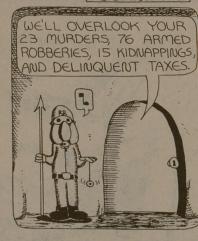
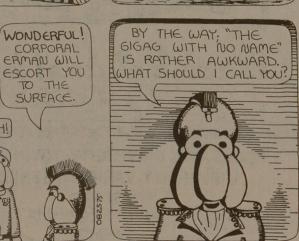


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Fast-talking Democrat reconciles divided ranks

News Analysis

WASHINGTON -Robert S. Strauss became national Democratic chairman in the wake of the party's 1972 disaster, he brought with him a conservative image and a determination to unify its sharply divided ranks.

In the three years since, the wealthy, fast-talking Texas lawyer has embraced a considerable measure of party reform, while keeping the backing of regulars who put him into

As a result, except for a few disgruntled members, most Democrats seem determined to put the factional battles of the past seven years behind them.

'I think the party is really interested in doing everything it can to stay together, said San Francisco lawyer Fred Furth, one of the party's more outspoken advocates of

With only sporadic opposition, the National Committee this week approved the rules that Strauss and his executive director, Mark Siegel, had drafted in consultation with representatives for many party

Designed to insure a more orderly and less divisive convention next July in New York, they make it harder for minority positions to be brought before the full convention and narrow the grounds for credentials challenges

If the rules had been in effect in 1972, they would have kept both the California and Illinois credential challenges, and many of the platform controversies, from engendering bitterness and dragging out convention sessions late into the night.



Some of Strauss' liberal critics, led by Texas Committeewoman Bil-

bright

tention of Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy's backers that they had been cheated in 1968 both by the misuse

The 1972 rules reflected the desire to end the abuses and insure a space for under-represented groups, including women, blacks

They were there at the convention in record numbers in 1972, many backing Sen. George McGovern. But the virtual quota system" that was responsible stirred a backlash among elected officials, labor leaders and some ethnic groups, many opposed to

In addition, the success of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey's backers in controling the Credentials Committee created new controversies.

Fund raises half of goal

By PAULA GEYER

The College Station United Way fund drive has raised 57 per cent of the \$35,000 goal set for this year, drive chairman Joe Sawyer said Wednesday.

Sawyer said since the drive began on Sept. 15, more than \$20,000 has been collected.

The drive is expected to be completed on Nov. 1.

Most of the money has been collected from the Texas A&M University division, he said.

At the College Station fund drive meeting on Tuesday, Haskell Monroe, chairman of the Texas A&M division, reported contributions to the College Station drive totaling \$14,085.25.

The faculty and staff of the university have also donated \$11,916.75 to the Bryan-Brazos County United Way fund drive.

both drives from the Texas A&M division this year are already higher than last year's total.

The Retired People's division of the drive also has surpassed last vear's total.

The money collected from the College Station drive will go to 15 agencies in the Bryan-College Station area.

They include: the College Station Recreation Council, Community House Inc., Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and the Brazos County Community Council.

Other agencies are the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center, Brushy Day Care Center, Central Brazos Valley Mental Health Center and Red Cross.

Also to receive funds are the Boys' Clubs of Bryan, Inc., Junior Museum of Natural History, Salva-

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Sawyer said the contributions to tion Army and Community Educa-

Last year the College Station United Way collected \$27,600 for

many of the same organizations. The organizational divisions of the College Station fund drive are Texas A&M, Business, Retired

Peoples and Public School. The chairman of the business division is former College Station City Councilman Don Dale

Vice-chairman for business are Phyllis Hobson, Real Estate; J. E. Loupot, North Gate; Milton Arnold, South Gate; David Breed, South Gate; Charles Thomas, Insurance Companies; Bill Fit John Birkner and Bill Landiss.

tional Firms. Chairman of the Retired Peo division is Dr. L. G. Jones. chairmen of this division are: D C. Doak, P. J. Alwin Zeller,

The Public School division headed by Fred A. Hopson.

drive would reach its goal. "Not all the money is in but are still looking for large amou money as the drive comes

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lie Carr, said Wednesday they are considering a court case against some provisions in the new rules. Their prospects are not considered A more serious threat would come if the rules become caught up

in the party's unfolding presidential battle. That is what has happened in The original reform effort in the 1969-72 period grew out of the con-

and absence of clear rules.

When Strauss was put into office by the anti-McGovern elements of the party, he faced the problem of overcoming his image and assuring McGovern backers he wasn't selling out reform.

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