

Regents to decide on hearing

By MELISSA NUNNERY
THE BATTALION

The first step in increasing the General Use Fee by \$10 has been set in motion by Texas A&M University System Chancellor Barry Thompson, who has called a meeting of the Board of Regents.

The Board will meet via telephone Nov. 19 to determine whether System universities may hold public hearings regarding a fee increase. Texas universities are required by law to hold at least one public hearing before fee increases are approved.

If the hearing is approved, Texas A&M President Ray Bowen will propose a \$10 per semester credit hour increase in the fee effective Sept. 1, 1997. The increase would raise the fee from \$24 to \$34 per semester credit hour.

This increase would generate an additional \$11 million in revenue for

the University. Ten million dollars would be used for faculty and staff salary increases.

The use of the remaining \$1 million would be determined at a later date.

Jim Ashlock, executive director of University Relations, said the money could be used for classroom improvements or academic enhancements.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for Student Affairs, said the A&M faculty and staff members have not had a raise since September 1995.

Final approval of the fee would have to be granted by the Board of Regents.

If the fee increase is approved, Southerland said, faculty and staff would receive a 2 percent merit-based raise in March. He said they would get an additional 3 percent merit-based raise in September.

See HEARING, Page 5

Officials suspend Kappa Alpha Order

By BRANDON HAUSENFLUCK
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order was suspended for three years Wednesday by national Kappa Alpha officials and the University's Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

The chapter had its charter revoked for violating national fraternity risk management policies, University rules and Interfraternity Council hazing regulations. The national chapter

headquarters in Lexington, Va., suspended the A&M chapter until Aug. 1, 1999. The chapter will not be recognized as a unit of the national fraternity, nor will it be allowed to hold any organized functions until the suspension period has expired.

The suspension resulted from an incident at a fraternity function at which a pledge sustained an injury to the groin area. As a result of the injury, a Dallas physician surgically removed one of

the pledge's testicles.

Larry Wiese, executive director of the national Kappa Alpha Order, announced the sanctions to the fraternity Tuesday night.

The A&M chapter, Wiese said, will be shut down within the next couple of days.

"We're in the process of basically closing the chapter," he said. "[The A&M chapter] will be returning any property that belongs to the national chapter."

See KA, Page 10

General Use Fee for Top Ten Texas Public Universities

University	Spr. '97
1. UT Austin	\$32.00
2. U. of Houston	\$30.00
3. Texas Tech Univ.	\$28.00
4. UT Dallas	\$26.50
5. UT San Antonio	\$26.00
UT Tyler	\$26.00
7. UT Arlington	\$25.00
8. Texas A&M Univ.	\$24.00
ETSU	\$24.00
10. TAMU Galveston	\$22.00
\$ GUF is per credit hour. \$	

Patty Groff strives to develop work force

By CARLA RENE MARSH
THE BATTALION

Life could not be any better for Patty Groff.

Many people recognize her as the wife of Texas A&M Director of Athletics Wally Groff, but in addition to that position, Patty Groff has many titles.

She is Patty Groff — supportive

This is the last in a series profiling wives of the leaders of Texas A&M.

wife, mother of three, grandmother of four, literacy volunteer, Chamber of Commerce member and manager of work-force development at the Brazos Valley Development Council.

Groff, who is most active at her job with the Brazos Valley Development Council, said she is optimistic about the work programs her job facilitates.

"We open career centers for anyone looking to find jobs, or jobs seeking someone for employment," she said.

Her organization is similar to the Texas Employment Commission, but maintains a national presence.

Groff said she is proud of her husband and supports him, but many of the things she involves herself in revolve around her own objectives.

The Women Behind the Men



Dave House, THE BATTALION

Patty Groff is the wife of Texas A&M Director of Athletics Wally Groff.

