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DOUBLE VISION

A&M point guard Kyle Kessel also stars as a New York Met prospect. Sports, Page 7

MAROON SCARE IN AGGIELAND

Student: Many comparisons can be made between A&M and communist Russia. Opinion, Page 11

THE WHEEL WORLD

Students debate the value of transportation methods. Aggeliflife, Page 3



THE BATTALION

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Fee committee proposes budget cuts

A committee will decide whether to recommend an allocation bill increasing the student services fee favorably or unfavorably.

By Gretchen Perrenot
 THE BATTALION

A Texas A&M Student Senate bill developed by the Student Services Fee Allocation Committee (SSFAC) that proposes a 94 percent increase in the student services fee is on hold so fund allocation can be further reviewed. The committee also decides which organizations benefit from the revenue

See related EDITORIAL, Page 11

The SSFAC will review the suggested fund allocation for The Battalion and the Memorial Student Center and will present the revised bill to the Senate's Inter-

national Affairs Committee Monday.

Kelli Harman, SSFAC chair, said there was some confusion about the original bill's funding for the MSC Student Finance Center, which was recently separated from the MSC and put in the student activities department.

Harman said proposed funds to the finance center will probably be readjusted. However, Harman said the suggested allocation to The Battalion, which at a 94-percent decrease is the biggest proposed decrease, will probably not be changed.

"The (student services fee allocation) committee most likely will stand where it is," Harman said, "unless there's some mathematical error."

The Battalion received \$73,800 from student services fees in fiscal year 1996, an \$8,200 decrease from fiscal year 1995. Although The Battalion requested neither an increase or a decrease in funding, the SSFAC has suggested an allocation of \$4,050 for fiscal year 1997.

"Obviously the Batt has been hit the hardest," Harman said. "We made this

recommendation, not because The Battalion wasn't doing well or because we weren't endorsing it, but because we felt other departments needed the funds to stay up to status quo.

"We felt that, this year, the money that went to The Battalion would be better used elsewhere."

Dr. Charles Self, Student Publications Board chairman and head of the Department of Journalism, said the decrease in funding would hurt The Battalion financially.

"It's not a trivial matter that The Battalion has essentially lost all of its funding from the Student Government," Self said. "It is essentially a total loss — 94 percent, down to \$4,000 for 43,000 students for a 12-month period, is essentially a zero allocation."

The cut in funding would also cut the ties between the students and their paper, Self said, by reducing the amount students pay each semester for The Battalion.

"... This represents the students'

See Fees, Page 12

DEPARTMENTAL FEE ALLOCATION

DEPARTMENT	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	CURRENT RECOMMENDATION
MSC	-5.99	\$ 1,603,321
BUS OPERATIONS	-2.53	\$ 654,700
STUD. COUNSELING	3.14	\$ 1,526,099
REC SPORTS	-5.11	\$ 1,246,111
AGGIE BAND	10.21	\$ 38,574
BATTALION	-94.51	\$ 4,050
INTL. STUD. SERV.	-8.58	\$ 151,228
STUD. ACT	-1.70	\$ 737,818
SPORTS CLUBS	-16.93	\$ 53,661
STUD. GOVT.	-0.85	\$ 96,842
STUDENT LIFE	3.33	\$ 541,448
VP STUDENT AFFAIRS	-5.00	\$ 162,298
UNIV. ARTS	-10.25	\$ 51,159
GRAD. STUD. COUNCIL	22.65	\$ 19,134
MULTICULTURAL SERV.	0.62	\$ 294,599
STUDY ABROAD	-6.80	\$ 60,283
VOCAL MUSIC	21.23	\$ 140,564
STUD. FINC. AID	-7.55	\$ 299,122
STUD. ORG. FINC. CENT	7.91	\$ 81,264
STUDENT HANDBOOK	-53.25	\$ 7,714

Department gives reaction to services

Business owners and A&M faculty members are arguing over the merit of off-campus tutoring services.

By Michelle Lyons
 THE BATTALION

Texas A&M chemistry department faculty members are protesting the practices of some off-campus tutoring services, saying that they borderline on academic dishonesty.

Dr. John Hogg, chemistry professor and undergraduate adviser, said that tutoring services are teaching students shortcuts rather than problem-solving techniques.

"When students go to these services and copy problems and turn them in as their own, that's academic dishonesty," he said. "Legend has it you don't have to go to class if you go to tutoring with so and so, and if that's your only goal, passing the class but not learning a thing, then I guess it's the right thing to do."

"In the long run, that's going to come back to haunt you big time."

