

Local

Dinner brings in \$8,000 for GOP

Spending maddens Chiles

By GARY BARKER
Battalion Staff
The only way to keep the U.S. from going over the brink into socialism is to cut government spending, says free enterprise advocate Eddie Chiles.

Chiles, known for his "I'm mad" radio broadcasts, addressed more than 275 people at the First Annual Teddy Roosevelt Fund Raising Dinner held at the Brazos Center Tuesday.

The purpose of the \$25-a-plate dinner was to raise money for the Brazos County chapter of the Republican Party. Katy Kowierschke, county party chairman, said the dinner brought in about \$8,000.

Part of the money will be used to pay off the campaign debts of three Brazos County Republicans — County Attorney Jeff Brown, County Constable Winfred Pittmann and County Commissioner Billy Beard — who attended the dinner.

Chiles, chairman of The Western Co. and owner of the Texas Rangers baseball team, said he hopes the present administration and Congress will be brave enough to make the necessary budget cuts.

He said the current debate over cuts in federal spending is a classic struggle between Democrats, liberals and socialists on one side and Republicans and conservatives on the other. He said the definition of a liberal is almost the same as the definition of a socialist.

"If socialists own the means of production, they control the price of a product, the price of raw materials and the whole economic system," he said. "If this happens, they control the lives of people and then we have no freedom."

"That's the socialists' system and the Democrats' system." The U.S. became a great nation not because of this system but because of the free enterprise system, he said.

"I've been poor, but because of the free enterprise system I've been fortunate enough to become rich," he said. "And I'll tell you, rich is better."

"I think we need to preserve the freedom found in the free enterprise system for future generations so that they have the chance to become rich."

Chiles, whose petroleum exploration company began with three people in the late 1930s and now employs 8,000, said the free

enterprise system is not working because the public sector (the government) is using all of the economy's money.

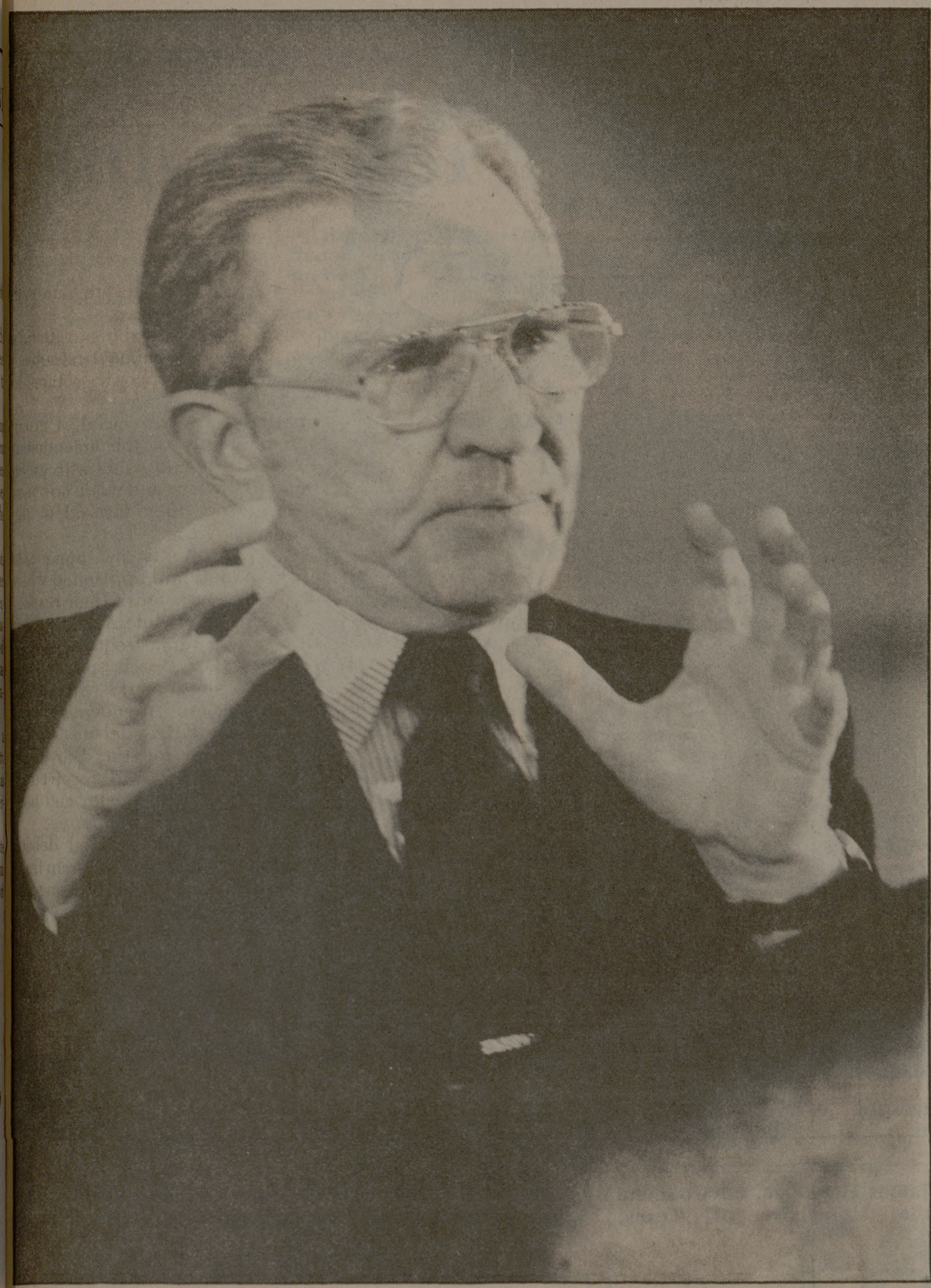
"The federal government is getting too expensive," he said. "Businesses can't borrow money to grow and expand because the public sector is using all of it. When they can borrow, the interest rates are too high for them to make any profit."

Chiles said one reason the federal government is spending too

much is because there are 70 million recipients of federal aid.

"I know we've got to have social security and I know we've got to take care of the poor and disabled, but \$350 billion is too much," he said. "We've got healthy, virile men and women who are receiving federal aid and not working."

Chiles said the only way to stop the growing federal government is to elect people who will go to Washington and do something about it.



Staff photo by Brian Tate

Eddie Chiles speaks at a GOP fund-raiser Tuesday night at the Brazos Center.

College enrollments show state increase

Preliminary figures reflect an overall statewide enrollment increase of 3.7 percent over 1980 in institutions of higher education this fall.

A total of 710,854 students was enrolled this fall in Texas public and independent colleges, universities and technical institutes. This was up 25,348 from last year. Nationally, the Department of Education has predicted higher enrollments to stabilize, with an expected increase of less than 1 percent.

The major portion of enrollment growth occurred in public community junior colleges, where headcounts rose by 18,359 students, a 7.31 percent increase over last year. A total of 269,435 students was enrolled in the junior institutions, with 45 of the state's 60 junior colleges reporting enrollment gains.

Although overall enrollment in the state's 37 public senior colleges and universities rose 1.14 percent to 342,910 students, 19 campuses experienced enrollment declines. Thirteen of the 38 independent senior colleges and universities also reported decreased enrollments this year.

Public medical, dental and other health-related institutions reported a total enrollment of

8,788. This was up 2.54 percent from last year. Enrollments in independent health-related institutions remained stable.

The preliminary enrollment figures are based on the 12th class day reports of the institutions, and are subject to change.

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