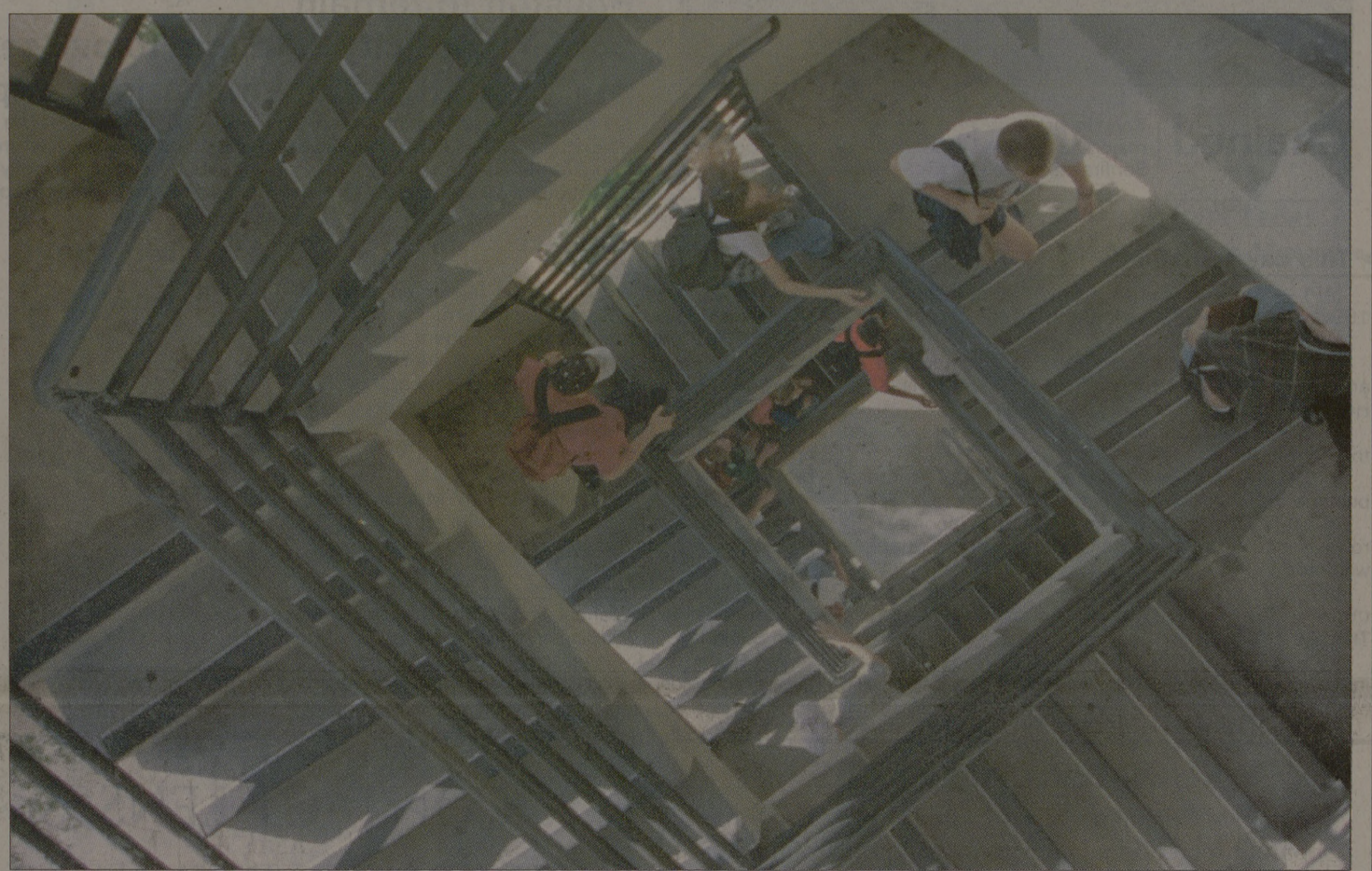
"I couldn't be any prouder of him (Wally Groff), and he supports me 100 percent," Groff said. "But we have two separate lives."

"When we both get off work, we're together as a family."

Wally and Patty Groff have been married 34 years.

Groff said she considers herself lucky concerning her marriage.

"We have known each other since the fourth grade, and have dated each other since I was a sophomore in high school," Groff said.



Rony Angkriwan, THE BATTALION

Step by Step

Students hurry up the stairs to their classes in the Civil Engineering Building on Wednesday afternoon.

Yell Practice

- Follow Highway 5 North
- Exit Loop 340 North
- Cross I-35
- Exit Waco Dr/ Franklin Ave.
- Across the street from mall
- At Payless Cashways next to Wal-Mart

The Corps of Cadets March-In will be televised by cable Channel 6 out of Waco. Step Off coverage will begin at 11 a.m.

