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Chicago elects first black mayor

CHICAGO — Rep. Harold Washington, surviving one of the bitterest racial campaigns in American political history, was elected Chicago's first black mayor early today, defeating Republican challenger Bernard ...

this city" and urged his supporters to do the same.

With 99 percent of the vote counted, all but 29 of the city's 2,914 precincts, Washington had 656,727 votes or 51.6 percent to Epton's 617,159 or 48.4 percent.

Washington combined almost solid black support with enough white and Latino votes to fend off Epton's threat to become the city's first Republican mayor in 52 years.

Chicago Democrats immediately

began talking peace after the racially ugly campaign. Washington and Epton had pledged before the election to hold a unity breakfast later today to help restore harmony in the nation's second largest city.

National Democratic leaders called the victory the opening shot in the battle to regain the White House next year through a coalition of poor, minority and working people hurt by Reaganomics.

Epton, a former state legislator,

was a virtual unknown before Washington won the Democratic primary. His dramatic increase in support was attributed almost entirely to racial motivations.

Washington beamed as he listened to thousands of wildly cheering supporters scream "Harold, Harold, Harold," at his headquarters. He predicted a new national coalition as the result of his victory.

"Our most important concern at this moment is unity," Washington

said. There was a record turnout for a city election — well over 80 percent of registered voters. The turnout was boosted both by the intense interest in the race and by the first nice weather in weeks, including sunny skies during the morning and temperatures in the 50s.

Epton rolled up a big vote in white, ethnic and historically Democratic wards on the Northwest and Southwest sides. Those areas gave the Re-

publican between 82 and 86 percent of the vote.

But Washington did well in the mostly white, liberal lakefront wards, winning about 45 percent of the vote. And Washington also won substantial support — more than a majority — in Hispanic wards.

But as in his upset primary victory over Mayor Jane Byrne, Washington won thousands of votes from newly registered black voters.

Student body chooses Jordan

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff

Joe Jordan, a senior physics major at Fannett, was elected student body president by a margin of almost 100 percent in Tuesday's runoff election.

Jordan received 1,896 votes — 66 percent. Joe Nussbaum, the runner-up, received 951 votes — 32.9 percent.

"I'm really happy and relieved it's all over, we put a lot into the campaign," Jordan said about the election. "I'm ready now to get in and start working."

Jordan's first duty as president is to appoint people to Student Government committees. This involves taking applications and holding interviews.

"It's quite a lot of work to do for three weeks," Jordan said. "Pushing elections back a week really took a

lot of time away."

Runoff elections originally were scheduled to be April 5. The runoff elections were postponed a week because of computer problems with the regular election results.

While setting up in the office of president will take up most of Jordan's time, he said he will begin working toward the goals mentioned in his campaign.

Jordan's goals include working with the Corps of Cadets and the Residence Hall Association to increase dorm unity and involvement, increasing on-campus recreation facilities, establishing longer library hours, establishing and maintaining better communication and cooperation between Student Government and other student organizations and establishing an open-door policy for the office of student body president.

Jordan served on the student senate this year as the College of Science senator-at-large.



Stained glasses

Kirk Houser, a stained glass craftsman from Bastrop, puts the final touches on a kaleidoscope he made from stained glass and a metal tube (below). Houser was one of the many craftsmen at the Memorial Student Center Craft Festival Tuesday in front of Rudder Tower. Leslie Klinksiek, a sophomore political science major from Fredericksburg, examines a completed kaleidoscope (left).

staff photo by Eric Evan Lee



State minority plan due

by Robert McGlohon
Battalion Staff

May 9 will be a red-letter day in Mexican-American history, says Norma Solis Cantu, an attorney for the nationwide Mexican-American Legal and Educational Fund.

On that day, she says, the state of Texas will submit to the U.S. Department of Education a comprehensive plan for increasing minority enrollment in state universities. Following the submission, Cantu says, one of two things will happen:

—If the plan is a good one, radical changes will come about in the administration policies of Texas state universities.

—If the plan is weak, the Department of Education will take Texas to court.

Cantu expressed that view to an audience of 50 in Rudder Tower Tuesday night. Her visit to Texas A&M was sponsored by the Chicano Graduate Student Association and the Committee for Awareness of Mexican-American Culture.

Cantu began the program by examining the history behind Texas'

the state was given a 90-day extension — and then it was given another 90-day extension.

That continued through 1982, a year in which almost nothing happened concerning the case, Cantu said.

In February, Texas was given a final deadline: May 9. And Cantu said that one of two roads will lead from that deadline — the road to change or the one to court.

She expressed confidence in Texas' ability to come up with an acceptable proposal. While the plan probably won't be perfect, she said, it probably will be workable.

She explained that Texas probably will take the path of least resistance — a court battle would be a costly one.

The biggest obstacle to affirmative action — in Texas or any other state — is money, Cantu said. A college education for one student costs about the same as 10 miles of highway.

"Maybe we should have a few more bumpy roads," she said, "and a few more sufficient students — or literate. I'd settle for that."

