

# THE BATTALION

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## Texas imported

A little bit of the Lone Star state was distributed through the British Isles this week in the Architectural Review, an English technical journal. see page 5.



Battalion photo by Tricia Forbes

## Autumn oughta run 'em in

With winter upon us, students like sophomore Karen Volkel won't be able to find a warm, comfortable place to study outdoors. Today's high will

be about 68 with a low tonight of 47, so drag out those longjohns. It will be windy and cooler through Wednesday.

## \$18 million spent in top 3 state races

United Press International

Texas politicians spent an unprecedented \$18 million this year seeking votes in an election that experts predicted would draw only 2.3 million voters today.

Voters remained apathetic despite extravagant media campaigns by Republicans in the GOP's most formidable bid in history for top state posts in this traditionally Democratic state and open races for more than one-third of the state's congressional seats.

The Republican Party, intent upon making Texas a two-party state, spent furiously in an attempt to maintain John Tower in the U.S. Senate and install Bill Clements as the state's first GOP governor since Reconstruction.

Democratic and Republican nominees in the top three statewide races acknowledged spending nearly \$18 million in their final pre-election campaign finance reports and the total is expected to go even higher when outlays for last chance media advertising are included.

Clements, a Dallas oil drilling contractor and former deputy secretary of defense under Presidents Nixon and Ford, spent an excess of \$6.3 million — more than twice the outlay of Democrat John Hill, the state attorney general. The Republican said his expensive campaign will prove the difference that has thwarted less well-

financed GOP bids for the Texas governor's mansion.

"We are going to win by 53 to 47 percent," Clements said Monday on the eve of the election. He said he expects to carry such long-time Democratic strongholds as Bexar County, Houston and virtually all of the Panhandle where he said voters "do not want a liberal, career politician tied in with machine politics."

Hill, formerly a Houston trial lawyer, upset incumbent Gov. Dolph Briscoe and won the Democratic nomination without a runoff in May.

Both candidates are multimillionaires — Clements reported his worth at \$30 million, Hill \$4 million — but emphasized down-home folksiness and a Texas drawl in their media ads.

The Senate race in contrast pitted Tower, a former college government instructor, against a former Duke University dean and Shakespearean scholar, Rep. Bob Krueger, D-Texas.

Tower contrasted his modest personal wealth with the financial holdings of his challenger, but the incumbent Republican spent \$3.5 million to the Democratic nominee's \$2 million campaign outlay.

Both candidates accused the other of ineffective leadership and each predicts victory.

Tower became the only Republican in

92 years to win a statewide election with his successful bid to replace Lyndon Johnson in the Senate 17 years ago.

In the race for attorney general, Republican Jim Baker spent an unheard of \$1.2 million in the GOP's first serious bid for an office that has often launched a number of Texas Democrats into higher office.

Baker, who managed Gerald Ford's unsuccessful 1976 presidential campaign, faced Democrat Mark White.

White, also a Houston lawyer, began talking Monday as if victory were already his. Baker has accused White of ducking issues in the campaign and reiterated earlier charges that White violated campaign finance reporting laws.

The retirement of Texas' four longest tenured representatives sparked some heated congressional races — particularly in West Texas where George W. Bush of Midland sought to win the seat now held by Rep. George Mahon, D-Texas.

Bush, son of the one-time United Nations ambassador and ex-CIA director, faced State Sen. Kent Hance, D-Lubbock.

In addition to Mahon, veteran Reps. Omar Burleson, Olin Teague and W.R. Poage, and the only black elected to represent Texas in Congress during this century, Sen. Barbara Jordan, are retiring.

Two incumbents, longtime Rep. John Young and Rep. Dale Milford were defeated in primary races.

## Protestors' violence prompts Iranian prime minister to resign

United Press International

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's Prime Minister Jaafar Sharif-Emami resigned Monday in response to the worst explosion of anti-shah violence in nearly 15 years and the military sent tanks into the street, signaling a harsh new stand against demonstrators.

Radio Iran said Sharif Emami, appointed only two months ago to assemble a national reconciliation government, had resigned. It made no mention of a possible successor.

Sunday's outbreak was the most destructive and fearsome single-day rampage since June 1963 when violent disturbances rocked Tehran following the expulsion of Moslem leader Ayatollah Khomeini — now the Paris-based leader of the shah's opposition.

Anti-shah demonstrators set fire to the British Embassy, four international hotels, airline offices and banks but failed to get past an Iranian army cordon around the U.S. Embassy. Foreign guests fleeing the burning hotels faced jeering crowds but were not harmed.

Demonstrators pulled down and destroyed portraits of the shah and his father, Reza Shah, set fire to the Ministry of Information and beat up Minister Mohammad Reza Ameli-Tehrani, ransacked and destroyed liquor shops and burned many vehicles, including at least 15 public buses.

The violence erupted in retaliation for the army's reported slaying of student demonstrators Saturday as they tried to pull down a statue of the shah at Tehran University. At least five people were killed but unofficial reports were much higher.

