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# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Dorm fees may rise 6 percent

By KARI WEEKS  
Reporter

Texas A&M's business services director says that a proposal to increase dormitory fees by about 6 percent is being considered by the System Board of Regents.

The Texas A&M System Board of Regents is scheduled to discuss the proposal Tuesday and business director Don Powell said he sees no reason why the increase will not be approved.

If the increase is approved, the measure will take effect Sept. 1, Powell said. Gerald Smith, associate director of business services, said dorm fees have gone up every year since 1976. The proposed increase is less than last year's increase of 10 percent.

The housing budget for 1984 was about \$12 million as compared to the projected 1985 budget of about \$13 million, Smith said. Part of the increase is attributed to the escalating costs of utilities which are partly caused by higher prices for natural gas, he said. Utilities account for 46.3 percent of the housing budget.

Smith showed the following per semester comparison of current dormitory fees to the proposed fees:

- Non-air conditioned — \$313 to \$332
- Bobby K — \$32
- Corps — \$504 to \$534
- Suite — \$555 to \$588
- Leggett — \$582 to \$616
- Modular — \$746 to \$790
- Commons — \$778 to \$825

Powell suggested students could help offset the increase by conserving electricity. Also, they could report vandalism so that those responsible for the damage could be found to pay for the repairs, he said.

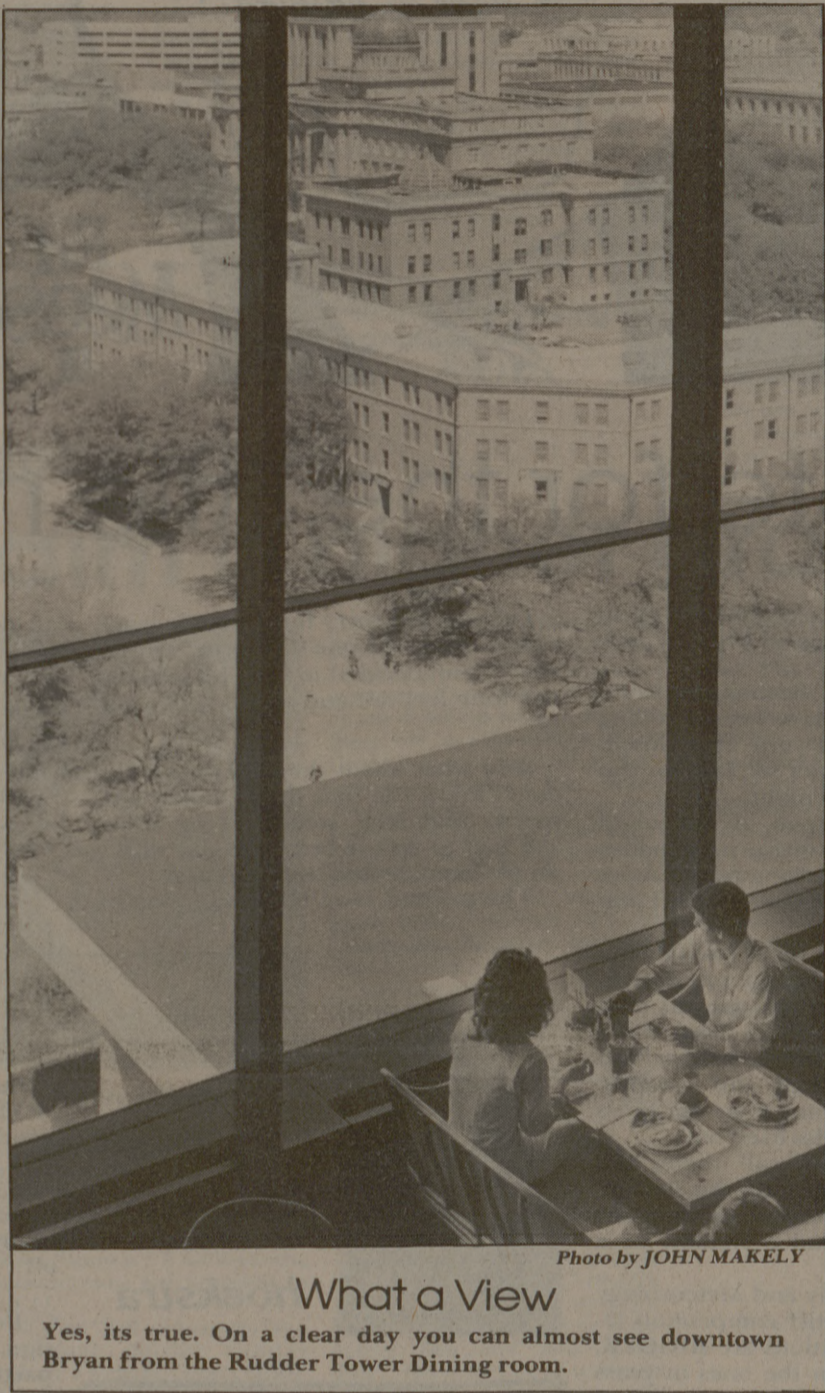


Photo by JOHN MAKELY

### What a View

Yes, it's true. On a clear day you can almost see downtown Bryan from the Rudder Tower Dining room.