Though Hogg disagrees with the off-campus tutoring practice of selling equations and formulas prepared by professors, he said there is little he

will do to stop it.

"I don't think there's a thing (the professors) can do, and I don't necessarily think there's anything we should do," Hogg said. "It's a free country. Overall, we certainly have no orchestrated plan to go out and put these places out of business."

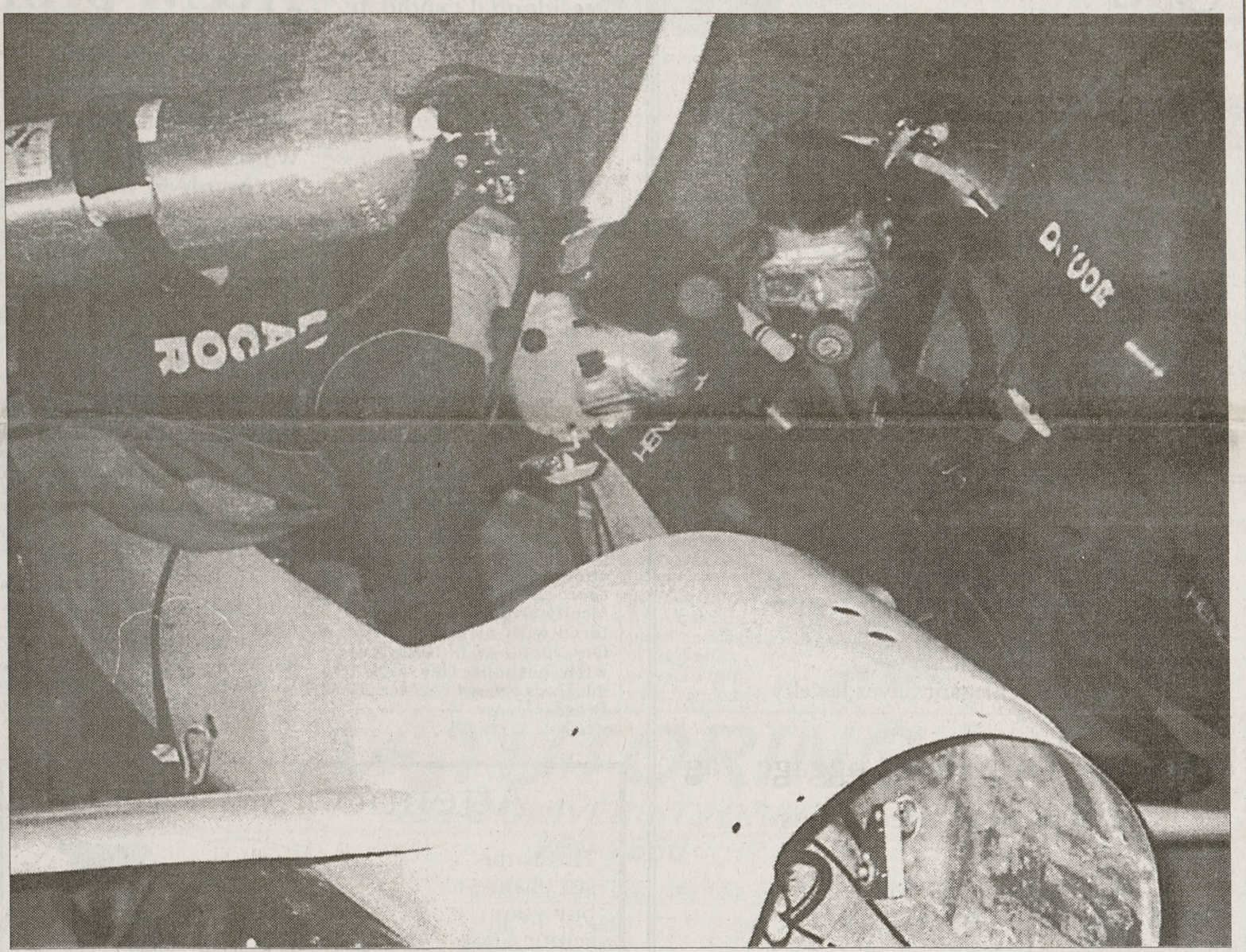
On the other hand, Hogg said that if students attend class regularly and do assigned homework, supplementary off-campus tutoring may be beneficial.

"I don't care if there are 27 tutoring operations across the street, if they really help the students learn," he said. "We're not out to harass these people, and I think that's what they perceive us as."

