

Reveille to add her smile to student pics

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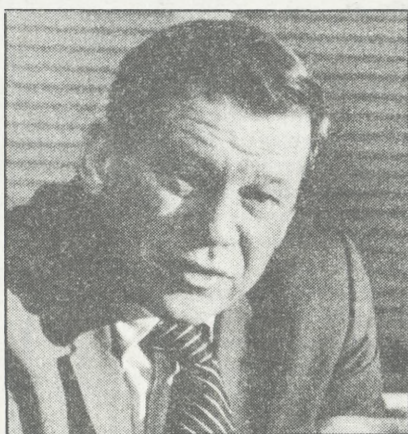
Hobby, Strake discuss higher education items

Higher education and partisanship in the redistricting board were the main topics discussed at Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby's press conference Thursday at the Ramada Inn. After the press conference, Hobby's opponent in the upcoming lieutenant governor race, Republican George W. Strake Jr., expressed differing views in a telephone interview. Hobby said Texas has only been able to compete adequately — not

flagship state of this nation." Texas population and economy have grown twice as fast as any state in the nation in the past 10 years, he said. The secret of this growth lies in the high technology industry and high technology that can be advanced only through education, he said. Hobby proposes a three-cent property tax to subsidize all non-permanently funded schools — schools outside the University of Texas and Texas A&M systems. That ad valorem tax was abolished in the last session of the Legislature. In contrast, Strake proposes that government relieve the landowner of the property tax and fund the schools through the general state fund. Education and high grade faculty attraction can be partially attained through a merit-pay system, Strake said. Teachers would be rewarded on the basis of quality and ability in the teaching field. Texas doesn't need any additional taxes, Strake said. Rather than spending the entire state budget, state government should "start stashing some away for a rainy day," he said. In response to the question of partisanship or party bias in the redistricting issue, Hobby said: "I don't

The state's economy proves that teaching salaries could be raised. — Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby

aggressively — against other states in attracting high-grade faculty because of the state's lack of adequate teaching salaries. However, the state's economy proves that teaching salaries could be raised, he said. "Texas has become the economic



Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby

think that partisanship is something that ought to be relieved. I think it's an integral part of the process." Strake, on the other hand, suggests that the five-member redistricting board consist of qualified people appointed by state officials. Both parties should be equally represented, he said. The five-member board now consists of five Democrats, including Hobby. Hobby said: "Anytime somebody makes a suggestion like that to move decision-making or policy-making away from people who are responsible for the voters, they are saying that they distrust the democratic system." Strake countered: "I only question whether they are representing all of the people." The proposal is not non-partisan, it just evens up the numbers and keeps in mind the community interest — it takes the politics out of it, Strake said. "This proposal won't solve all of the problems, but it's a heck of a lot better than what we have now," he said.

Begin vows more "iron fist tactics"

United Press International JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Menachem Begin dismissed criticism at home and abroad over his handling of the crisis in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and promised more "iron fist tactics, the newspaper Ma'ariv said today. Israel's civilian administrator for the West Bank said the government would take "necessary measures, legal and administrative, to guarantee the interests of the people" of the West Bank because it was "a struggle against the PLO."

Armored personnel carriers moved into major towns in the West Bank, where the government cracked down on bloody clashes that have sparked fears of a new Middle East crisis. The area was quiet early today, the Jewish sabbath. A grenade attack in the Gaza Strip killed an Israeli sergeant and wounded three Israeli soldiers and three Arabs Thursday, soon after Israel replaced the two most important Palestinian mayors in the occupied West Bank with Jewish officers. At the end of a seventh day of vio-

lence Thursday, five Palestinians and one Israeli were dead. More than 40 people, most of them Palestinians, were wounded.

Menachem Milson, Israel's civilian administrator for the West Bank, called a news conference to explain the government's position after a week of

violence capped by the firings Thursday of two more of the West Bank's top Palestinian mayors and a grenade attack on an army jeep in Gaza that killed a soldier.

Guatemalan says U.S. has sympathy for coup

United Press International GUATEMALA CITY — Claiming American officials have shown enthusiasm and sympathy for his 4-day-old military coup, Guatemala's new strongman promised strict law-and-order rule in his Central American "empire." In Washington, a State Department spokeswoman Thursday neither confirmed nor denied U.S. sympathy for the coup, saying only, "We are very interested in learning the

junta's plans for a return to democratic processes." Gen. Jose Efraim Rios Montt, head of Guatemala's three-man military junta, who came out of retirement to seize power in a lightning coup Tuesday, declined to identify the spokesmen, saying he had not tried to meet with U.S. Ambassador Fred Chapin. Rios heads the Young Officers Movement which, charging Guatemala's March 7 presidential elections were rigged in favor of the govern-