Corps chooses first woman for brigade staff position

by Stephanie M. Ross
Battalion Reporter

Amid the rush of khaki-clad cadets in Duncan Dining Hall stands Bonnie Krumpotic. She first looks down at her clipboard and then up to survey the scene, searching out chairs for

cadets who didn't find a seat with their outfits.

This is just one of Krumpotic's duties as the new supply sergeant on the brigade staff. She is the first woman to be chosen for a brigade staff position.

The brigade staff is directly under the Corps staff and is in charge of the Army battalion staffs.

Krumpotic came to Texas A&M as a sophomore, and after one year in the Corps was chosen for the brigade staff. When she first came here, she didn't have plans to be in the Corps, but she said she liked the closeness of the women and decided that the group was for her.

Her new position is seen by many as controversial, because staff positions in the upper ranks of the Corps traditionally are held by men.

"I don't anticipate any extraordinary problems," Krumpotic said. The only problems she said she anticipates are the adjustments anyone needs to make in a new position.

Preston Abbott, the new Corps commander, said any problems will work themselves out.

"I'm sure that initially she will have some problems, but everything will work out," Abbott said. "If there's any girl that can do it, it's her."

Choosing Krumpotic for brigade staff was not an attempt to integrate the upper ranks of the Corps, Abbott said, because no one is chosen simply because they are male or female. Krumpotic was qualified for the job and that's why she was chosen, he said.

The attitude toward women in the Corps is changing — they are becoming more accepted by the men, Abbott said.

Krumpotic said everyone has been cooperative so far, and she said it is evident by the action of the cadets who work with her.



staff photo by Eric Evan Lee

Bonnie Krumpotic, supply sergeant for the brigade staff, confers with Tim Martini in Duncan Dining Hall Monday night.

IRS refunds behind

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service reports tax refunds are running 6.3 percent behind last year's, giving consumers less money to fuel the economic recovery.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday retail sales for the January-March quarter actually were below those in the recession-struck fourth quarter of last year.

And the IRS says its refunds so far are less than last year's, despite the expectation that as much as a third of last year's tax cut would arrive in this year's mail in the form of refund checks.

The combination of the two figures sparked new concern within the administration that the recovery, only

recently thought to be vigorous, already may be leveling off.

"It's confusing to hear refunds are running behind last year," Commerce Department Chief Economist Robert Ortner said.

"We were expecting to get a little boost," he said, "an indirect tax cut in the form of refunds from last year."

Although a 10 percent tax cut took effect July 1, 1982, the Commerce Department found it was only pumping about 6 percent worth of tax savings into wallets and pocketbooks.

The IRS explained that at the time, withholding tables employers used had too few categories to accurately shave taxes by 10 percent, but the rest would be delivered in the 1982 tax refunds claimed this year.

Overall retail sales went up only 0.3

percent in March despite a 3.5 percent increase in auto sales, the Commerce Department said.

"If we don't get some kind of at least modest improvement in consumer spending in the second half there is nothing left to sustain the recovery," economist Sandra Shaber, of the Chase Econometrics analysis firm, said after the figures were released. "The bottom line is that wages and salaries are extremely weak."

Ortner was far more optimistic that consumer spending would pick up soon. But, "if retail sales do not pick up there is no recovery," he said.

For March alone retailers reported Americans spent \$91.5 billion, just 0.7 percent above the level of sales six months earlier when the recession was getting worse.

House prepares DWI legislation

AUSTIN — A comprehensive package of DWI legislation, described by one lawmaker as an answer to the public's "cry for justice" against drunk drivers, should be ready for House debate by the end of the month.

The Senate already has approved a DWI package by Sen. Bill Sarpalus, D-Hereford.

Sarpalus' proposal — along with 18 House-sponsored bills to increase penalties for driving while intoxicated, aid the prosecution of drunk drivers and provide treatment for repeat offenders — were scrutinized Tuesday by the House Law Enforcement Committee.

The committee took no action on the proposals and will discuss them in more detail next Monday. Committee Chairman Wayne Peveto, D-Orange, said he anticipated a comprehensive DWI measure would be sent to the House by April 26.

Sarpalus' proposal would stiffen

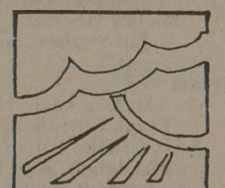
penalties for first offenders and repeat offenders; require that all convictions, including probation, be made part of a driver's permanent record; mandate rehabilitative treatment for repeat offenders; allow a person's refusal to submit to a breathalyzer test to be used as evidence in court; define intoxication as .1 percent blood alcohol level; and allow insurance companies to assess higher fees for three years beyond a person's DWI conviction.

House Speaker Gib Lewis, who was criticized early in the session by some House members who claimed he wanted to kill DWI proposals, was a co-sponsor of Sarpalus' package.

Another bill before the committee would allow judges to sentence first-time DWI offenders to picking up litter on highways. The measure's author said the public's awareness of the DWI problem would be heightened when they saw people "with DWI written across their backs" collecting trash on roadways.

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forecast

Partly cloudy skies today with a high of 84. Southerly winds of around 20 mph. Partly cloudy tonight with a low near 58. For Wednesday, a 20 percent chance of morning showers, otherwise partly cloudy with a high near 79.