

UIL eligibility rule
disputed

See page 10

New Military Institute
comes to A&M

See page 3

Lucas' lawyers seek
change of venue

See page 9

The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol 78 No. 99 USPS 0453110 12 pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, February 21, 1984

Mondale's the winner in the Iowa caucuses

United Press International
DES MOINES, Iowa — Former Vice President Walter Mondale won the Iowa precinct caucuses Monday, overwhelming the other seven Democratic contenders in the first major vote of the 1984 presidential campaign.

Mondale combined the best campaign organization in the state with an army of union volunteers to grab nearly half the total vote. The other Democratic contenders ran far behind, with Sens. Gary Hart of Colorado, John Glenn of Ohio and Alan Cranston of California and former Sen. George McGovern of South Dakota fighting for second.

NBC said Hart could finish second, Glenn, who had been considered as Mondale's closest rival, was running back in the pack in the early returns.

At 9:05 CST, with 28 percent of the precincts reporting, Mondale had 11,400 or 47 percent; Hart 3,261 or 14 percent; McGovern 2,747 or 11 percent; Cranston 2,255 or 9 percent; uncommitted delegates had 1,659 votes or 7 percent; Glenn 1,492 or 6 percent; former Florida Gov. Rubeen Askew 795 or 3 percent; civil rights activist Jesse Jackson 815 or 3 percent, and Sen. Ernest Hollings, 55 or 0 percent.

The first round votes were only an indication of Mondale's popular strength. Before the final tally in the caucuses which decides the allocation of delegates the figures could change

but the results will be overwhelmingly in Mondale's favor.

President Reagan, seeking to steal some of the spotlight from the Democrats, spoke at large rallies in Waterloo and Des Moines and denounced the eight Democratic challengers as captives of a "dinosaur mentality" with a record of failed leadership.

The Iowa caucuses are the first public vote of the 1984 contest. McGovern got his start toward winning the nomination with a strong and unexpected second place finish here in 1972 and in 1976 an almost unknown Jimmy Carter scored an upset by winning Iowa.

Democrats began gathering at 8 p.m. CST in informal meetings in church basements, firehalls and living rooms in the state's 2,495 precincts, divided into groups according to candidate preference and cast a public ballot for their favorites. They also can vote for uncommitted delegates.

At stake are 50 delegates to the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco in July. Monday's caucuses actually are only the first step in the selection process but the breakdown by candidate will be clear after the voting. Eight other delegates will be selected by the Democratic party.

The turnout in the Democratic race was expected to be less than the 100,000 who came out in 1980 in the bitter battle between a victorious

President Carter and Sen. Edward Kennedy.

The weather was balmy for Iowa in February — sunny and clear with temperatures in the high 40s. But many Iowans were expected to follow their normal pursuits including the first round of the state high school basketball tournament.

"The candidates in the other party have already laid out a strategy of promising everything to everybody," Reagan said. "Yes, we Republicans make promises, but not to special interest groups to be paid from the public treasury and not promises that cancel each other out."

Asked whether Reagan was referring to Mondale, White House spokesman Larry Speakes replied, "If the shoe fits, wear it."

As he arrived in Des Moines to prepare for a victory celebration, Mondale gave an indication of what a general election campaign might be like, hammering away at Reagan for high budget deficits, unfairness and a stepped up arms race.

He said Iowa Democrats would tell Reagan, "You can fool all of the people some of the time and you can fool some of the people all of the time. But Mr. President, in 1984, you're going to find out you can't fool all of the people all of the time."

Hollings wrote off the Iowa results, saying the first vote of any significance is next Tuesday's New Hampshire primary.