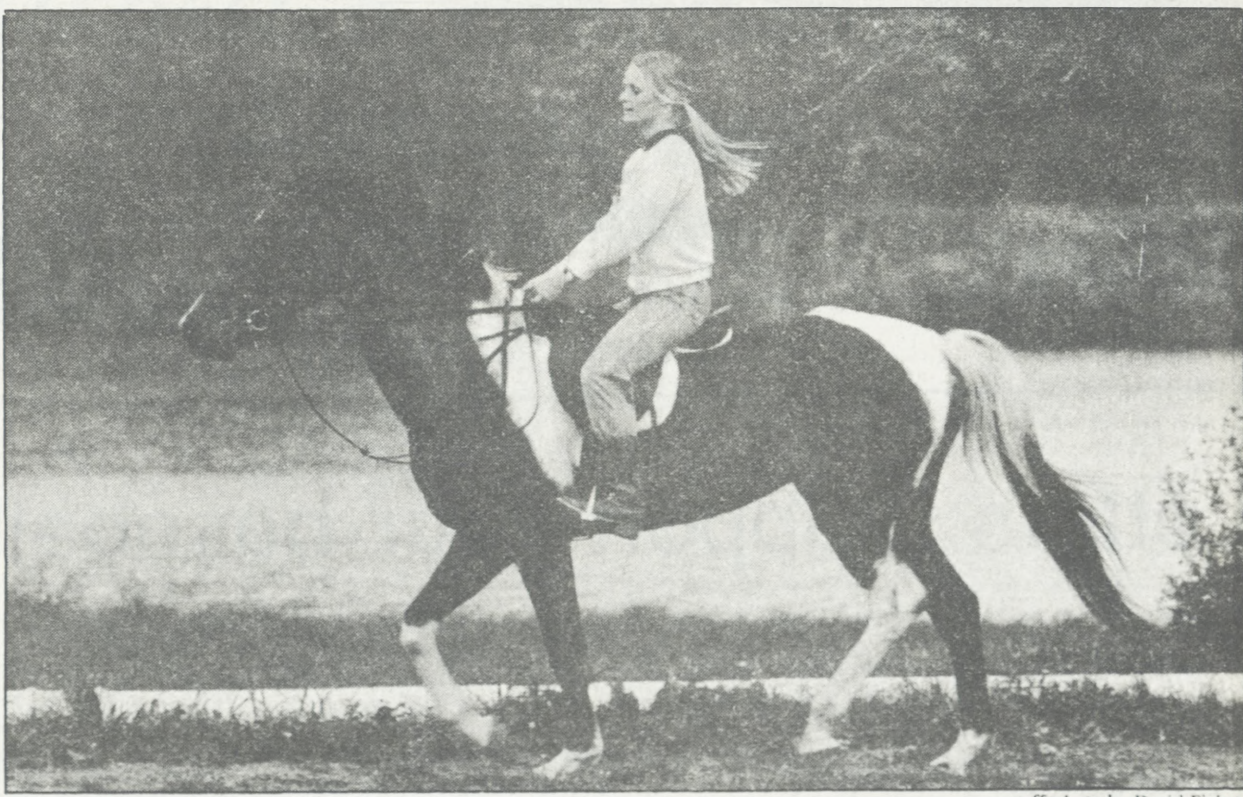
ment-backed candidate, ousted President Romeo Lucas Garcia. Claiming the coup was a "nationalist movement without political tendency," the general vowed he will run "an empire of law" in the violence-torn Central American nation of 7.2 million. The statement further indicated the new junta will take the offensive against an estimated 4,000 leftist insurgents fighting to topple the Guatemalan government.

Horseback riding team readies for competition

by Pam Barta Battalion Reporter The first equestrian team in Texas A&M University history has been formed and has plans to compete in its first intercollegiate contest in April. The four-member team to compete in the art of horseback riding was chosen from members of the Texas A&M Horseman's Association. Susan Webb, who teaches horse management and training courses and horsemanship at the University, organized the team after promoting it for three years. This is a first-time coaching experience for Webb. Organized three weeks ago, the team hasn't had much time to prepare, but Webb said the team members should do well in competition. "We have some pretty good kids," Webb said. The team has entered the National Three Phase Championship, the only intercollegiate contest, to be held April 17 and 18 at the Kentucky

