

# Texans to vote on tax cut

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Texas voters Nov. 7 will have the opportunity to vote directly on a proposed constitutional amendment proponents say could result in reduction of about \$500 million in state and local taxes.

Backers of the measure, approved by a special session of the legislature and prompted by California's adop-

tion of Proposition 13, say the measure will give homeowners, farmers and persons over 65 relief from the increasing burden of property taxes. But Rep. John Bryant, D-Dallas, one of the few lawmakers speaking out against the proposal, refers to the proposed tax breaks as "doggies in the window," and says the proposition offers little real relief from property taxes and could severely damage the tax bases of local school districts.

Provisions of the amendment would:  
— authorize agricultural land to be taxed on its productive value rather than market value;  
— give school districts authority to exempt up to \$10,000 of the market value of homesteads of senior citizens from property taxes;  
— exempt \$5,000 of the market value of homes from local school taxes;  
— require local governments to

publicly announce and hold public hearings on any change in valuations or tax rates that would result in higher taxes.

— and require a majority vote of the membership of the House and Senate to increase state spending beyond the previous year's level plus an allowance for inflation.

The new exemptions would reduce the amount of revenue for each school district, and lawmakers have indicated they will appropriate \$400 million next year to reimburse the districts for lost income.

Bryant contends, however, that reimbursement is not assured.

"This cannot result in tax relief unless the legislature is willing to reimburse the districts for the lost revenue from it," Bryant says. "Well, the legislature didn't vote and is not required to reimburse it. The amendments simply says the legislature shall reimburse all or part of the loss. If we were serious about granting tax relief, it would have been a mandatory reimbursement."

The amendment, labeled on the ballot as "The Tax Relief Amend-

ment", has been endorsed by Gov. Dolph Briscoe, Attorney General John Hill, Republican governor candidate Bill Clements, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, Speaker Bill Clayton and others. Its passage is supported by a statewide organization headed by former Republican state chairman Ray Hutchison and Marcella Perry of Houston, a Democratic Party leader.

Clayton has been the most outspoken in support of the proposal.

"For the first time in the history of the state, we're taking a 180 degree turn and sending some money home instead of taking the money to Austin," he said.

The Texas Association of School Administrators endorsed the amendment, contending it "contains meaningful property tax relief for individual citizens, homeowners and the agricultural community of Texas without limiting the ability of locally elected boards of education and school administrators to effectively manage the day to day operations of their respective school districts."

## Outlaw's body sought in Missouri coffin

United Press International  
LIBERTY, Mo. — The scene appeared to be a surgical operation.

But the patient was the coffin of outlaw Jesse James and the doctors were archaeologists hoping to learn more about the Kearney, Mo., native, who was shot to death April 3, 1882.

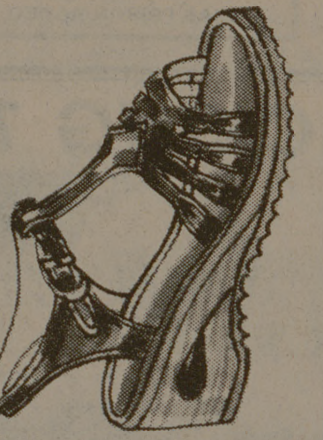
Under the glare of television cameras and an uncovered light bulb dangling from the ceiling of a small room in the Clay County sheriff's office, Bill Philyaw and Milton Perry began the operation Tuesday. They found no body but did recover what appeared to be either a bone from a human foot or hand and several clumps of hair.

According to past reports, James' coffin was dug up in 1902 and his body moved to a burial site in Kearney. The coffin apparently confirmed reports that the body had been removed on a rainy day in 1902.

The men also discovered handles to the coffin and several tassels. Other than that, they'll have to await the outcome of the coroner's decision on the bone found Tuesday and the completion of the sifting operation to know what they have found.

Whether James' body really rests in a second coffin in a Kearney cemetery is still open to speculation. "That we won't touch," said Perry.

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## what's up?

Thursday

**ROOMMATE SESSION:** There will be a roommate session 3-5 p.m. in Room 137A, MSC, for women and in Room 137 for men. Students may also stop by the Off-Campus Center now if they need roommates for the spring semester.

**CLASS OF '80:** Will have a meeting in 340, MSC at 7:15 p.m.

**CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST:** There will be a College Life meeting with Paul Carter will speak on "The Good Ag" at 7 p.m. in Room 145, MSC.

**BAHA'I CLUB:** Welcomes everyone to their public meeting on "New Teachings For a New Age," at 7:30 p.m. in Room 407, Rudder Tower.

**TAMU EMERGENCY CARE TEAM:** Officer elections will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 410, Rudder Tower. Anyone with questions may call Steve Borrow at 845-8027.

**MSC OUTDOOR RECREATION:** There will be a seminar on "Places to Go in Texas," at 7:30 p.m. in Room 401, Rudder Tower.

**CHOIR CONCERT:** Combined Bryan High School and elementary choirs will hold their annual fall concert at 7:30 p.m. in Room 141 of Bryan High School. Tickets may be purchased for 50 cents at the door or from choir members.

**RUSSIAN CLUB:** Plans for a Thanksgiving dinner and party will be discussed in Room 305AB, Rudder Tower. New members are invited to attend.

