

# THE BATTALION

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## Board of Regents call emergency meeting

By Christina Hoffman  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Board of Regents called an emergency meeting to be held either this Thursday or Friday in order to appoint an interim president at Prairie View A&M University.

At that time, they will also officially appoint the new president for Texas A&M University, said Erle Nye, Chairman of the Board of Regents.

On May 11, in a special open session meeting, the Board of Regents named Robert Gates as the sole presidential finalist. In accordance with state

law, the Board needed to wait 21 days before officially naming Gates as the next president of Texas A&M.

"We needed to call an emergency meeting to name an interim president (at Prairie View A&M), so we decided to take care of the final decision on Gates also," Nye said.

Nye said they will consider and possibly name Dr. Willie Tempton as interim president of Prairie View.

Tempton is currently serving as the acting president of Prairie View and also previously held the position of vice president for finance and administration.

Nye also said the meeting will most likely be a phone conference because of the difficulty of gathering all the Regents members on short notice. He did not confirm whether the meeting will be held Thursday or Friday, but the Board will give notice early this week.

"It is pressing that we hold this emergency conference because we need to confirm the interim at Prairie View," Nye added.

Concerning Texas A&M's next president, Nye said it is most likely that Gates will be named as the next president of Texas A&M.

Even if Gates is officially named as

the new president this week, he will not begin service until August 1. Nye said Gates has other obligations that he must attend to before permanently beginning at Texas A&M.

The Board asked President Dr. Ray M. Bowen to extend his stay until the end of July, because of Gates' delay. Bowen was originally set to step down from the presidency by June 30.

"The Board asked me to stay until August, otherwise they would have needed to appoint an interim," said Bowen. "I am not making any major decisions concerning the University. If any major decisions arrive I will

talk to Gates about them when he takes office."

Bowen said this is only assuming Gates is named president because Gates still remains the "sole finalist."

Bowen is happy with Gates as the final candidate, but he did not favor one candidate over another. He said all the presidential candidates held exceptional qualifications for the presidency.

"I am pleased with Gates and the work he did at the Bush School," Bowen said. "To be fair to all the candidates, I did not favor Gates over any other candidate, we had several top notch candidates."

## Prairie View president retires after agreement

By Melissa Sullivan  
THE BATTALION

Emerging from the shadows of lawsuits and controversies, Charles A. Hines, president of Prairie View A&M University, announced his retirement after eight years as president effective September 1, 2002.

"I have been talking with Dr. Hines for sometime about the future of Prairie

View," said Howard Graves, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University system. "In May we had some focused discussions about his future and those discussions led to an agreement he would retire. We provided him a fair and generous retirement agreement."

Hines had a shaky tenure at Prairie View, where he frequently disagreed with faculty members who claimed he retaliated against them for criticizing his administration policies.

Last year he was sued by physics professor Dr. Dennis Judd, who accused Hines of retaliation for efforts to have him fired and for causing Judd to lose a \$673,000 U.S. Energy Department grant.

In April, six current and former employees of Prairie View A&M University filed a discrimination lawsuit alleging they were punished for criticizing Hines.

Hines' administration has undergone a major transformation since he first became president in 1994. Among his many achievements, Hines cites an increase in student enrollment from 5,400 to more than 6,800, an increase in the university's endowment from \$4 million to nearly \$30 million and built, at no expense to taxpayers, a \$38 million housing complex that can accommodate about 60 percent of the on-campus population.

"Dr. Hines has provided leadership to Prairie View A&M University for almost eight years, nearly twice as long as the average university president's term," Graves said. "I am grateful for his dedicated service to the Texas A&M system and wish the best for him and his family in his retirement."

