

## Run-off election contested

### Method used to determine majority questioned by yell leaders

BY MEREDITH HIGHT & STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

A change in the way that the Student Government Association's (SGA) Election Commission determines the winners of yell leader elections has prompted Jeff Bailey, head yell leader and a senior agricultural systems manager, to appeal the results of last week's senior yell leader elections.

Bailey filed an appeal on behalf of the Texas A&M yell leaders to the Student Judicial Board Monday based on a lack of notification to the yell leaders about the new system to define a "majority vote," and that the new system used to define the majority of votes is inaccurate.

The term "majority" is not defined in election regulations.

The matter will come before the Student Judicial Board at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Once an appeal is filed with the

Judicial Board, a decision must be made within 24 hours.

The Student Judicial Board serves as a mediator when challenges to SGA rules and regulations arise.

John McFate, a junior biomedical engineering major, and Ben Cholick, a junior construction science major, are in the run-off election, scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday.

Bailey said he was not aware of the change in the determination of a majority until a supporter of Cholick pointed out that Cholick had surpassed 16.67 percent, which would have given him enough votes to win the election under the old system of determining a "majority."

"We were never included in the decision made. The Election Commission provides a service of elections," he said. "We entrust them in the whole voting process to run a fair campaign with the assumption that they will let us know what's going on."

To determine the number of votes which constitutes a "majority," the election commission decided in 1997 to total the number of votes cast (each voter is asked to cast three votes for senior yell leader), divide that total number by three, and then take 50 percent of the divided number. This means a candidate would need more than 16.67 percent of the total votes to be named a yell leader.

Doug Keegan, vice president of technology for SGA and a senior applied mathematics major, said this system only represents the wishes of the majority of the student body if each person casts three votes. The problem, he said, arises when students cast only one or two votes.

Casting fewer than three votes makes the number of votes cast proportional to the number of people voting, making it theoretically possible for someone to win with the support of one-sixth of the voters.

"In voting for only one or two candidates, [under the old system], a voter is making it easier for a candidate with just a plurality of the votes to win as if he had a majority," Keegan said.

The system used this year determines the majority by totaling the number of voters who actually cast votes in the senior yell leader race and then taking 50 percent of that total.

This means that a senior yell leader candidate would actually need more than half of those voting in the senior yell leader race to vote for him or her.

Under the old system, 4,671 votes would have been required to win this year. Under the new system, 5,031 votes were required to be named a yell leader.

McFate, who received 3,211 votes, would not have won the position under either system. However, Cholick, who received 5,018 votes, would have clearly won under the old system, but not under the new system.

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## DETERMINING THE MAJORITY for Sr. Yell Leader

• Ben Cholick	5,018 votes
• John McFate	3,211 votes
• Bubba Moser	8,128 votes
• Ricky Wood	7,962 votes

**Past Method** # of votes to win determined by:

- (Total # of Votes) x (50% / 3) + 1
- (28,014) x (50% / 3) + 1 = **4671 votes to win**

**RESULT** → **RUN-OFF NOT REQUIRED**

**New Method** # of votes to win determined by:

- ((Total # of Voters) / 2) + 1
- ((10,061 voters) / 2) + 1 = **5031 votes to win**

**RESULT** → **RUN-OFF REQUIRED**

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

## 'I wanna rock and roll all night'



CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

Paul Stanley (center) along with Gene Simmons (left) and Ace Frehley (right), perform in Houston on Saturday in support of their Farewell tour. This is their last tour since the band began in the early '70s

## Microsoft Corp. violated U.S. antitrust laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — Humbling a proud giant of the computer age, a federal judge ruled Monday that Microsoft Corp. violated U.S. antitrust laws by keeping "an oppressive thumb" on competitors during the race to link Americans to the Internet.

In a sweeping verdict against the empire that Bill Gates built, U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson said Microsoft violated the Sherman Act, the same law used to crush monopolies from Standard Oil to AT&T.

He concluded that the company was guilty — as the federal government, 19 states and the District of Columbia had alleged in a case that began in May 1998 — of "unlawfully tying its Web browser" to its Windows operating system that dominates the computer market worldwide.

"Microsoft placed an oppressive thumb on the scale of competitive fortune, thereby effectively guaranteeing its continued dominance," Jackson wrote.

The verdict affirms Jackson's previous ruling in November that the software giant is a monopoly, one that illegally used its

power to bully competitors and stifle innovation, hurting consumers in the process.

