

Discovery damage only minor — so far

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TV ruling's effect on colleges unsure

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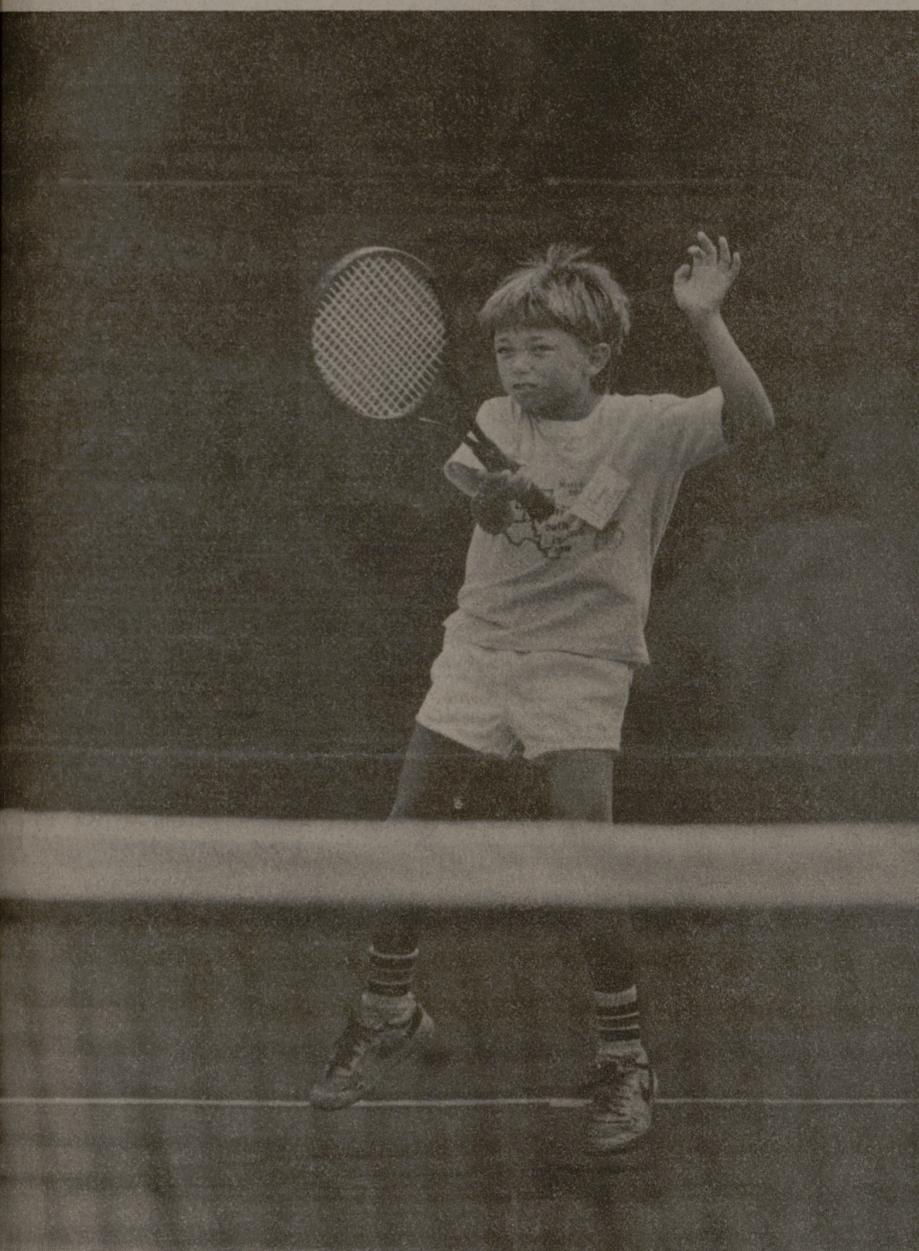
Texas A&M The Battalion

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Tennis Anyone?