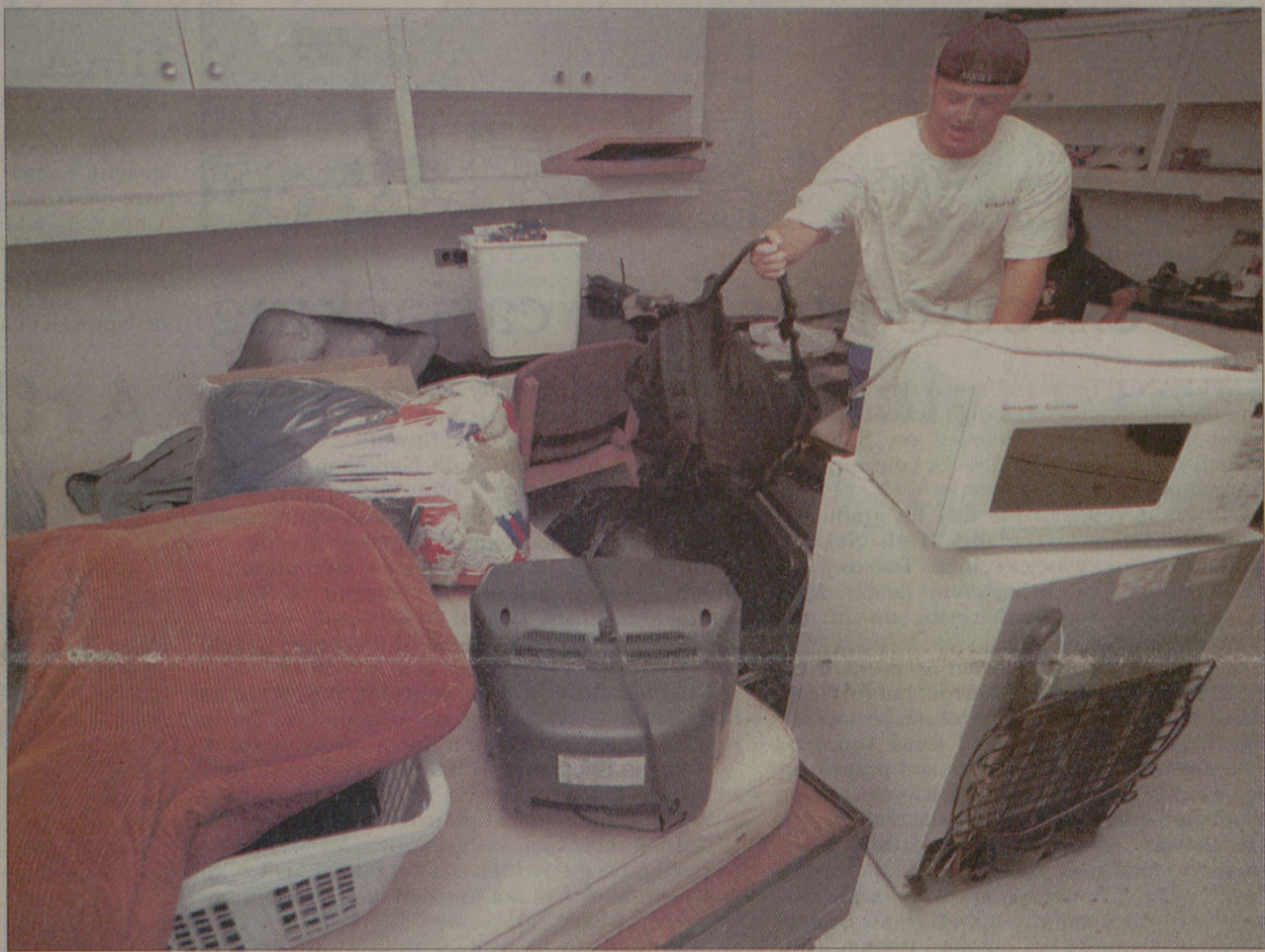
Hines and Graves signed an agreement on May 18, indicating that Hines, the regents and officials of the system and university may not make "critical or detrimental" remarks about each other in private or public forums. Any future claims by private parties will be waived as well.

In addition, Hines will be paid \$400,000 in a separation agreement with the Texas A&M system.

As president, Hines earned an annual salary of \$176,000 a year and received a \$40,000 housing allowance for his home in Houston, A&M system spokesperson Ann Kellett said.

