

BRIEFS

Yell practice moved from Grove to Quad

Yell practice will be at the arches the Quadrangle tonight at around 7:30. The yell leaders moved yell practice to the Quad from the Grove to encourage a larger turnout.

Lawyer Hankinson appointed justice

DALLAS (AP) — Deborah G. Hankinson, who once represented several Dallas-area school districts in the fight against the Robin Hood school funding system, was named Wednesday as a justice of the Texas Supreme Court. Gov. George W. Bush named the former special education teacher and Dallas appellate judge to replace Justice John Cornyn, who resigned after declaring he would seek the Republican nomination for state attorney general. In making Ms. Hankinson the third woman on the nine-member panel, Bush said she was known for integrity and fairness as a judge on the 5th Court of Appeals.

Job of lottery head in possible danger

DALLAS (AP) — Lawrence Littwin's future as the executive director of the Texas Lottery might be in jeopardy. The Texas Lottery Commission might consider firing Littwin later this month in a possible shakeup at the agency, The Dallas Morning News reported Wednesday. The three commissioners are expected to evaluate Littwin's performance at their Oct. 29 meeting. Lottery spokesperson Marcy Oodfisch confirmed that a review of agency management was included on the agenda. The commission will retire to executive session to "deliberate" the appointment, employment, valuation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of the executive director, "according to a meeting agenda."

Man gets five years for investment fraud

DALLAS (AP) — A judge who told University Park oilman he was more dangerous than a crack cocaine dealer has sentenced him to five years in prison for fraud. U.S. District Judge Joe Kendall also fined W.D. "Bill" Brosseau 100,000 and ordered him to repay 8 million he raised from investors in speculative oil and gas ventures in Texas and Louisiana. More than 200 people in at least 28 states put money into Brosseau's operations, which U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission officials have described as a pyramid scheme.

Student Senate OKs policy change

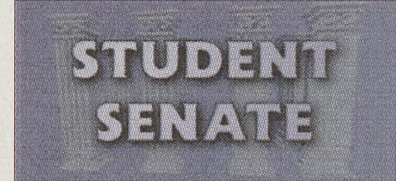
By RACHEL DAWLEY AND COLLEEN KAVANAGH Staff writers

The Texas A&M Student Senate agreed last night with a Faculty Senate subcommittee recommendation to change the co-enrollment policy of the University. A subcommittee of the Faculty Senate issued a report in September recommending a change in the Student Rules manual concerning students co-enrolled at Blinn College. The rule would require students planning to take courses at Blinn to get prior permission from the A&M department offering the equivalent course. This would verify no seats were available in the A&M class. Students then would be required to get approval from the dean of their college to take the class at Blinn.

The current co-enrollment policy only requires students get approval from their dean before co-enrolling at another institution. Dr. Thomas Wehrly, chair of the Academic Affairs committee and a professor in the Department of Statistics, said there were seats available in large A&M classes, and the administration questioned if this was a result of co-enrollment. In January, a subcommittee on co-enrollment was formed in the Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs committee. After researching the issue, the group reported students co-enroll at Blinn because there are not enough seats in some A&M classes and because some students believe Blinn courses to be easier. Dr. Philip Yasskin, a mathematics professor at A&M, served on the sub-

committee. Yasskin said the report was not reflective of the opinions of the Academic Affairs Committee or the Faculty Senate because it has not been approved. "Basically, it is an academic issue," he said. "A degree from A&M should mean that students are taking the quality of courses offered at A&M." The subcommittee report said A&M's tuition loss due to co-enrollment was \$307,200 per semester during the 1996-97 school year. The committee researched the grade-point ratios of students who took a lower-level class at A&M and those who took the equivalent course at Blinn. The group compared the GPRs after both groups had taken the next class at A&M. He said the committee found students who took Blinn classes had lower GPRs. Aaron Bigbee, a science senator

and a sophomore mathematics major, said the Student Senate committee considers the research invalid.



"The research is from the 1994-95 academic year and didn't take into account many other factors, such as Blinn's expanded campus and facilities," he said. The Faculty Senate Academic Affairs committee said more research should be completed on the issue, and the report and recommendation were sent back to the subcommittee. Bigbee said the student commit-

tee also found there are many advantages to taking classes at Blinn, such as a smaller student-to-faculty ratio. Josh Hennessey, chair of the Student Senate Academic Affairs committee and a junior accounting major, said that if the policy is changed, the new policy will be difficult to enforce. "Student requests to co-enroll have been turned down in the past," he said. "They have gone ahead and taken the classes at Blinn, and A&M had to recognize the credits." If co-enrollment requests are turned down, the students can take the classes during the summer wherever they choose, Hennessey said. Hennessey said the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is pushing universities to accept credits from recognized junior colleges.

Pole position



Junior redpots T.J. Saari, an agriculture business major, Gabe Perez, a construction science major, and Nathan Buschow, a general studies major, set the drill to dig a hole Wednesday for one of Bonfire's four perimeter poles.

