

turnout increases

letter-informed students, more polling sites contribute to growth

By JOEY JEANETTE SCHLUETER THE BATTALION

This year's election is expected to have strong voter turnout, even more so than at year's 25 percent turnout of the stunt body in the general election, election icials say.

Jason Jaynes, elections commissioner dajunior computer science major, said xas A&M had the highest percent voter mout for colleges in the nation.

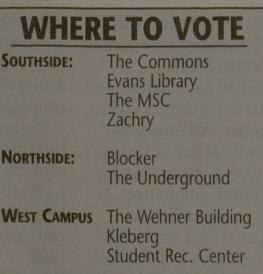
"A&M has one of the best voter mouts," Jaynes said, "and the elections we improved immensely."

In last year's general election, 9,606 stuents voted. This was an increase of 5 pernt from the 1994-1995 election, which d 8,034 voters.

Jaynes said last year's run-off elections ought about 2,000 voters.

In comparison to elections in the past, e 1990-1991 student body election had ercent of the whole student body. Jaynes said the tenfold increase is due to for this year's election. improvement in the election process.

paigning has increased and, in turn, students have been encouraged to vote."



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low voter turnout of 1,752 students, 6 has also contributed to the increase in Resident Hall Association president. voter turnout. There are nine polling places

Students can vote at the Commons, this week.

"The election commission has done a Zachary, Evans Library, Blocker, the MSC, better job of informing the student body of the Underground, the Wehner Building, elections," Jaynes said. "Candidates' cam- Kleberg and the Student Recreation Center.

The University of Texas had a voter turnout in this year's election of 4,080 stu-Jaynes said the addition of polling sites dents. This nine percent of the 48,000 enrolled students at UT compares to the 25 percent turnout in A&M's elections last year.

> Becky Carreon, a staff member for the Student Government at UT, said their election in late February was an increased over previous elections.

> The University of Houston had a low student voter turnout as well.

> Theresa Coleman, a senior hotel management major at U of H and assistant for the Student Association, said this year's election for student government brought a turnout of seven percent with a total enrollment of 30,757 students.

> A&M's students will elect their leaders Wednesday and Thursday for positions such as yell leaders, student body president, student senate and class council, and

> Jaynes encouraged all students to continue increasing voter turnout by voting

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Class President Page 2 **Class Vice President Page 3 RHA** President Page 4 Student Body President Page 5 Senior Yell Leaders Page 6 Junior Yell Leaders Page 7 **Class** Agents Page 8