show gives him an opportunity to hear from students who would not usually contact him.

"There are some students who are reluctant to call my office, set-up an appointment and come to talk to me eyeball-to-eyeball," he said.

Mary Helen Bowers, the show's organizer and

deputy director of University Relations, said she expects the president to answer a variety of questions.

"He's perfectly willing to take a question on anything," Bowers said. "He has made it quite clear that if he doesn't know the answer, he'll find out and get back to them."

Bowen said he expects questions about campus safety, residence life and the general use fee, which the Board of Regents raised in August by \$8 per credit hour.

"I think the whole fee increase caught a lot of people off-guard," he said. "We tried to get the word out over the summer, but a lot of people still don't understand everything that happened."

Toby Boenig, student body president, said he expects students to question the president about the controversy between College Republicans, possible financial aid cuts by Congress and the need for quality advisers in every college.

Boenig said the program is indicative of Bowen's efforts to remain accessible to students.

"That's the type of person that Dr. Bowen is," he said. "He has made an effort to hear the students concerns."

"Bowen and Friends," debuted in April after A&M officials saw a videotape of a similar program Bowen hosted during his tenure as interim president of Oklahoma State University.

Bowen called the April broadcast a "success." He said there were many questions from the Commons site and the studio audience. There were also several callers on hold throughout the entire one-hour broadcast.



Bowen

Bonfire committee makes changes to increase involvement, input

The Bonfire Advisory Committee, usually headed by a staff member, will be headed by a head stack redpot this year to bring more student input into decisions.

By Lily Aguilar
THE BATTALION

More student input and participation in the Bonfire Committee is the goal of the new primary adviser Kevin Jackson, MSC senior associate director.

The Bonfire Committee and the Bonfire Advisory Committee, which regulates Bonfire, are composed of staff and students. Historically, the chair of the advisory committee has been a staff member, Jackson said, but this year a student will take over the position.

"We want students to take on a stronger level of leadership with the Bonfire Committee and the Bonfire Advisory Committee," he said.

Jackson said he has 14 years of experience as a student activities adviser to contribute to the Bon-

fire Committee.

"My first priority is to get in and work with the students and staff," he said. "I want to understand the student leadership roles and determine what each is responsible for."

Jackson also said his involvement as an adviser for the MSC Council will create a closer relationship between the Council and the Bonfire Committee.

Carl Baggett, head stack redpot, will serve as the student chair for the Bonfire Advisory Committee.

Baggett said his main goal is to involve more students in Bonfire and make coordination easier between the different groups that participate in the event.

"There are about 25,000 students who help with Bonfire each year from beginning to end," he said, "and they all need to know what is going on."

Patrick Conway, MSC Council president, said he hopes the Council will be able to assist the Bonfire Committee now that the two organizations are shar-

ing an adviser.

"I'm looking forward to the MSC Council lending a helping hand to the Bonfire — one of the strongest and best traditions at Texas A&M," Conway said.

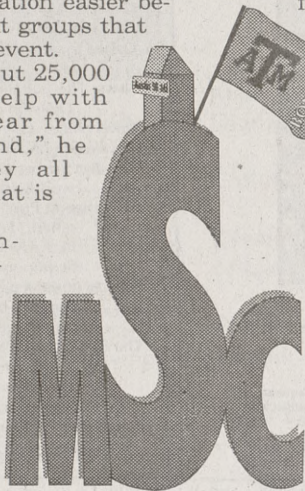
Jonathan Neerman, executive vice president of relations for the MSC Council, said he wants Jackson to further student participation in leadership positions through the Bonfire Committee.

"We all know the students actually build Bonfire," Neerman said. "But there are a lot of behind-the-scenes decisions where students could get more involved."

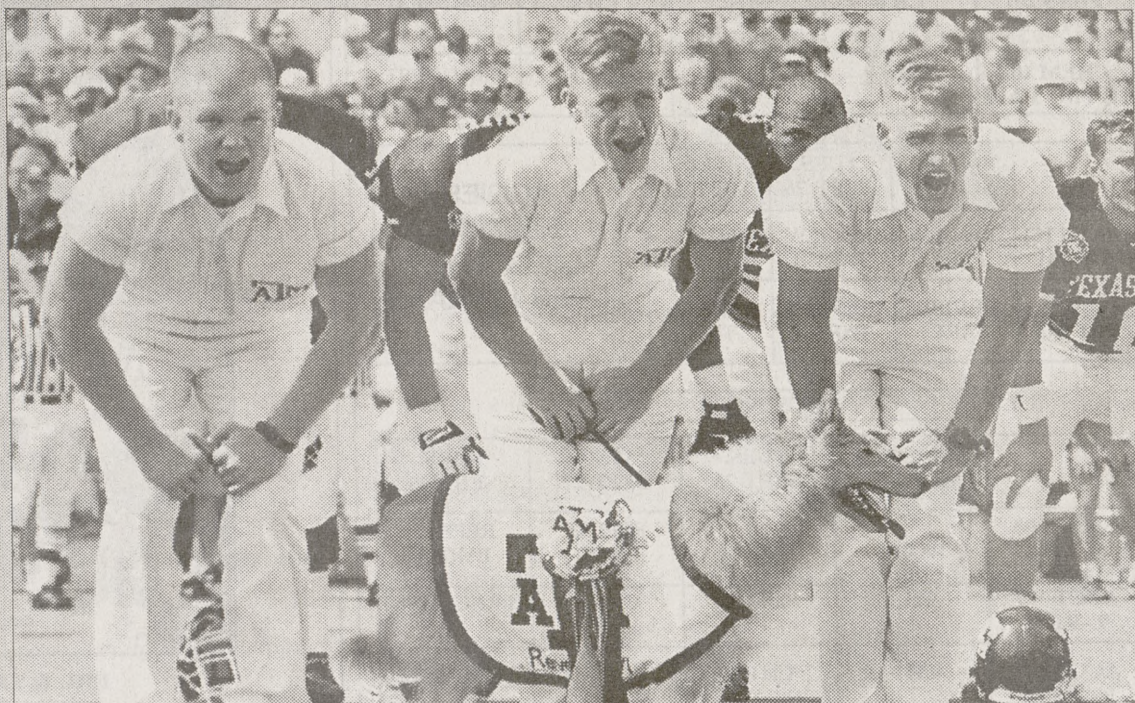
"Students on the Bonfire Committee are usually too busy building to worry about the administrative things, like fund raising and the alcohol policy."

Jackson said he and his three assistant advisers want to change this through student leadership.

"We want to work with the students to plan, coordinate and organize Bonfire, while giving the students more control of the committee," he said.



MIDNIGHT YELL IN COLORADO



Battalion File Photo

Midnight yell practice for the A&M-Colorado game will be held Friday night at midnight on the steps of the Capitol in Denver.