The judge's ruling can be appealed, delaying its impact for years, and Gates said the company would pursue that avenue.

While Microsoft "did everything we could to settle this case, we believe we have a strong case on appeal," Gates said. "... This ruling turns on its head the reality that consumers know: that our software has helped make PCs accessible and more affordable to millions of Americans."

Microsoft didn't lose all of the case: Jackson ruled that the government failed to prove that Microsoft's exclusive marketing arrangements with

other companies "constituted unlawful, exclusive dealing" under federal antitrust law.

Jackson's verdict opens the door for the federal government to seek drastic penalties against Microsoft.

The options range from breaking up the company that made Gates a billionaire to forcing it to share its proprietary software code with competitors.

**"Microsoft placed an oppressive thumb on the scale of competitive fortune, thereby effectively guaranteeing its continued dominance."**

— U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson

## Female faculty lacking at A&M

BY CYRA GATLING  
The Battalion

Despite efforts made by the University, there is still a considerable lack of female faculty and gender equality on the Texas A&M campus according to a Texas A&M University study.

Katie Kendall, a sociology graduate student who conducted the study, said the average of women faculty at Texas A&M lags behind national averages, with women faculty comprising only 5 percent of the full professor rank, compared to 12 percent nationally. Of the tenured faculty, 11.5 percent are women and, of the tenure-track positions, 16 percent are women.

According to the study, not only are the numbers of female faculty low, but the job titles held by the females are usually less prestigious and have less chance of advancement than their male counterparts.

Compared to men, fewer women faculty are hired, and once hired even fewer come in at tenured positions, according to Kendall's research. Women are selected for promotion at a lesser rate proportionally than men.

There is still more room for improvement, said Dr. Nancy Self in the College of Education Student Teaching Office.

"The College of Education has a fair number of women, but I know that may not be the case with others," she said.

A&M has made an effort to hire more women; however the percentage of assistant professors continues to greatly exceed the number of actual professors, said Self.

The goal of the College of Education is to have an equal staff of half male and half female, said Dr. Jane Conoley, dean of the College of Education.

There is currently only 35 percent of women that make up the college; however 80 percent of the new hires are women.

While there is an increase of female new hires, the number of female professors continues to lag behind male professors.

In the College of Education, 14 percent of the faculty are professors, 40 percent are associate professors and 80 percent are assistant professors, said Conoley.

"Diversity is our top goal," said Conoley. "and the general attitude is very positive."

Women professors are in high demand now, but without the right resources A&M's campus may suffer despite the efforts. Funding to hire female faculty in the competitive market may also be a factor in the

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## Greek Week 2000 leaders promote positive image

BY ANNA BISHOP  
The Battalion

Due to rain, the Greek Week "Kick Off" was canceled Saturday, but that has not stopped Greek organizations from uniting on campus this week.

Greek Week, dedicated to the unification of the Texas A&M Greek system and raising money for charity, will continue through Thursday.

With Saturday's annual The Big Event and Songfest, and Monday's start of Penny Wars, Greek Week 2000 has moved into full effect.

The Multicultural Greek Council and the Pan-Hellenic Council are among the organizations working to make this year's Greek Week a success.

Greek Week Promotions Coordinator and junior recreation, parks and tourism sciences major Taylor Young, said the aim of Greek Week 2000 is not only to raise money for charity,

but to promote Greek affiliates in a positive manner across the Texas

A&M campus and Bryan-College Station community.

**"Gaining support from other students through their personal involvement in events such as Songfest and the Penny Wars will hopefully bring about a greater sense of awareness of how the Greek System is changing for the betterment of the surrounding community."**

— Taylor Young  
Greek Week Promotions Coordinator

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Songfest and the Penny Wars will hopefully bring about a greater sense of awareness of how the Greek System is changing for the betterment of the surrounding community," Young said.

The Penny Wars, outside the Memorial Student Center, will continue through Wednesday. From 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., students are encouraged to donate pennies to the participating organizations. The Penny Wars is a competition between participating sororities and fraternities to raise money to benefit Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

Keeping with this theme, an alcohol awareness luncheon was held Monday.

Winners of the Penny Wars and additional weekly events will be recognized in Thursday night's Awards Ceremony, closing out Greek Week 2000.

Stompfest, featuring a variety of organizations, will be held Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

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