Widespread strikes nearly shut down the capital and a crippling strike that has cut down the nation's \$20 billion-a-year oil industry in the southern production areas continued.

The shah held extensive talks with

Oveisi Sunday, fueling speculation that a military government might be in the offing. It would be the last resort to halt apparently determined opposition efforts to topple the shah's 37-year regime.

Tanks rolled into the streets Sunday night and took positions at strategic points, indicating a drastic switch in the army's attitude towards demonstrators — from one of uneasy tolerance Sunday to a willingness for a showdown.

The army issued its harshest warnings against further violence, banning any kind of demonstration during the dusk-to-dawn curfew and telling the city's 4.5 million residents that "violators will be shot after being warned to disperse."

The warning was repeated over Radio Iran with ominous persistence throughout the night, raising fears that any attempts to

resist the ban could easily result in killings similar to those on Sept. 8, when martial law was imposed on Tehran and 11 other towns. At least 250 people died in Tehran that day.

The city was near total shutdown as gasoline shortage struck deep through virtually all operations. A continuing airline strike forced other airlines also to cancel flights for fear of accidents in the absence of ground support staff.

Taxi companies were shut down, food distribution cut off, meat supplies disrupted and bakeries closed partially.

Strikes by telecommunications staff shut down satellite ground station and microwave centers, disrupting telephone and telex communications between Iran and the rest of the world.

## Randall County unusual most of its residents vote

United Press International

Just a little more than one-third of Texas' estimated 6 million registered voters are expected to go to the polls Tuesday, but Randall County Clerk LeRoy Hutton, with past experience to guide him, is primed for up to an 80 percent turnout in his Panhandle district.

Hutton's county comprises Canyon, a college town of some 8,200, and a populous one-third of Amarillo, a divided city which supplies 75 percent of Randall County's registered voters.

In the past four presidential elections (1964-1976), Randall County voters have turned out at an average rate of 85.3 percent. In 1964, 94 percent of the nearly 14,700 registered voters turned out for the Lyndon Johnson-Barry Goldwater presidential election, Hutton says.

Hutton says an official in the Secretary

of State's Office told him his county led the state in 1976 with an 81.1 percent voter turnout during a presidential election.

That may have led the state, Hutton says, but it amounted to the lowest presidential year turnout in Randall County since 1964.

Even in an off-year election in 1974 the voters turned out at a nearly 44 percent rate, Hutton says.

Asked to estimate just how many voters will turn out in Randall County Tuesday, Hutton turns a bit coy.

"I prefer not to say," Pressed, he admits he's warehoused 27,000 ballots this year, sufficient for 80 percent of the voters. "I am prepared for a large turnout."

Hutton didn't give a definite reason for the large voter turnout, except to say that the people vote for the man, not the party.

## A&M strengthens hot check penalties

By DILLARD STONE  
Battalion Staff

The continuing increase in both the number and the amount of insufficient checks cashed at Texas A&M University has caused the fiscal department to stiffen penalties against hot check writers.

"Effective with hot checks returned to this office as of Nov. 30, the charge for insufficient checks will be \$15," said J. Robert Smith, assistant controller of accounts.

The \$15 charge is a 200 percent increase over the old charge of \$5.

Additionally, Smith said, if the returned check is not claimed and paid by its author within the 15-day grace period, the penalty fee will be \$25, instead of the current \$10 charge.

"Along with the increase in the penalty, we're now allowing only two returned checks before your name is placed on the bad check list," Smith said.

The list, distributed to all on-campus check cashing locations, is an index of those persons permanently ineligible to cash checks at Texas A&M.

Fiscal department figures show that 5,440 checks totaling about \$300,000 were returned to Texas A&M last year. The year before, the value of the 4,329 returned checks was about \$235,000.

The figures translate into a 26 percent rise in the number of checks and a 27 percent increase in their value.

Data for the first two months of this year show a more dramatic increase. The \$85,000 in returned checks this September is 81 percent higher than the total for September 1977. Figures for October indicate a 45 percent increase.

All this adds up to a significant loss to the University, both in time and in money. "This year, we've had to assign one person full time to deal with hot checks, whereas in the past it used to be a part-time effort," Smith said.

Smith also said that at any given time,

the fiscal department may have between \$25,000 and \$50,000 in insufficient checks awaiting collection.

"It costs us \$4 per check to process them," he said. "We spend \$5,000 a year just on computer work keeping up with hot checks."

In spite of the costs to the University, Smith said that his department's check cashing service is a vital one.

"We feel like we've got to offer the service for students who bank out of town, because no one else will cash a check for them," he said.

One remote possibility Smith mentioned was the termination of the service, although he said that was still far in the future.

The majority of the returned checks are written for cash, Smith said. Some are for tuition, and a few are for minor fines such as traffic citations.

Smith said that a few students who knew the rules of the fiscal department's game have used the University as an interim financing agent. For example, after receiving a bad \$600 check for tuition, Smith said, the fiscal department would try all the routine collection procedures. After exhausting these routes, the University would eventually drop the student from its rolls.