## Senate strikes down prayer amendment

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Senate soundly defeated a constitutional amendment Tuesday allowing children to pray aloud in public school, dealing a major political defeat to President Reagan and the religious right.

"The issue of free religious speech is not dead as a result of this vote," Reagan said in a statement. "We have suffered a setback but we have not been defeated. Our struggle will go on."

The 56-44 vote fell 11 ballots short of the two-thirds needed to pass a constitutional amendment. It was one of the rare occasions when all 100 members of the Senate showed up for a vote, and then lined the chamber waiting to see what the final count would be.

When the defeat was announced, conservative Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., rose on the floor to issue a warning.

"We have just begun to fight. Round one is over but so long as I'm in the United States Senate, there will be many more rounds to come," declared Helms, adding that he will

pursue his fight for legislation stripping the Supreme Court of jurisdiction over issues like school prayer, busing and abortion.

"The Constitution is safe for at least one more day," said the triumphant Sen. Lowell Weicker, R-Conn., who led opposition to the amendment during two and a half weeks of debate.

The rejection was a sharp blow to Reagan, who lobbied intensively for the amendment, which would allow spoken prayer in public schools without saying who will pick or lead the prayer. It also says no child may be forced to participate.

Reagan argued God should never have been "expelled" from the nation's classrooms by a Supreme Court ruling more than 20 years ago outlawing state-sponsored prayer in school.

The Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell said the religious right will respond by defeating politicians who do not support vocal prayer.

"Like those of ancient Israel who cried out to their oppressors 'Let my people go,' those of us who are op-

pressed by our political leadership today are also crying to them to let us go — or we plan we to let them go in November," Falwell said in a statement.

Some senators complained the politically motivated tactics of those supporting the amendment will make school prayer an explosive election-year issue.

A well-financed campaign behind Reagan's amendment has been waged by conservative religious groups like the Moral Majority, inundating Capitol Hill with thousands of letters and calls urging the amendment's passage. Their demands have been echoed by Reagan, who has made school prayer a cornerstone of his re-election campaign.

Sen. James Exon, D-Neb., feared colleagues would be "unfairly attacked for voting their convictions" and said Reagan should not make school prayer an election issue.

"If he does, it may prove that the president of the United States is not as sincere" as he claims, Exon said.

## Mondale wins in Illinois

United Press International

CHICAGO — Walter Mondale regained the momentum in his drive for the Democratic presidential nomination Tuesday, defeating Sen. Gary Hart in the bitterly fought Illinois primary.

Mondale — aided by a heavy union vote and the old Cook County Democratic machine — built up a tremendous edge in Chicago and its suburbs to win the first big industrial midwestern state primary of 1984 despite a huge black vote for civil rights activist Jesse Jackson.

While the popular vote was close, the former vice president won a big chunk of the 171 Illinois delegates at stake to widen his lead over Hart in the battle for the nomination.

Mondale's come-from-behind victory came at a critical time in the 1984 primary season and gave him a leg up on Hart going into the big New York and Pennsylvania primaries early next month.

But Hart is still favored next week in Connecticut and is far from out of the race, which could be a marathon all the way to the Democratic National Convention in July in San Francisco.

"Obviously I'm pleased with the results," Mondale, at home in St. Paul, Minn., said. "I came out with a good margin."

"I think the arguments are mine, I think this case is building and my position is strengthening," he said. "But

I'm under no illusion that we're in anything but a long tough race."

With 51 percent of the precincts reporting in Illinois, Mondale had 390,224 votes or 42 percent, Hart had 313,390 votes or 34 percent and Jackson 189,539 votes or 21 percent. Jackson's showing was expected to surpass his previous best popular vote performance in the campaign — 21 percent of the vote in Georgia last Tuesday.

Mondale also took an early lead in Minnesota, where he was the heavy favorite in his home state, which had 75 delegates at stake in caucuses Tuesday night.

Before Illinois and Minnesota, he had a total of 542 delegates, more than a quarter of the 1,967 needed for the presidential nomination, while Hart had 318 and Jackson 79, with 268 uncommitted.

Asked if the win made him the front-runner again, Mondale said: "no it does not. We still have a long way to go."

In Washington, Hart congratulated his rival on his win, but said: "our victories will be added to very shortly." Looking down the road, Hart said he and Mondale "do agree on one thing. This race is not over. It will be a marathon."

Hart said the Illinois race strained the limited financial resources of his late-blooming campaign, while organized labor and the Chicago Demo-

cratic machine "performed very well" for Mondale.

"The message of new leadership will continue to be heard and received and accepted by a majority of the voters in our party," he predicted.

Hart did not have time to file complete delegate slates in all 22 congressional districts, assuring Mondale of grabbing the lion's share of the convention delegates at stake in Illinois.

Jackson talked like the candidate who won.

"I am delighted," he said in Chicago. "It was a tremendous showing. People have made a major statement about my candidacy. I am proud of the way Chicago responded to my campaign."

