

THE BATTALION

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Concessions, Freshmen to vote in runoff

Class of '97 agree on plan

By ERICA ROY
THE BATTALION

The University Concessions Committee granted 10 extra days for sales in the

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Memorial Student Center to the Class of '97 Council

Wednesday. K.C. Allan, Class of '97 president and a senior accounting major, appealed to

the committee to grant the class 24 previously denied days

of merchandising time. The committee granted the class 10 days.

Allan said despite the restrictions, the Class of '97 will still

reach its \$97,000 goal. The money will be used for a class

for the University. "We're going to have to work harder to reach our goal

of \$97,000," Allan said. "I'm very confident we'll be able to do it."

The class had originally been given 73 days for which they requested permission to sell

Class of '97 merchandise on campus. After Wednesday's

denial, all but 14 of the 73 days have been granted.

The denial of 14 days stems from the University's new

concessions policy revisions. Previously, class councils

were granted blanket exemptions from the "Five-Thirty"

rule that allows student organizations to sell merchandise on

campus only five days in a 30-day period.

This year, the Class of '97 denied the blanket exemption.

Allan's appeal was based on a projection that if the 24 re-

maining days were granted, the class would reach its fund-raising goal.

She said although the blanket exemption would have been ideal, she realizes the University can no longer offer it to class councils. She is also

satisfied with the committee's decision to add the two weeks. "I'm very pleased," Allan

said. "I feel the administration really reconfirmed their dedication to the students and

their goal of raising money for the class gift."

Mary Jo Powell, associate director of public information for the University and a member of the

concessions committee, said the committee wanted to give extra

sales days to the Class of '97. "The committee is really

convinced that this is exactly the type of sales we want going on in the MSC hallway,"

Powell said. "Everybody on the committee was committed to

working with students, so we can get the students the best possible deals they can

have," Powell said. "Everybody showed a willingness to work together."

Allan said the Class of '97 will place a stronger focus on marketing and public

relations to reach its \$97,000 goal.

She said it is essential to communicate to the students that the items sold by the class

council will be sold on a limited basis only.

By MARISSA ALANIS
THE BATTALION

Run-off elections will be held for all six class council positions for the Class of '00.

The Texas A&M Election Commission calculated that 1,562 freshmen voted in the general elections Tuesday.

Jason Jaynes, election commissioner and a junior computer science major, said the freshman candidates are doing well with their campaigns.

"I think it's a well-represented race," Jaynes said.

Jeremy Poland, a run-off vice presidential candidate and a freshman civil engineering major, said he is hap-

py about his progress. "Since there was so many people running against me, I'm relieved just to be in a run-off," Poland said.

Campaigning for the run-off elections began Wednesday morning after election results were announced in front of the Sul Ross statue in the Academic plaza. The campaign will end at midnight Oct. 7.

There are campaign rules restricting the actions of run-off candidates.

Run-off candidates, for example, may use only 33 percent of the budget allowed in the general election.

Brandy Stockton, a run-off secretarial candidate and a

freshman business major, said the election commission allows ample time for campaigning.

"You control how much stuff you get done," Stockton said.

Poland said he was restricted because he had to remove his campaign T-shirt before entering certain campus buildings.

Julie Seibold, a run-off candidate for treasurer and a freshman business major, said candidates can find alternate ways of making themselves visible on campus.

"You just have to use your creativity and come up with ways to get people to know

who you are," Seibold said.

Stockton said talking to students on a personal basis and displaying fewer fliers will be her revised strategy for the run-off election.


Poland said candidates are challenged to effectively lead the entire freshman class.

"Some of the challenges will be to accurately represent every freshman," Poland said. "It's a challenge to please everybody."

The freshman class also elected seven senators Tuesday to represent them on the Student Senate. They are Jared Benton, Alice Ann Freeman, Brandy Stockton, Sarah Wright, Cass Burton,

Tania Fongemie and Lee William Doggett.

Runoffs



President: Mike Lemonds and Chad Allen
Vice President: Jeremy Poland and Tania Fongemie
Secretary: Katie Hanselka and Brandy Stockton
Treasurer: Heather Johnson and Julie Seibold
Social Secretary: Heather Bowles and Lauren Gordon
Historian: Alice Ann Freeman and Sallie Turner

"The committee is really convinced that this is exactly the type of sales we want going on in the MSC hallway."

Mary Jo Powell
Concessions committee



Ryan Rogers, THE BATTALION

Just a Pinch | Jeremy Nelms, a sports management graduate student, has his blood checked at the health fair in the MSC Wednesday.

Class stresses gun caution

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

Being held at gunpoint two years ago sparked Scott Homan's interest in taking a concealed handgun course.