**WATER SKI CLUB:** Will have a meeting and show films at 7 p.m. in Room 510, Rudder Tower.

**VOLLEYBALL:** The women's team will host Sam Houston State at 7 p.m.

**GYMNASTICS:** The women's gymnastics team will host Southwest Texas at 7 p.m.

**CEPHEID VARIABLE:** "Doc Savage," starring Ron Ely as the Man of Bronze in this saga of the famous 1930's superhero, will be shown at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Doc and his five aides journey to the South American republic of Hidalgo to investigate the mysterious death of Doc's father.

Friday

**"EAT THE HELL OUT OF RICE CONTEST":** The fifth annual "Eat the Hell Out of Rice Contest" will be held at noon at Rudder Fountain and is open to all. Those interested in participating may register at the secretaries desk in Room 206, MSC. Prizes include two reserved seats at the upcoming "Bread" concert sponsored by Town Hall. Second and Third Place prizes will also be awarded.

**MAID OF COTTON APPLICANTS:** Applications for Maid of Cotton will be picked up in the Student Activities Office, Room 221, MSC, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. To be eligible, a candidate must never have been married, be between the ages of 19 and 23, be from a cotton-producing state or moved to one prior to age 7, and be at least 5 feet, 5 inches tall. Applications must be postmarked no later than midnight, November 12 and be accompanied by three 8X10 glossy photographs.

**AGGIE CINEMA:** "Julia," the true life story of Lillian Hellman, an American playwright, and her friend Julia, starring Jane Fonda, Vanessa Redgrave and Jason Robards, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. The film is set in the 1920's and 30's against a backdrop of wealth and Nazi brutality.

Saturday

**FOOTBALL:** The Texas Aggies will play Rice here at 1:30 p.m.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** The women's team will run in the TAIAW State Meet in Georgetown.

**AGGIE CINEMA:** "Julia," starring Jane Fonda, Vanessa Redgrave and Jason Robards, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

**MIDNIGHT MOVIE:** "The World's Greatest Lover," will be shown in Rudder Theater.

Sunday

**ALL AGGIE INTRAMURAL HORSE SHOW:** The TAMU Horsemen's Association is sponsoring this horse show at 9 a.m. at the TAMU Equestrian Center on 2818 at Turkey Creek Rd. For more information, call Horse Office at 845-1927, or Jamie Belin at 693-6534.

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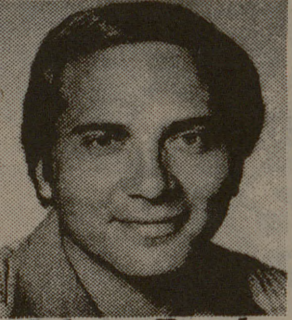
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## GOP seeks location for convention

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Dallas, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Kansas City, home of the 1976 Republican convention, are the next cities on the agenda of a GOP selection committee seeking a site for its 1980 presidential nominating convocation.

The party's site selection committee wound up hearings Tuesday in the six cities that have applied for the convention. After election day the committee will visit all six before sending a final recommendation to the January meeting of the Republican National Committee.

New Orleans, Miami Beach and Detroit presented their formal bids Monday.

Selection of a city may be determined by the number of available hotel rooms and whether a state has ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, than on other political considerations.

New Orleans, Miami Beach and Kansas City all have ERA problems right now, but the party has no formal policy banning meetings in states that have not ratified the amendment.

While many Republicans would like to see the party meet in Detroit to establish a GOP commitment to such normally Democratic groups as labor, minorities and other urban groups, the city may not have enough hotel rooms.

Detroit's plan included 728 rooms across the river in Windsor, Ontario, and 2,400 dormitory rooms at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, 60 miles from Detroit.

"The key to the revival of Detroit has been the commitment by number of people, a commitment that has crossed political, ethnic, racial and geographical barriers," said Gov. William Milliken, R-Mich., at the hearings.

Miami Beach Mayor Leonard Haber said his city's commission has repeatedly asked the Florida Legislature to ratify ERA and urged its publicans not to blame his city for the lawmakers' lack of action.

"You came down in 1968 and then again in 1972, so you know us and know there's nothing better," he said.

Both Miami and New Orleans offered 20,000 first class hotel rooms within 20 minutes of the convention center, while Detroit said it could come up with only 16,000, including those in Ann Arbor, 60 miles away.

New Orleans offered the Superdome as the site for what potentially could be the biggest political gathering in American history.

## U.S. — Japan treaty pleases China's Teng

United Press International  
TOKYO — Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-Ping says his government "understands" Japan's military alliance with the United States, signaling that China welcomes a U.S. presence in Asia as a counterweight to the Soviet Union.

Teng, who flew to Japan to sign historic friendship treaty with Japan made the remarks Monday in a 90-minute meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda.

It was fresh evidence that China fears the 45 Soviet divisions posted along the Chinese border and ready to cooperate with the United States and Japan to contain the Soviet Union in Asia.

"We fully understand Japan's basic foreign policy," Teng told Fukuda. "We understand also the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty, and the strengthening of (Japan's) self-defense."

Teng's statement marked a major shift in Chinese thinking from 1955 when President Nixon made the U.S. overture to Peking. In those days, Chinese leaders regularly denounced America's "colonial" role in Asia and accused Japan of reverting to its militarism of the 1930s.

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