Commission formed to address diversity issues in higher education

Staff and wire report

A coalition of Texas university and college leaders, including Texas A&M University System Chancellor Dr. Barry B. Thompson, announced Wednesday they have created a commission to promote diversified student bodies at Texas schools. "It is imperative for us to find ways to ensure the students attending Texas colleges and universities reflect the population of the state," Thompson said in a press release. The 24-member Texas Commission, made up of community leaders from across the state, will focus on how institutions can increase minority enrollment without the affirmative action programs outlawed by the Hopwood decision. Eight Texas higher education entities appointed three people each to the commission. The A&M System appointed Dr. Perry L. Adkisson, chancellor emeritus of the

A&M System and professor of entomology at A&M; L. Lowry Mays, chair and CEO

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DR. BARRY THOMPSON
CHANCELLOR
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

of Clear Channel Communications Inc. and a former regent of the A&M System; and Ron Kirk, Dallas mayor and a former Texas Secretary of State.

PLEASE SEE COMMISSION ON PAGE 2.

Tour wraps up visit to Texas A&M campus

By AMANDA SMITH Staff writer

Texas A&M students took advantages of games, free prizes and samples from corporate sponsors at the Glamour "In-Sync" College Tour Oct. 21 and 22. Texas A&M was one of 10 universities on the tour sponsored by Glamour and was featured in the October issue of the magazine. Deborah Blangiardo, senior merchandising editor, said the tour received strong support from students and Texas A&M Food Services, who sponsored the event. "It (the tour) is in conjunction with our

college issue [in October]," she said. "We recognized the colleges that we featured in the magazine on our tour. It brings the pages of the magazine to life." Misty Mitchell, a junior biomedical science major, said she decided to take advantage of the free samples. "They had a large variety of products that would interest students," she said. "The tour seems to have brought a lot of students out despite the cold weather." Blangiardo said the college tour focuses on educating students about different products on the market.

PLEASE SEE TOUR ON PAGE 2.

INSIDE lifestyles

Students should be concerned about STDs, upcoming cold and flu seasons.

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sports

Senior Marcus Heard has become a force for the Texas A&M Football Team.

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opinion

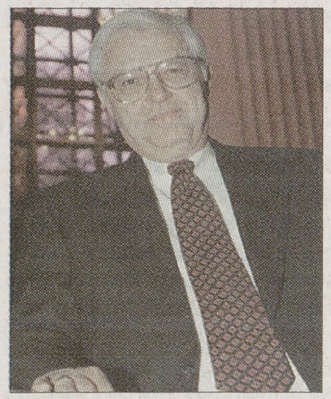
Burton: Radio broadcast disputes involve dishonesty, unethical motives.

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online

http://bat-web.tamu.edu
Look up with state and national news through The Wire, AP's 24-hour online news service.

PROFILE:



Jerry Gaston

By COLLEEN KAVANAGH Staff writer

Dr. Jerry Gaston, vice president for administration at Texas A&M, has high expectations for the future of Texas A&M. "Within the next 10 years, I see A&M firmly established in the list of the top 10 public universities," he said. "People will know of A&M because of its many academic accomplishments." Gaston coordinates Facility Planning, Human Resources, University Police Department, Food Services, Research Park, the Department of Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services, the Graphic Arts Center, Easterwood Airport, the Physical Plant, the Faculty Club and the developing child care center. Gaston said these departments work not for themselves, but for students and faculty. "Our goal is to provide the best service possible to support the missions of this university," Gaston said. Jeanette Pharris, assistant provost at A&M, worked with Gaston before he became vice president for administration at A&M. She said Gaston established a positive relationship with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. "Dr. Gaston always made sure a proposal was accurate and well-researched before he sent it to the board," she said. "He made sure facilities here were up-to-date and space was well-utilized for the best benefit of this institution."

Gaston

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Campus Leaders

Alice Gonzalez

By BRANDYE BROWN Staff writer

Although Alice Gonzalez stays busy with her duties as speaker of the Student Senate, she believes it is important to save time for friends, family and the community. Gonzalez, a junior agricultural major, said her high-school principal and agricultural teacher taught her helping others can be rewarding. "Their dedication to all students made me realize how important the people in our lives are to helping us accomplish things," she said. "So now if I have the opportunity to be of service to someone, I follow their example. It instilled in me the importance of taking a personal interest in students and those you have the opportunity to guide." Gonzalez is employed by the FFA, an agricultural youth organization, to present personal development conferences to high-school students across the nation. She speaks for the FFA eleven weekends a year. Gonzalez said that these weekends provide her with something different from her average day. "Sometimes when we do the same things every day, we are pushed into routines," she said. "It is easy to forget about the outside world and to lose sight of the big picture when you spend your days in a little office dealing with similar problems day to day."



Gonzalez

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