Two men with a gun in their hands approached Homan's car at an automatic-killer machine. One held a gun to his head, the other held a knife to his wife's throat. The men ordered

Homan to withdraw cash. Homan and his family were unprotected.

"That sense of vulnerability is something I wish to never feel again," Homan said. "Not that a weapon is an answer, but it is a tool."

Homan, an education human resource development graduate student, remedied his fear by taking the concealed handgun course offered at Texas A&M.

The course began in September 1995 after the state Legislature passed a law allowing Texas citizens, 21 and over, to carry concealed handguns.

Jay Merkley, the course instructor and a health and kinesiology professor, said most of his students take the class because they feel unsafe.

"Most Americans are fed up with violent crimes and the inability of the police to stem it,"

Merkley said. "Carrying a gun may make them feel more safe."

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Campus crime statistics show safety weaknesses

By BRANDON HAUSENFLUCK
THE BATTALION

Fewer crimes were reported and more arrests were made on the Texas A&M campus last year than in 1994.

An annual brochure, published by the University Police Department, states the number of reported crimes fell from 95 in 1994 to 78 in 1995.

At least 342 arrests were made by University Police, up from 253 in 1994.

The brochure stresses the importance of using campus safety resources available to students, faculty and staff.

Bob Wiatt, director of the UPD, said people should pay attention to their surroundings.

"You have to be aware that this campus is a microcosm of society," Wiatt said. "Bad things can happen here ... This isn't 'Alice in Wonderland.'"

Wiatt said campus residents can avoid being crime victims by taking a few preventive steps.

"Burglary happens when people are careless," Wiatt said. "Don't give that criminal the opportunity to make you that victim."

"One of the worst things is when people leave their [residence hall] doors propped open for friends who don't have access cards," he said. "Then some scumbag predator can do whatever he wants."

The Corps of Cadets offers a nighttime escort service on campus. Escorts are equipped with walkie-

talkies to keep in contact with the Guard Room while walking through campus.

Brandon LoPorto, Corps security officer and a senior industrial distribution major, said the Corps has taken steps to improve the program's effectiveness.

"Now that we have the walkie-talkies, we have more knowledge where they (escorts) are," LoPorto said. "If we send someone out (and they finish one escort), we can direct them to another location where someone might be waiting, without them (escorts) having to come all the way back to the Quadrangle."


LoPorto said escorting students to their residence halls from Evans Library is the most popular reason for calling the Guard Room. Accompanying students from the Commons to Northside, he said, is also a frequent task.

Escorts may be obtained by calling the Guard Room at 845-6789.

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A&M CRIME STATISTICS

CRIMES	'93	'94	'95
Murder	0	1	0
Sex Offenses	2	2	3
Robbery	1	2	3
Agg. Assault	4	8	1
Burglary	50	73	65
Vehicle Theft	13	9	6
TOTAL	70	95	78



Operators give students answers

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

Local telephone information is not always the only wisdom sought from Texas A&M student locator operators.

Geneva Johnston, telecommunications supervisor, said people sometimes call to ask strange questions.

"People call asking for the words to the war hymn, how to get rid of fire ants, and the most popular is 'what does A&M stand

for?'" she said. The operators said they do their best to answer the 127,000 phone calls they receive monthly.

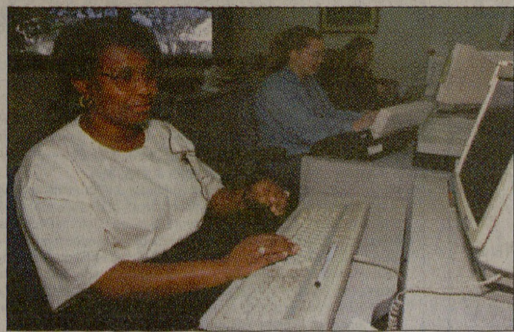
The day is divided into three shifts for the 20 operators, seven of which are student workers. The busiest time is from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Elizabeth Young, a centrax radio operator and a junior engineering major, said her personality fits the job description.

"One of my favorite past times has always been talking on the phone," she said. "This job requires constant talking on the phone, so it fits me perfectly."

Gwen Jerkins, a full-time centrax radio operator, said she enjoys assisting callers. "I really enjoy the job because you get to help people," she said. "I especially try to help the freshmen because at the beginning, they are so clueless."

Operators said the job has its



Gwen Jerkins, a full-time operator, enjoys helping students with information.

THE BATTALION TODAY

Aggie Art

Minnie Bissett steps into her Cinderella

and meets her dreams as an artist.

Aggielife, Page 3

Thinking Upset

Louisiana Tech Head Coach Gary Crowton

has experience when it comes to upsets.

Sports, Page 9

Dance fever

Next: Opening a gay bar would beat doing aerobics any day of the week.

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