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## Moving in



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Preparing to organize his belongings, **Danny Davis**, a senior physics major, unloads the last of his things in his new dorm room on Friday afternoon. He will be liv-

ing at Schuhmacher hall for the first and second summer school sessions. Students began moving in this past weekend for the first five week summer school ses-

## Indian, Pakistani leaders head for summit, peace talks unlikely

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — As the Indian and Pakistani leaders headed to a summit where they are unlikely to talk peace — or even talk at all — India's defense minister said Sunday that his nation will not be "impulsive" and sought to ease fears of a nuclear war.

U.N. staffers in India and Pakistan have been ordered to send their families home, while the United States and other countries have advised their citizens to leave amid fears that the stand-

off — punctuated by daily shelling and gunfire across the line that divides Kashmir — could escalate into war between the nuclear-armed neighbors.

Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes, speaking at a security conference in Singapore, assured the world his country "will not be impulsive" despite what he called heavy public pressure for military action against Pakistan, which India accuses of responsibility for attacks on its soil.

"We don't see the makings of any kind of an escalation that takes one to the extreme," said Fernandes, who reiterated India's pledge to avoid first use of nuclear weapons. "There is no way India will ever use a nuclear weapon other than as a deterrent," he said.

Pakistan, which has a smaller military, has not ruled out a first strike, but Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, in an interview with CNN on Saturday, said that no "sane individual" would let tensions between the two nations escalate into a nuclear war.

Musharraf has said for months he wants dialogue with Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, but Vajpayee says he will not hold talks until Pakistan puts an end to cross-border attacks carried out by Islamic militants based in Pakistan.

Fernandes said a meeting between Musharraf and Vajpayee at a summit that starts Monday in Almaty, Kazakhstan is not possible. "I do not see that possibility at all, because if there is to be any kind of talking then the cross-border terrorism has to stop forthwith," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Most of the cross-border attacks are in Kashmir, a divided Himalayan province claimed in its entirety by both India and Pakistan.

## Hopgood retires, candidates coming to campus this week

By Christina Hoffman  
THE BATTALION

Two prominent candidates for the 38th position of Commandant of the Corps of Cadets will be interviewing on Texas A&M's campus during the next two weeks. Maj. Gen. M.T. Hopgood officially retired from his position as the 37th commandant last Friday.

Lt. Gen. John Van Alstyne, Class of 1966 will be on campus this week meeting with the selection committee, faculty, students and Corps personnel. He currently serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy in Washington, D.C.

Lt. Gen. Randolph House, Class of 1967, will arrive the week of June 10-14, said Major Doc Mills, spokesperson for the Office of the Commandant. House recently retired from the U.S. Army in 2000.

One of these two finalists will most likely be named as the 38th commandant during the summer, said a spokesperson from the Department of Student Affairs. Dr. Wynn Rosser, assistant vice president for the Department of Student Affairs was not available for comment.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president of student

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## New band director announced

By Don White  
THE BATTALION

The Fightin' Texas Aggie Band will march to the beat of a slightly different drum this fall. Dr. Timothy Rhea was announced as the Director of University Bands in a press conference on May 21.

Rhea is the fifth permanent band director and succeeds Col. Ray Toler, who announced his retirement in November 2001. Toler served as band director for 14 years. Rhea has served with the Aggie Band for 10 years, including briefly serving as the assistant director of university bands.

Rhea said that he plans no

major changes in the Aggie Band, but he would like to start a push towards improving the band's facilities.

"When you possess the great reputation this band program enjoys, you must work hard to maintain those things that have made you successful in the past," Rhea said. "Although there are always small improvements that can be made in any organization, I am not aware of any major changes that need to take

place in our current band program."

Two other directors, Lt. Col. Jay Brewer and Lt. Paul Sikes, will continue their service to the Aggie Band, he said.

"Although I will be the director of the Aggie Band, we approach that group as a team effort," Rhea said.

Dr. Bill Kibler, associate vice president for student affairs, served as co-chair for the committee that chose Rhea. He said that Rhea brought the most comprehensive package of experience and academic skills to the position.

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