Photo by PETER ROCHA

Bryan's Gage Gandy, 11, returns a serve at the Omar Smith tennis complex. Gandy is

attending the Texas A&M All Sports Camp which ends this Saturday.

75 percent increase in tuition proposed

By BILL ROBINSON

Senior Staff Writer

Students at state colleges and universities could be hit with a 75 percent increase in tuition costs this fall if Texas legislators approve a tax plan now being considered by the House of Representatives.

Tuition at all state-supported schools would rise from \$4 to \$7 per credit hour in the 1984-85 academic year as part of Rep. Stan Schlueter's \$4.9 billion tax package to fund public education and highway repairs. Schlueter, D-Killeen, is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Terry Kirkpatrick, a member of Schlueter's staff, says in-state tuition will increase to 15 percent and out-of-state to 75 percent of the total cost of education over a six year period.

"After it reaches 15 percent, tuition will be about \$19," Kirkpatrick says. "It's an increase of about 500 percent."

Non-resident tuition would remain about 10 times higher than Texas residents pay, or about \$190 per credit hour.

Texas A&M student leaders are

preparing a battle against the measure. The Texas A&M legislative study committee has called a press conference for 2 p.m. today in Austin, committee director Johnny Hatch says.

"As it stands right now we're going to be opposed to an increase in tuition for three reasons," Hatch says.

"First, they are simply raising tuition; second, they are doing it doing a special session when we don't have a chance to voice our opposition, and third, they are trying to introduce it on a tax bill — tuition is a fee not a tax, it should be introduced separately."

The committee's opposition is centered around the method legislators are taking to enact the increase.

"They suspended rules and didn't have to announce the committee hearing so we didn't even have an opportunity to testify," Hatch says.

"We are students and we do oppose a tuition increase, but we do realize that Texas is ranked 47th out of 50 states in tuition cost. The cost for you and I is \$108 per credit hour to

go to school — the state pays \$104 and you and I pay \$4.

"We realize that one of these days Texas is going to have to raise tuition — we just want to have a voice in it."

Texas students now pay for 3.7 percent of the cost of education and non-resident students pay 35 percent.

The increases in tuition will not benefit the state's colleges, though. Some state higher education funds would be shifted to public schools. Kirkpatrick says the state won't make any money off of the tuition plan.

"It doesn't raise any money — it takes a little pressure off of the state," he says.

The proposal to increase tuition costs did not surprise Texas A&M University System officials.

"Texas is, if not the lowest tuition in the nation, close to it," Board of Regents secretary Bob Cherry says. "We've been expecting an increase for some time — it didn't come as a surprise."

Cherry says system officials would prefer low tuition if given a choice.

Committee completes education reform bill

United Press International

AUSTIN — A House-Senate conference committee ended negotiations Wednesday on a \$2.8 billion education reform bill but delayed a final vote on the measure, apparently fearing the entire education package could be scuttled if the Legislature fails to pass a tax bill.

The education bill is written to take effect Sept. 1, 1984, but lawmakers' rejection of a pending tax hike bill would effectively make the measure moot since no funds would be available to finance the education reforms.

If a tax bill failed, the education bill could be amended in the conference committee to take effect Sept. 1, 1985, giving the Legislature time in the January-May 1985 regular session to pass a tax increase.

"We've got a pretty good education bill," said Rep. Wayne Peveto, a member of the conference committee. "If we can't pass a tax bill, we could change it (the education bill) and make it effective in '85. That's

the strategy. The tax bill's in big trouble."

Also throwing a wrench into the education bill's progress was renewed opposition from teacher groups, who last week endorsed the House version of the bill.

"Even a dog knows the difference between being stumbled over and being kicked. As (the education bill) stands in its final form, Texas teachers are being kicked and the Texas State Teachers Association cannot support it," said TSTA President-elect Becky Brooks.

Teacher groups were angry that the conference committee took money from a career ladder plan for teachers to cut the cost of the measure. However, House leaders said they doubted the opposition would affect the bill's chances of adoption.

