

# Conservative groups raising millions to spend on elections

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Aggressive new conservative organizations that didn't even exist a few years ago are outpacing established groups like labor and business in raising millions to spend on this year's congressional elections.

A report released today by the Federal Election Commission showed that four of the top five biggest money-raising political action committees in the first six months of this year were identified with the far right.  
The fifth one was the American

Medical Society, which does not identify with any political movement but has a long history of supporting conservative causes and candidates.  
The AFL-CIO, traditionally one of the leading spenders in political races, ranked no better than eighth in the list.

The leaders in order were Ronald Reagan's Citizens for the Republic (\$2.1 million); the National Conservative Political Action Committee (\$2 million); the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress (\$1.5 million); the American Medical Political Action Committee (\$1.4 million); and Gun Owners of America (\$1.2 million).

The AFL-CIO raised \$735,000 and the United Auto Workers was the only other union in the top 10, finishing tenth with \$700,000.

The other three in the top 10 are not identified with a political philosophy. They are the National Association of Realtors political-action committee, in sixth place with \$1,194,216; the National Automobile Dealers Association election-action committee, seventh with \$1,096,415; and the Associated Milk Producers Committee for Thorough Agricultural Political Education, ninth with \$715,089.

Overall, the study showed labor is still a potent political fund-raiser, with receipts totaling \$13.5 million this year. This compared with corporate groups that raised \$10.5 million and trade, membership and health groups that raised \$18.4 million.

The Republican Party was far more adept at raising money than the Democrats. The GOP brought in a total of \$63.9 million — \$27 million of it to the Republican National Committee — while the Democrats could raise only \$14.4 million, \$8.7 million of it to the national committee.

## Ocean crossing too lonely

# Solo trip last for sailor

United Press International  
CROSSHAVEN, Ireland — W. Carl Jackson has triumphed over the Atlantic, matching every sailor's dream with a two-month solo ocean crossing in a small sailboat, and he says it was a "heavily" experience he'll never try again.

The exhausted, 55-year-old navigator steered into Crosshaven harbor Wednesday morning, completing the voyage that began July 8 in Marblehead, Mass., aboard his 30-foot ketch Carla Mia.  
The worst part of the time

alone at sea, the Indiana University dean said after he toasted his success with a sip of brandy, was the solitude.

"I found the loneliness of the second month almost excruciating," Jackson said. "I always thought of myself as self-sufficient, but I found life without people had no meaning. I had a definite need for somebody to talk to, someone real and alive and breathing."

Most of the last month of his trip was spent in calm air that barely nudged the Carla Mia toward Europe.

Jackson said he was happy to have been able to complete the 51-day crossing — taking into account time spent in port in Nova Scotia for repairs — and that while he loves sailing he would never undertake a similar venture alone again.

The sturdy sailor, who lost 40 pounds during the trip, hove to near Crosshaven, at the mouth of Cork Bay on Ireland's southwest coast, late Tuesday night. A storm was brewing, and although he had already weathered eight gales at sea he decided to head in.

# Consolidated likely to appeal tax assessment; excess of \$6 million

By SCOTT PENDELTON  
Battalion Staff  
The state has valued property in the A&M Consolidated Independent School District in excess of \$600 million, an amount that district officials say is too high and may appeal.

The officials feel that the School Assessment Practices Board overvalued some categories of property. "We intend to study those carefully and at this time will quite likely appeal," superintendent Fred A. Hopson said.

Last year the district's property was valued at \$265 million. Part of the \$180 million increase comes from intangibles, such as bank deposits, stocks and bonds. These have never been included in school calculations before.

The state will use the property value in a formula to determine how much of the school district's budget must be paid by local taxes and how much by state funds. Generally, the more valuable a district's property is, the more it must pay.

But because all Texas school districts have undergone similar property revaluations, many observers

feel the legislature will very probably change the formula.

"It's quite possible that it (the revaluation) will have no effect or that we'll be in a better position," Hopson said. "Until we know the relationship between our district and the other districts, we won't know what

the total impact will be."

At worst, a school district's share of its budget cost could increase only 25 percent over the previous year, as dictated by state law. This year, local taxes will pay \$456,000 of Consolidated's \$5 million-plus budget, Hopson said.

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