THE BATTALION TODAY

Sack Attack

Students return to '80s form and kick old hacky sack back in style.

Aggielife, Page 3

Clutch Time

The sixth-ranked A&M soccer team travels to St. Louis for the Big 12 Championships.

Sports, Page 7

Hairspray

Baxter: Cure-all to bad hair days saves money and guarantees increased social life.

Opinion, Page 11

"Bill Clinton tried to talk like a Republican and it worked for him."

Jeff Livingston
College Republicans

Republican students focus on GOP control of Congress

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

The Republicans may have lost the presidency in Tuesday's election, but they retained control of Congress and carried Texas precincts.

Kimberly Desiderio, vice president for programs of the College Republicans and a senior English major, said the mixed results have left her with bittersweet emotions.

"I am disappointed with the outcome of the presidency, but I am excited about the House and the Senate," she said.

Other Republican students said the Republican Congress may cause problems.

Justin Wood, a sophomore agriculture

business major, said the Republicans' congressional victory will slow any effort to better the country.

"The difference in parties will provide for good checks and balances," he said. "But if everything is vetoed by the president or counteracted by the other party it will be hard to get things done."

Wood said Dole's experience in the Senate would have allowed him to lead the country with cooperation from the Legislature.

"Dole has so much Congressional experience and he has worked with the Senate for many years," he said. "I think he would have been beneficial as a president."

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Election Reactions

DECISION '96

County, campus Democrats celebrate Clinton's victory

By MARIKA COOK
AND BRANDON HAUSENFLUCK
THE BATTALION

Democrats from around campus and the county gathered at the 3rd Floor Cantina in Bryan Tuesday night to celebrate the victories of President Bill Clinton and other local Democratic candidates.

Kristi Perez, president of Aggie Democrats and an educational psychology graduate student, said she is excited about Clinton's re-election.

"This re-election is representative of what people really want for the future, especially for the students," Perez said. "I'm very proud that I helped and I can't wait

to help Al Gore in four years."

The Democrats watched President Clinton's victory speech on TV, in which he aimed to rally Americans.

"If we stick to being Americans ... there is nothing in our way," President Clinton said. "When Americans roll up their sleeves and work together, Americans always win."

Jeff Miller, vice president of Aggie Democrats and a junior management major, said Clinton will continue his fight to better the country.

"This is a big advancement for America," he said.

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Candidates, registration process discourage students from voting

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

Bill Clinton won the presidency and Bob Dole won Texas, but many Texas A&M students voted for neither.

Some students did not vote in Tuesday's election because they were not registered to vote in Brazos County. Others did not want to see either mainstream candidate in office.

Danny Thompson, a senior industrial distribution major, said he did not vote in Tuesday's election because he is registered

in a San Antonio precinct.

"I was going to go back one weekend, but I went hunting instead," he said.

Marriage recently changed Melissa Fisher's last name and kept the senior math major from being able to register.

"I wasn't able to register at home," she said.

"I wasn't really certain who I was going to vote for."

Karrie Needham, a sophomore elementary education major, said she did not vote because she could not decide which candidate to vote for.

"I felt that if I wasn't sure, I shouldn't vote," she said.

Other A&M students were unable to vote because they are not American citizens.

Zhou Huixia, a graduate student from China, said she did not follow the election closely but was interested in the election process.

"I'm interested in the system here," she said.

Eduardo Garza, an industrial engineering major from Mexico, said he did not prefer any one candidate over the others.

"The issues were pretty im-

portant," he said. "I think that's what won it for Clinton. I think most people voted for the lesser of two evils."

Other political parties also received votes from A&M students.

Annie Gosschalk, a freshman biomedical science major, said she voted for Ross Perot's Reform Party because she did not agree with Dole or Clinton.

"I wish you could vote against someone," she said. "I didn't want Clinton to get it."

Mary Patterson, a sophomore biomedical science major, said she voted for Perot in the 1992

election and again this year.

Patterson said she supports Perot's stand against political action committees.

"As long as there is one paid person like that, this is not my government," she said.

Patterson said she was expecting Clinton to win the election and expects him to see further legal trouble from Whitewater.

"I'm expecting his resignation," she said. "I voted for Nixon in '72 and I've come a long way since then. I decided not to be politically ignorant ever again."

Gatti's

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