Asked about his poor showing among white voters, the stem-winding Baptist minister said: "That's not my fault. That's the fault of the white voters who still have some difficulty."

Mondale won despite Jackson's impressive showing in Chicago where the rights activist polled nearly 75 percent of the black votes.

Exit polling of voters by the networks showed that Mondale won the votes of older Democrats, Catholics, union households and most importantly among a large undecided vote that made up its mind in the final days and hours before the election.

## Democrats elect delegates

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats selected 25 delegates to the 1984 National Convention Tuesday, including Alan Cranston, John Glenn and Ernest Hollings who have withdrawn as presidential candidates.

A spot check showed nine supporting former Vice President Walter Mondale, two backing Colorado Sen. Gary Hart and 14 uncommitted.

Hollings endorsed Hart a week after pulling out of the race. Cranston and Glenn have made no endorsement.

Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd said only 25 of the 27 slots are filled but that the Democratic Na-

tional Committee has ruled the party caucus can fill the two vacancies later.

The 25 selected were the only ones among the 45 Democrats in the Senate who indicated to Byrd they were interested in attending the convention as Senate delegates.

Other Senate Democrats, including Byrd, are expected to attend as members of their state delegations.

The Senate delegates will be technically unpledged, but many have lined up behind a candidate.

The House earlier selected 164 members to attend the convention as unpledged delegates.

Senate delegates endorsing Mondale are (9): Sens. Jeff Bingaman, N.M., Dennis DeConcini, Ariz.; Alan

Dixon, Ill.; Thomas Eagleton, Mo.; Daniel Inouye, Hawaii; Patrick Leahy, Vt.; George Mitchell, Maine; Daniel Moynihan, N.Y.; and Paul Sarbanes, Md.

Senate delegates supporting Hart are (2): Sen. Ernest Hollings, S.C.; and Christopher Dodd, Conn.

Senate delegates uncommitted are (14): Sens. Max Baucus, Mont.; Lloyd Bentsen, Texas; David Boren, Okla.; Alan Cranston, Calif.; Wendell Ford, Ky.; John Glenn, Ohio; Carl Levin, Mich.; Spark Matsunaga, Hawaii; John Melcher, Mont.; Howard Metzenbaum, Ohio; Sam Nunn, Ga.; Claiborne Pell, R.I.; Donald Riegle, Mich.; and James Sasser, Tenn.

## Bummer

### Aggies react to regent's purchase of Cowboy franchise

By ROBIN BLACK  
Staff Writer

There is an almost-famous bumper sticker that says "Aggies and Cowboys — no place but Texas."

The association of the two goes further than a mere bumper sticker statement now that Texas A&M Board of Regents Chairman H. R. "Bum" Bright has become the head of a partnership that bought the Dallas Cowboys football team.

Aggies everywhere are sure to have something to say about anything involving their beloved institution, and students on campus Tuesday were no different.

"I think it's great that an Aggie owns the Cowboys, as long as he runs things the way they have been run in the past, in-

cluding letting Tex Schramm keep doing things the way he has been," says Shannon Harris, a sophomore biology major.

Bright has already said he will not change anything about the management of the team and that he would be even more invisible than previous Cowboys owner Clint Murchison.

Carl Allsup, a sophomore industrial engineering major, isn't worried about the team's future.

"Since they're keeping the same manager, it should make too much difference about the change in ownership because they'll continue to perform the same."

Michael O'Quinn, a sophomore management major, says "As long as the Cowboy organization keeps its present stan-

dards, it doesn't matter who owns the team."

Some Texas A&M students aren't quite so optimistic.

"I wouldn't be surprised if Bum Bright fancied himself a better coach than Tom Landry," Mike Gardner, a sophomore English major says. "I think he thinks he'll have more say in the team's activities than he will really be able to. Maybe he sees himself as a cheerleader."

As for Bright's Texas A&M connections?

Rich Swann, a senior management major, says: "Since Bum Bright bought the Cowboys, maybe Tom Landry should watch out for his job. Maybe Jackie Sherrill will have a new job."

Bright helped engineer the wooing of athletic Director

Jackie Sherrill away from his job as head coach of the University of Pittsburgh to replace Texas A&M coach Tom Wilson.

Jerry Beaver, a junior management major, seemed to agree with Swann.

"This might be a good place for Jackie Sherrill to get a job if the Aggies keep losing," he says.

Bright's purchase of America's Team didn't come cheaply; it cost the partnership \$80 million for the acquisition, the largest price ever paid for a sports franchise.

"He spent a lot of money," says Dena Fraini, a sophomore business administration major. "They're a good team, but I just don't think the Cowboys are worth that much."

Marc Bailey, a sophomore business major, kind of summed things up.

## In Today's Battalion

### Local

• Chuck Rollins, Corps Commander for 1984-85, discusses new goals and policies within the Corps. See story page 3.

• Campus police are beginning to crack down on all parking violators by towing more cars. See story page 3.

### State

• An 84-pound guard dog killed and partially mutilated a 4-week-old baby girl in Dallas. See story page 7.

### National

• Economists say the economy is growing at a steady 7.2 percent rate for the first three months of 1984. See story page 4.