Upon being dropped, many students would make good their debts, and, according to University police, would be readmitted to the University.

"What it amounted to was that they had gotten a \$600 dollar loan from Texas A&M," Smith said.

This situation was remedied several semesters ago when the fiscal department adopted a policy of charging a \$50 fee for readmission.

The fiscal department publishes two computer lists of hot check writers each day. One is an index listing the writer's name, bank, amount of check and other

related information, and is used should any questions arise about the University's attempts to collect on its claim.

The other list is distributed to all check cashing locations on campus each day. It lists names and student identification numbers of hot check authors, and it alerts cashiers to people who have violated the University's hot check policy. The cashiers are not allowed to accept checks from people on the list.

Smith isn't sure that the new policy will substantially reduce the number of hot checks. However, he does say the University owes it to itself and to students to prevent hot checks from being passed.

"Students will find that off this campus, such actions are not dealt with so leniently," Smith said.

## Teague to be released soon

Congressman Olin E. "Tiger" Teague, "in great spirits" after surgery last week, should be released Wednesday from Bethesda Naval Hospital, a member of his office staff in Washington, D.C., said Monday.

Teague was admitted to the Bethesda, Md., hospital Oct. 20 to undergo prostatic surgery.

The doctors are pleased with his improvement, the staff member said. If Teague continues to improve, he will be released Wednesday. The staff member added that Teague would be in his office Friday.

This is the third time Teague has been hospitalized since September, when he suffered a mild stroke.

Teague, who represented the 6th Congressional District in the House of Representatives for over 30 years, will retire at the end of this year.

## Property 'overassessment' appealed by Consol board

By DOUG GRAHAM  
Battalion Staff

The A&M Consolidated Independent School Board is awaiting word from the State School Tax Assessment Practices Board (STAPB) on what it claims is an overassessment of College Station property.

The school board's attorney, Jack Woods, reported on the school district's appeal to STAPB during a Monday night school board meeting.

Woods said the hearing was held Oct. 31, but that the board won't make a decision for at least three weeks.

The Austin-based panel will meet one week, take off one week, then return to work the third week, Woods said. They will then begin to make their decision, he added.

The appeal is over an STAPB assess-

ment of taxable property in College Station and the rest of the school district. The STAPB estimate was slightly more than \$600 million dollars.

Peggy Crittenden, public relations officer for the district, said the school board wants a figure closer to the assessment made by the Governor's Office of Education Resources, (GOER) which valued taxable property at approximately \$264 million.

The school board is upset with the evaluation because the state helps cover public education costs according to a district's ability to pay. If College Station were viewed by the state as not using enough of its resources, Crittenden said, it could lose some state money.

The overassessment, she said, was because STAPB included items not normally taxed. The biggest difference between the

two estimates is in intangible personal assets. The GOER report did not include intangibles, such as stocks and bonds, while the STAPB estimate includes \$180 million in intangibles.

The board did not specify what action it would take in the event their appeal is unsuccessful.

The board also considered changing school names. The district's new school for fifth and sixth graders was named the Oakwood Middle School, and a motion was tabled for later discussion on renaming the A&M Consolidated Middle School the A&M Consolidated Junior High.

Also mentioned but not acted on was changing the district's name from A&M Consolidated to something similar to the College Station Consolidated Independent School District.

## Hill optimistic on eve of election day

By SCOTT PENDLETON  
Battalion Staff

A clearly optimistic John Hill told supporters in College Station Monday night that the polls and the people favor his becoming the next governor of Texas.

The Democratic candidate told some 200 Brazos County followers that a recent poll shows the movement of public opinion in his favor.

The poll was conducted by Dr. Richard Murray of the University of Houston. Hill said he considers Murray's poll particularly accurate since Murray was the only pollster to predict Hill's win in the primary without a runoff.

Hill stopped short of claiming an early victory, however. He declined to autograph one supporter's campaign placard as "Governor Hill," instead inviting his backer to Austin if he is elected. "Then I'll be proud to sign as Governor Hill," he said.

Hill said Republicans are counting on a low voter turnout in this election. However, the number of voters won't affect the outcome of the gubernatorial race, he said. A large turnout would just give Hill a larger margin of victory, he said, but the outcome would be the same.

In spite of the record amount of money (some \$6.3 million) Clements has spent on his campaign, Hill felt he would win because the people are on his side.

"People will overcome money every time," he said.

Hill, who never mentioned Cle-



John Hill greets a supporter at his last campaign stop — College Station.

ments by name Monday, said he has run on his own merits rather than criticizing anyone.

Hill skimmed a variety of issues and campaign promises. He stated a desire to cooperate with local officials and institutions, such as Texas A&M University. He promised to give all citizens access to a government that is effective, efficient, productive and that is run on a tight budget.

He renewed his pledge to veto

any tax bills and to work on property tax relief. He called education his top priority.

Hill said he wants Texas to be first in energy. And he said he wants to see that law enforcement officers get more training.

"We're ready to go to work," he said. "We want to stop talking and go to work."

College Station was Hill's last stop before returning to Austin to wait for the returns.