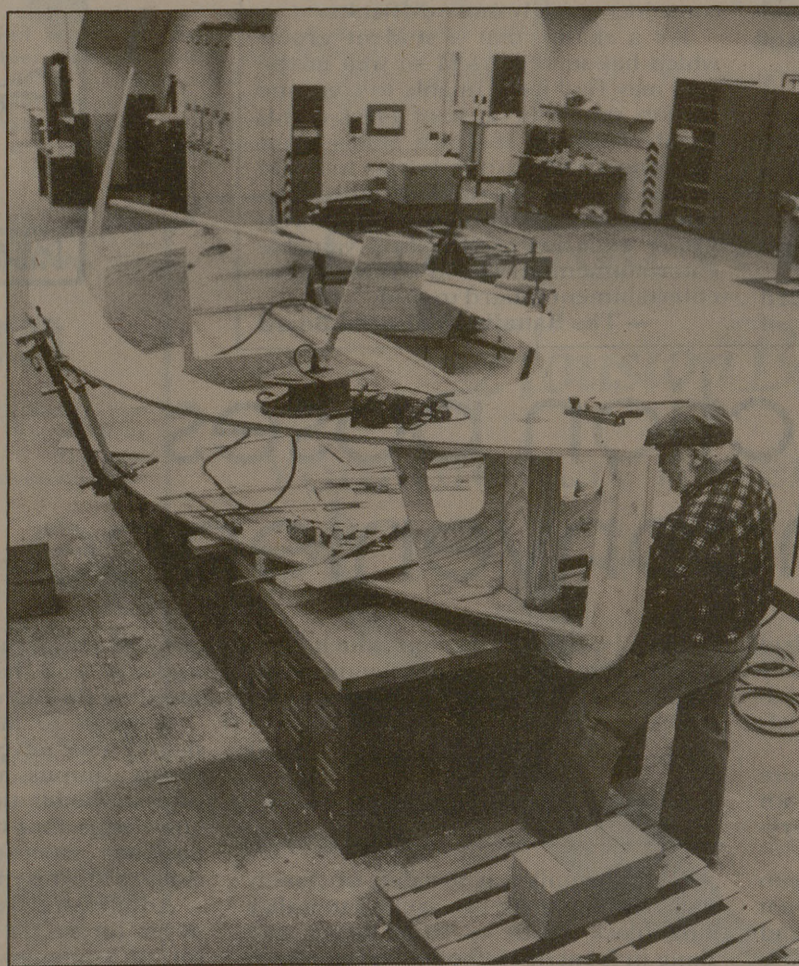


Photo by JOHN RYAN

But will it float?

Joe McGraw, a professor in the Environmental Design Department works on his 15-foot motor/sail Pocket Cruiser in the Building Construction workshop in building B of the Langford Architecture Complex.

French miners striking

United Press International

PARIS — Coal miners went on strike and virtually halted production Monday, bringing new labor troubles to France as a truckers strike that had stalled traffic for days began winding down.

Italian customs workers, whose strike last week contributed to the truckers' protest, renewed a limited job action Monday, refusing to work after 2 p.m. for the rest of this week.

In most regions of France, drivers removed highway blockades in anticipation of a meeting between union leaders and government officials on the truckers' demands for faster customs clearance and reduced road and fuel taxes.

But three major highways remained blocked despite union appeals to end the protest. Others had only one lane open.

Unionized drivers in the Alpine region of Savoie who met with government officials Monday in a prelude to Tuesday's talks with the transport minister and said the government appeared ready to concede to demands to allow border crossings during customs strikes, longer work weeks and border crossings on weekends.

An estimated 60,000 mining jobs will be eliminated in the plan to cut deficits in nationalized industries by 1988.

Lebanese army units attacked by Moslem rebel

United Press International

BEIRUT — Moslem rebels probed the defenses of the government's last stronghold outside Beirut Monday, attacking army units in the mountains east of the capital. Rebel leaders discussed opening a new offensive from the north.

A Saudi Arabian diplomatic effort to stop the fighting shifted to Damascus, where a Saudi mediator arrived to brief Syrian officials and the visiting Saudi crown prince on his talks with Lebanese officials in Beirut.

A spokesman for the U.S. Marines said heavy equipment and some non-combat troops were being evacuated from the airport base for the second straight day. The main contingent of about 1,220 troops had no orders to move, he said.

Renewed fighting broke out Monday morning in the mountains over-

looking Beirut, where Moslem forces are massed against Souk al Gharb, a town that guards the entrances to President Amin Gemayel's palace in the east Beirut suburb of Baabda.

"Armed men tried to launch another attack at 6 a.m. on our forces in Souk el Gharb Monday from a cluster of deserted buildings on the outskirts of the nearby village of Kaifoun," a Lebanese army spokesman said.

The two sides traded heavy artillery fire during the day, although the shelling died off after nightfall. Flashes of gunfire continued over Souk al Gharb into the evening.

A Lebanese military spokesman said 15 anti-government militiamen were killed or wounded in the Monday fighting and another 16 rebels were killed on Sunday.

The artillery battles that began late

Sunday were the heaviest since the Druze drove the crumbling Lebanese army from its other positions in the mountains. Souk al Gharb is the last army stronghold outside Beirut.

The army and Shiite militias also exchanged mortar and heavy machine-gun fire across the Green Line dividing the Christian and Moslem sectors of Beirut. The Moslems are fighting for a greater share of power in the Christian-dominated government.

The government also faced a possible new threat. Amal Shiite militia chief Nabih Berri met with other rebel leaders near the northern port of Tripoli to discuss opening a second front against government-held east Beirut.

Sources close to Berri said he met with Gemayel's main Christian rival, Suleiman Franjeh, who has about

1,000 troops in his Marada militia in northern Lebanon.

Franjeh, a former president, has a blood feud with Gemayel's family, which leads the right-wing Christian Phalange Party. "All Phalangist elements should be cleansed from the Lebanese government," Franjeh said after the meeting.

Druze Moslem leader Walid Jumblatt, Franjeh and former prime minister and Sunni Moslem leader Rashid Karami make up the Syrian-backed National Salvation Front fighting Gemayel.

In Damascus, official Syrian radio monitored in Beirut said Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz arrived in the Syrian capital Monday. The prince was reportedly following up on a Saudi initiative that ended in failure last week when Syria rejected an eight-point peace plan.

Gemayel recalled Foreign Minister Elie Salem, who was headed to Washington, after a call to "Lebanese officials" from Saudi Arabia's Lebanon mediator in Beirut, Rafik Hariri, the Central News Agency said.

