

# State

## GOP candidate Clarke guarantees fame by May

United Press International  
AUSTIN — A Republican who says he plans to be a household

name by next summer has announced his candidacy for the comptroller's office, and hopes \$1

million in contributions will bring about that goal.

Republican Fred E. "Buddy" Clarke III, an accountant, announced his candidacy Wednesday in Dallas and Austin.

"The name of Buddy Clarke will be a household word by next May, I guarantee you," he said. "I'm fresh, I'm new, I'm going to put new blood into the Republican party."

Clarke, 36, of Dallas, accused current office holder Bob Bullock, a Democrat, of being arrogant and abrasive. He told reporters he would conduct a positive campaign and would not refer to Bullock's present hospitalization for alcoholism — although during the news conference he repeatedly mentioned "health and physical problems" that kept Bullock off the job.

"From what I read in the paper, I really see a need for someone in this office who knows where he is going," Clarke said.

Bullock already has announced for re-election, and is not expected to draw any opposition in the Democratic primary.

"I believe the office is one which needs close attention, and needs someone that is quiet and can handle the day to day affairs," Clarke said.

Asked by reporters if he was confident he could raise \$1 million to finance his campaign, Clarke replied: "No question about it. If it takes a million and a half, we'll raise that."

"I think it's going to be a hard race, but I've got the backbone to do it."

Before he can meet Bullock, Clarke might face a Republican challenge from former Travis County Sheriff Raymond Frank. Frank has indicated he will announce Oct. 18 that he also will seek the GOP nomination for comptroller. Frank was elected sheriff as a Democrat, but switched his party affiliation after he was defeated in 1980.



Photo by Gabriel Elliot

### Tidying up the campus

Someone, doing his part to keep the campus clean, deposited this ten-speed bike in a trash can near the

Academic Building. Or maybe the rider got tired of dodging pedestrians and disposed of the bike himself.

## Gas men debate decontrol

United Press International  
DALLAS — Members of one of the nation's largest petroleum producing associations are battling over whether President Reagan should back away from a pledge made by the Carter admin-

istration to decontrol natural gas. The decontrol would begin Dec. 31, 1984 — possibly causing prices to skyrocket on Jan. 1, 1985.

The Texas Mid-continent Oil & Gas Association opened its annual conference Wednesday with talks

by association leaders and government representatives — but at the center of all discussion was whether phased decontrol would serve consumers and the industry better than sudden complete decontrol.

Frank Pitts, head of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Organization and director of the association, supported the proposal to gradually phase out controls on natural gas.

"Most oil and gas producers want immediate deregulation," he said. "In my opinion, the country would be well served to have deregulation of new natural gas immediately after, say July 1st, then phase deregulation of the balance of the (old) gas."

Jay Cassel, another association representative, said some in the oil and gas industry were fighting decontrol.

Cassel said those with contracts selling gas at regulated prices don't want deregulation that could result in them selling expensive deregulated gas at controlled prices.

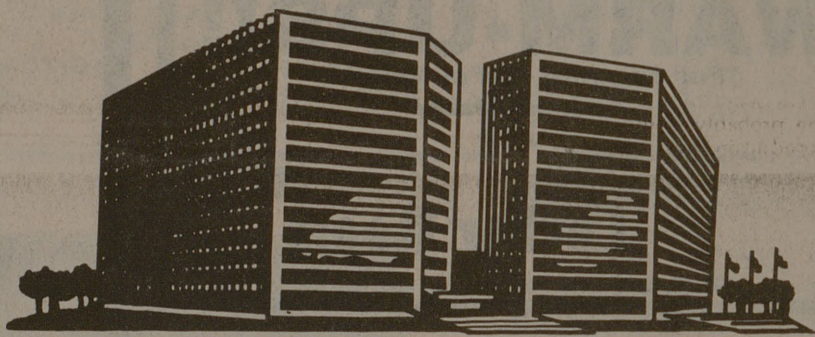
Connie Stuart, spokeswoman for Secretary of Energy James Edwards, said that under current

law, gas prices would climb to match crude oil prices immediately after deregulation took effect. "Natural gas regulation is a 27-year-old mistake," she said, warning sudden decontrol could be just as bad.

Stuart said the Reagan administration hoped to stop sudden deregulation in favor of phased regulation. She said it would be for both producers and consumers by reintroducing competition in market mechanisms into prices.

Under the Natural Gas Policy Act passed by Congress in 1975, natural gas is to be deregulated at once on Dec. 31, 1984. Reagan may change that. A study within the administration said Reagan was studying a recommendation of the Cabinet Council on Natural Resources that was phase-out natural gas price regulations over a three-year period.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said the course headed by Secretary of the Interior James Watt, suggested the gradual phase-out to keep natural gas prices from making an astronomical jump when deregulation does come.



## MIDLAND NATIONAL BANK

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### NOTICE OF INTERVIEWS — PETROLEUM ENGINEERS

October 13 & 14

The Midland National Bank, Midland, Texas, will conduct interviews for reservoir engineering positions in the bank's Oil & Gas Division. Applicants should be eligible for a B.S. degree in Petroleum Engineering in December or May.

Interviews will be conducted by E. H. Blackaller, Senior Vice President, Manager/Oil & Gas Division, and Pete Bauerlein, Vice President, in the W. T. Doherty Building on October 13 and 14.

#### BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION

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Job assignments are flexible, affording daily contact with independent producers, geologists, landmen, attorneys, and representatives of other banks.

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