Once the House and Senate adopt the compromise education bill, it then heads to Gov. Mark White, who described it as "the best in the country" and promised to sign it into law.

The adoption of a plan to revamp

the state's complicated school financing system was the final step in the negotiations. Committee members agreed on a modified version of the House plan calling for the state to pick up about 65 percent of the cost of education with local school districts paying the rest.

Education Commissioner Raymon Bynum said the new system would better equalize funding between rich and poor school districts, but also could force some wealthier districts to raise taxes to make up for lost state revenue.

The bill requires teachers to pass a competency test by June 1986 in order to keep their jobs, allows school districts to decrease annual bonuses awarded in a four-level career ladder if the state fails to fully fund the ladder, forces students to pass all subjects (except honors courses) in order to participate in extracurricular activities, and mandates pre-kindergarten for poor and non-English-speaking 4-year-olds

Jackson obtains release of 22

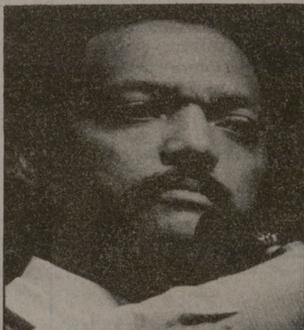
United Press International

HAVANA — Jesse Jackson announced Wednesday he will bring 22 American prisoners, most convicted on drug charges, home from Cuba Thursday, and said Fidel Castro agreed to review the list of political prisoners in Cuban jails.

The 22 jailed Americans will be met by the FBI, officials from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the U.S. Marshall Service, the Justice Department said in Washington.

With the Cuban president at his side at a post-midnight meeting with reporters, Jackson listed issues the two men discussed, with mixed results, in eight hours of talks, ranging from the prisoner questions to normalization of relations between the communist island and the United States.

After visiting the American prisoners in jail, the black Democratic presidential candidate was to fly to



High Court OKs college TV deals

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The NCAA suffered a multimillion-dollar jolt when the Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that colleges are free to cut their own deals for television coverage of football games.

With the 1984 football season only two months away, the court ruled 7-2 that the NCAA's arrangement to broadcast collegiate football on television networks violated federal antitrust law.

The ruling allows college teams — most notably traditional powerhouses — to reap more revenues by negotiating their own television packages for the upcoming season, which begins on Labor Day, rather than relying on the association.

A lower court had ruled the NCAA package was anti-competitive because it reduced the number of games available to TV viewers nationwide.

Writing for the high court, Justice John Paul Stevens held the NCAA's contracts placed a "ceiling on the number of games" that was an "artificial limit on the quantity of televised football that is available to broadcasters and consumers." He concluded that was an unreasonable

restraint trade in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

The NCAA's role of representing both large and small schools is not aided "by curtailing output and blunting the ability of member institutions to respond to consumer preference," Stevens wrote. Instead, the group "has restricted rather than enhanced the place of intercollegiate athletics in the nation's life."

NCAA's television rules do not promote equality among schools but only limit one source of revenue, Stevens noted. There is no evidence, he said, that this produces "any greater measure of equality through out the NCAA than would a restriction on alumni donations, tuition rates or any other revenue producing activity."

Justice Byron White, an All-America halfback who kept alive the NCAA schedule last fall by issuing a stay continuing the NCAA's broadcasting schedule, dissented.

Joined by Justice William Rehnquist, he argued the court erred in "treating intercollegiate athletics under the NCAA's control as a purely commercial venture, or even primarily, in the pursuit of profits."

In Today's Battalion

Local

- The College Station city manager says the city's land fill may fill up by the 1990s. See story page 3.
- A professor of agricultural engineering was appointed a Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. See story page 6.

State

- Interest groups lined up to criticize as unfair the Texas Legislature's proposed \$4.9 billion tax plan. See story page 3.

World

- Israeli warplanes bombed a suspected Palestinian guerrilla base hours after Israel and Syria announced a Red Cross-mediated prisoner exchange. See story page 10.