Salem, Gemayel and Hariri met late Monday at the Baabda presidential palace before Hariri flew to Damascus, state-run television said.

The Syrians object to the peace plan, a blueprint for the withdrawal of all Syrian and Israeli forces from Lebanon, saying it implies that Syria is on an equal footing with the Jewish state, which Syria does not recognize.

The fighting around Beirut did not affect the smooth withdrawal from Beirut of the last of 1,100 Italian soldiers from the multinational

peacekeeping force. About 300 members of the crack San Marco marine battalion were to remain offshore on an Italian troop transport and 100 were to stay in Beirut to guard Italian institutions.

Shiite militiamen quickly moved into Beirut's Palestinian refugee camps, which the Italians had guarded since the September 1982 massacres of hundreds of refugees.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli military command reported a soldier was wounded in an ambush at the "southern approaches of Sidon," a southern Lebanese port. It was the second reported attack against Israeli soldiers in the occupied city in 24 hours.

Jailbreak Deputies predict capture of escapees

United Press International

ALEXANDRIA, La. — Authorities received tips they believe will lead them to the capture Tuesday of a murder suspect and another fugitive who broke out of the parish jail with seven other prisoners this weekend, a deputy said Monday.

Nine inmates hacked through metal bars on the fourth-floor Rapides Parish Jail late Friday, broke a window and scaled to freedom down a rope made of ripped bedsheets and towels.

At least seven have been recaptured.

Two Pineville men, however, remained at large late Monday. Authorities said they were searching for Bryan L. Brown, 19, awaiting trial on charges of first-degree murder and attempted murder, and Bruce Oxner, 21, awaiting trial on a burglary charge and 13 theft counts.

Deputy John Betar said Monday said the escape was undetected for two hours, because the inmates fled between the time dinner was served

and jailers checked the cells at night. Steven Beech, 20, of Alexandria, who was awaiting trial on charges of burglary and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, was recaptured several hours after the twilight breakout.

Five other fugitives were arrested Saturday, including Lee Credeur, 22, of Lafayette and Leonard Erving, 40, Jerry Lee Hampton, 30, Edward Kirts, 27, and Richard Dennard, 19, all of Alexandria.

Jackson was serving a 10-year sentence for a 1983 burglary conviction. Deputy H.M. "Buddy" Norman said the escape was undetected for two hours, because the inmates fled between the time dinner was served

and jailers checked the cells at night.

Deputies were unaware of the nine-prisoner jailbreak until 8:30 p.m. Friday — two hours after the breakout — when they arrested escaped inmate Larry O. Jackson allegedly trying to burglarize the R.J. Jones & Son hardware store in Alexandria, officials said.

Jackson was serving a 10-year sentence for a 1983 burglary conviction.

Deputy H.M. "Buddy" Norman said the escape was undetected for two hours, because the inmates fled between the time dinner was served

Search intensifies for missing fugitives

United Press International

MASON, Tenn. — The search for three "extremely dangerous" fugitives moved 23 miles southwest Monday to near Mason where a Tennessee Highway Patrol officer reported sighting one of the prisoners in a cul-de-sac.

"A highway patrolman definitely spotted one of the convicts in Mason," said Dick Baumbach, spokesman from the state Correction Department. "The focus of the search is now shifting toward Mason."

Baumbach said the inmate was seen about 5:20 p.m. A large group of searchers were being sent to the scene, about 23 miles southwest of Brownsville where the three prisoners had been spotted Sunday.

Haywood County Chief Deputy Jim Parks said earlier the men had apparently eluded a dragnet of police and bloodhounds and slipped out of a forest near Brownsville.

Authorities believe they saw two of the escaped convicts running down a railroad track Sunday night, but

Parks said a sweep of the area turned up no sign of them.

Authorities helped Brownsville area residents search their homes and outbuildings for the fugitives Monday and one elderly woman was evacuated from her remote home because the convicts have already held two families hostage.

The three were among five convicts who produced pistols apparently left for them in a field at Fort Pillow Prison, 40 miles from Brownsville, and escaped Saturday.

The three believed traveling together were identified as Ronald Freeman, 41, serving 198 years for two murders; Riley Arzencaux, 26, doing 25 years for murder, and James Clegg, 30, serving life as a habitual criminal.

Randolph Oliver, 32, a convicted murderer, was caught Sunday walking down a road. The fifth fugitive, Sylvester Alexander, 23, serving 40 years for armed robbery, was believed to have fled the area in a Cadillac stolen at a Brownsville market.

In Today's Battalion

Local

- Dr. Annette M. Lopez, the new affirmative action officer at Texas A&M, says getting people to realize their prejudices is her goal while she holds the office. See story page 7.
- The Houston Cougars basketball team jumps to third place in the UPI College ratings. See story page 9.
- The Student Wellness Network is trying to get students and others interested in the service and in becoming members. See story page 5.

State

- A Texas education subcommittee endorses longer school days, mandatory tutoring. See story page 3.
- Texas police are considering bringing charges on a Vietnam veteran with a history of mental illness for taking a hostage in an Air Force hospital. See story page 5.