Horse Park near Lexington. The contest host is Midway College. Some of the other teams competing at the contest come from Minnesota, Ohio, Virginia and Alabama. Team members are: Christy Garland and her horse, Mr. Nice; Janet Marden and her horse, Dancin' Cowboy; Moira Rankin and her horse, Sooner Bay and Cara Campbell and her horse, Forget Not. Because of an injury, Campbell will not enter the competition; instead, Brett Pillow will ride Forget Not. The competition will have three phases, beginning with the dressage sportif. The rider takes the horse through a rehearsed pattern in a ring. The pattern includes two jumps, circles, serpentines and changes of direction. "It's like making a horse do ballet," Garland said. The second phase is cross-country jumping. The rider has to take his horse through a 1.5 mile course which

includes 10 to 12 jumps over solid natural fences, water, ditches and banks. "In this, they are mostly judging on the rider's position," Garland said. Garland is an animal science major who has taken riding lessons since the seventh grade. The last competition phase is stadium jumping. In this phase, the rider has to take his horse through eight to ten jumps over fences in a ring. This is done to see if the horse has stamina after completing the cross-country jumping, Garland said. The team practices together about twice a week. Garland said they ride alone for the rest of the week. The team plans to go to a schooling show before the April contest. At a schooling show, the team can compete for practice, Garland said. The team members also have been videotaped in practice by Webb to show them what they are doing wrong.



staff photo by David Fisher

Janet Marden, a junior animal science major from Bryan, practices her riding techniques with her horse Dancin' Cowboy at Equestrian Park in College Station.

Elephant Bowl game cancelled

The Elephant Bowl, an annual football game between the senior members of the Corps of Cadets, played each year on Kyle Field, will not be held this year, says Todd Hedgepeth, Corps public relations officer. The game was scheduled for Sunday afternoon. Senior cadet Ben Briscoe said an on-campus sponsor for the game could not be found. After being unable to secure a sponsor, the senior cadets decided to organize it themselves, but due to a "lack of support," this year's game was cancelled, he said. Corps Commandant Col. James R. Woodall said: "They (the senior cadets) just didn't have time. By the time they got started, it was too late." Aggie Band members traditionally team up with cadets from the Air Force outfits to oppose cadets in the Army, Navy and Marine outfits. Proceeds usually benefit local charity.

Shuttle astronauts test robot arm, TV beams picture back

United Press International CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The shuttle's robot arm lifted a space environment monitor out of the payload bay today in an important experiment that proved the remotely controlled skyhook will be able to launch satellites. Television cameras from the spacecraft showed the instrument assembly hanging from the end of the arm above the Columbia like a bass drum suspended from a cherry picker. It was a flawless performance for the most important test of the fourth day of the shuttle's weeklong, 3.4 million mile orbital endurance flight. "Hey, that's good news," said astronaut Sally Ride in Houston control when commander Jack Lousma reported the payload lifting operation was performing smoothly on the Columbia's 48th orbit. After a brief up and down test, Gordon Fullerton had the \$100 mil-

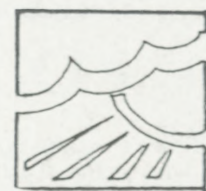
lion, Canadian-built boom hoist the 350-pound assembly of magnetic and electric field detectors above the ship. He moved it to various positions to map the electrical characteristics of the thin upper fringes of the ionosphere as the shuttle plowed through it. The color telecast came as the shuttle crossed the cloud-covered Kennedy Space Center launch site on the 50th orbit. The shuttle was pointed nose toward the sun at the time, with the tail facing Earth. The arm is the key to the shuttle's future operations. It will help launch satellites — the shuttle's No. 1 job — and it will reach out and grab satellites already out in orbit for repair. It also can be used to help in eventual space construction projects. "No surprises," said Fullerton, referring to the arm's operation. "If there are any surprises, they are all pleasant. I'm really impressed with

that piece of machinery." Fullerton was the man running the arm, and he radioed back periodic reports on its progress. To see how the arm performed with a payload attached to it, a scientific instrument assembly — called plasma diagnostics package or PDP — which was designed at the University of Iowa, was put out on the arm. "I got the PDP out in the breeze," Fullerton reported, meaning it was away from the 112-ton spaceship, but still locked to the end of the 50-foot arm. He then moved the arm to see how it performed with the payload attached to it. The test, originally scheduled for Wednesday, began when Fullerton unlatched the arm from its mounts on the side of the payload bay. Then, watching from a back window in the Columbia's cabin, he guided the electrically-powered

boom to a special fixture on the instrument package located in the aft end of the ship's 60-foot long payload bay. He steered the arm without the benefit of a television camera, which had failed. Once lined up with a grappling knob on the instrument assembly, a 42-inch wide cylinder resembling an oversized hatbox, Fullerton activated three snare wires, tightened the arm's grasp and locked its end to the instrument. Then the instrument assembly was unlatched from its mount and the arm lifted it from the cargo compartment. Fullerton, using hand controls in the cabin, then lowered the instrument back to its mount in a berthing test before raising the instrument again. Television beamed the show back to Earth.

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forecast

Today's forecast: Clear becoming cloudy and cool with a high in the upper 60s and a low in the lower 50s. Saturday's forecast also calls for overcast skies and cool temperatures.