Dr. Murray Milford, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences associate head of academic programs and chairman of an ad hoc committee on academic tutoring guidelines, said the biggest complaint from departments on campus is that these services are making too much information available to students.

"By one mechanism or another, (tutoring services) was gaining access to information that faculty deemed unfair to make available to students," Milford said. "Personally, I feel we should do all we can on campus ... to show students that they do

See Department, Page 6



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE WAVE TANK

Senior ocean engineering majors, **Ryan Piwetz** (left) and **Paul Griffin** (right) work in the wave tank at the Offshore Technology Research Center on the submarine they will use to compete in the human-powered submarine race in California later this spring.

Nuclear nooks in the nineties

In these relatively peaceful times, campus bomb shelters are used for purposes other than fallout protection, such as housing the Sbisa Underground Market.

By Eleanor Colvin
 THE BATTALION

Whether it is a Northgate bar or the Recreation Sports Center, Texas A&M students overwhelmed with tests, jobs and roommates often escape to personal fallout shelters when the battles of college life become too intense.

But from the late 1950s through the 1970s, A&M students had access to the real thing — fallout shelters built for protection from bombs.

Areas underneath the Academic

Building, Sbisa Dining Hall, the Doherty Building and the Animal Science Building were turned into bomb shelters at a time when the threat of nuclear war was on everyone's mind.

Harry Stitler, A&M Department of Safety and Health director, said that as the threat of nuclear war diminished, emergency provisions and equipment were removed.

Students who want to see the former shelters can tour them under the supervision of Physical Plant maintenance teams.

"There are no longer any designated bomb shelters on campus," Stitler said. "If there is an imminent disaster today, we expect people to know their buildings well enough to go to the areas that will provide the best protection."

Richard Williams, Physical Plant associate director for facilities, said most of the bomb shelters are now being used for other purposes.

"Those days are long gone of storage rooms stocked with equipment, large water barrels, and box-

es and boxes of crackers," he said. "If students were to visit those buildings today, there would be little or no evidence that it was formerly a bomb shelter."

The Sbisa Underground Market is an example of how the bomb shelters have been converted.

"The only things there are the kitchens, the court and storage areas," he said. "Most students have

no idea that they are dining and shopping in an old bomb shelter."

Williams said A&M students are fortunate that the need for bomb shelters is a thing of the past.

"A&M students probably remember growing up having tornado drills in school," he said. "Back then, there were atomic bomb drills."

"When I was growing up, people were building bomb shelters every-

where. A family that lived down

the street from me built one in their backyard, because the craze to protect one's family was very widespread."

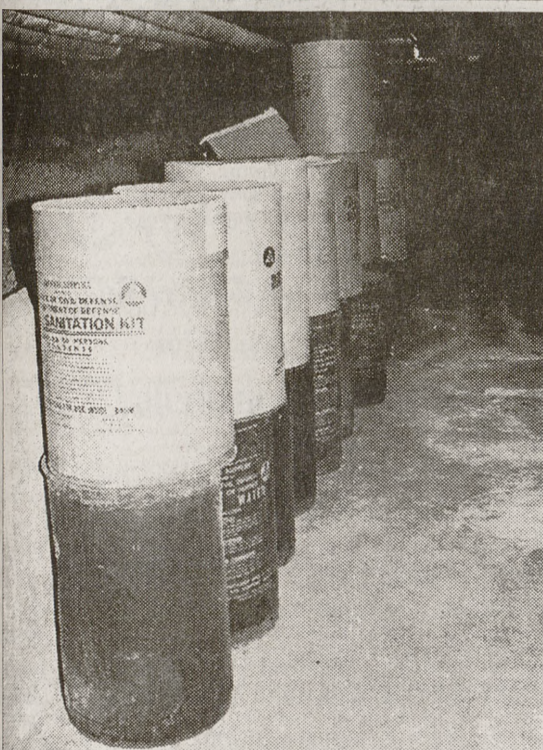
Williams said he is glad most current A&M students did not live through that era, but hopes they will continue to pay homage to people who dedicated their lives to the war which ended the bomb scare — the Cold War.

"Those days are long gone of storage rooms stocked with equipment, large water barrels, and boxes and boxes of crackers."

— Richard Williams
 Physical Plant associate director for facilities

"For most students, Vietnam and the atomic-bomb threats are merely history," he said. "For their parents, it was real life experiences, in living color."

"Fortunately we never had to test the durability of these shelters, and hopefully we'll never have to."



Battalion File Photo

Sanitation kits and drinking water drums from the cold war era are stored under Heldenfels Hall.