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Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol 79 No. 169 USPS 045360 10 pages

College Station, Texas

Thursday, July 12, 1984

Mondale chooses Ferraro for V.P.

United Press International

NORTH OAKS, Minn. — Walter Mondale has chosen Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, D-N.Y., to be his running mate, and she flew to Minneapolis early today to appear with him at a news conference, sources said today.

The sources said that Mondale decided on the 48-year-old congresswoman Wednesday and informed her immediately.

Asked if Ferraro was in the Minneapolis area early today, the source said, "yes."

If the Democratic National Convention meeting next week in San Francisco nominates Mondale and Ferraro as expected, it will be the first time in American history that a woman has been on the ticket of a major political party.

Reaction to the decision was swift. Jesse Jackson, who sought the Democratic presidential nomination

himself, said on ABC, "If she is the nominee, we must be positive about it. There are some advantages about a woman ... It's a step in the right direction and as far I'm concerned, a real victory for the rainbow coalition."

Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste said Ferraro was "a great choice, the right choice and a historic choice."

Ferraro's husband, John Zaccaro, told CBS in New York, "I'll be supporting my wife. I don't know what to say at this point. It's really overwhelming ... we're very straightforward people and we're trying to do whatever we can to help the ticket."

Ferraro, an attorney and three-term member of Congress, was put in the spotlight earlier this year as chairman of the Democratic Party Platform Committee, which writes the document that states the party's



Rep. Geraldine Ferraro

position on the major issues of the times.

The job is full of pitfalls, but Ferraro managed to satisfy Mondale's desire for a "thematic" platform without too many specifics while keeping both Gary Hart and Jesse Jackson relatively happy about the document as well.

Mondale planned to announce his choice formally at a noon EDT news conference at the Minnesota State Capitol in St. Paul.

San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, a strong contender, was notified she was not chosen, as were others on Mondale's list of candidates.

Mondale apparently bypassed Gary Hart, his chief rival, and ruled out Jesse Jackson, the only other challenger whose name will be put in nomination next week at the party convention in San Francisco.

Ironically, Hart said Wednesday

he would accept the second spot if Mondale offered it.

Mondale campaign chairman James Johnson announced Wednesday night that the former vice president called his choice about 6 p.m. CDT and made his offer, which was promptly accepted.

"Earlier this evening, Vice President Mondale came to the decision as to who his running mate will be in the 1984 election," Johnson told a crowded room of reporters.

"He has spoken with that person on the phone and asked his selection to be with him tomorrow at noon at the Minnesota State Capitol where he will announce his choice," Johnson added. "He is very pleased."

Washington attorney John Reilly, who was the chief adviser to Mondale on the selection, appeared to rule out Hart when he said Mondale had not talked to Hart.

Ferraro will accompany Mondale

Friday to his boyhood home of Elmore, Minn., and then to Lake Tahoe, Calif., where Mondale plans to remain for three nights before going to San Francisco Monday for the convention.

Others interviewed by Mondale for the post included San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros, Philadelphia Mayor W. Wilson Goode, Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley, Kentucky Gov. Martha Layne Collins and Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas.

Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., pulled himself out of consideration Tuesday, and Mondale was unsuccessful in convincing New York Gov. Mario Cuomo that he should allow his name to be considered.

Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, a close ally of Mondale, was also considered in the running, although never interviewed.

Engineering dean chosen

From Battalion news services

Texas A&M University has hired a new dean for its College of Engineering as part of an \$8 million pledge to build up the engineering school.

Dr. Herbert H. Richardson, 53, currently second in command of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's world-renowned engineering program, will become dean and vice chancellor for engineering at Texas A&M sometime in October.

Appointment of the eminent engineer/educator was jointly announced by Dr. Frank E. Vandiver, president of Texas A&M University, and Dr. Arthur G. Hansen, chancellor of the Texas A&M University System Wednesday. The appointment is subject to approval by Texas A&M regents, several of whom already have met Richardson and encouraged the administration to pursue him.

In the last three years, Texas A&M has spent millions to recruit big names such as football coach Jackie Sherill and Nobel laureates Sheldon Glashow and Norman Borlaug. Officials consider Richardson's hiring a similar coup.

"I think it's going to be a national, maybe an international statement that when we go for academic achievement, we go for the very best," Vandiver said.

Richardson will have responsibility for Texas A&M's 11,600-student College of Engineering — the nation's largest — and for the state's

three engineering-related research and public service agencies that are part of the Texas A&M University System: the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, Texas Engineering Extension Service and Texas Transportation Institute.

"We are extremely happy that Dr. Richardson is coming to head our engineering programs," Vandiver said. "His appointment will make an international declaration of Texas A&M's commitment to excellence in all respects."

The \$8 million package includes an agreement by Texas A&M officials to hire at least 50, and possibly as many as 100, more engineering faculty members over the next five years.

The University also agreed to provide more money for engineering facilities and programs and more endowed chairs to lure internationally-renowned faculty to the school.

Hansen cited Richardson's ties with industry and noted they complement his academic credentials.

"Not only does he bring excellent qualifications in the academic area but his great interest in developing cooperative relationships with industry should do much for continuing A&M's long-standing tradition of contributing to the state's economy," Hansen said.

Dr. Gordon Eaton, Texas A&M's provost and vice president for academic affairs, said announcement of Richardson's appointment will send out a "highly positive signal."

"Dr. Richardson's acceptance of our invitation to join the faculty and staff here sends out a highly positive signal to engineering faculties throughout the nation," he said.

In accepting the appointment, Richardson said he was impressed with the pride, enthusiasm and can-do spirit he witnessed at Texas A&M.

"I saw an obvious determination on the part of the regents, the administration and the faculty selectively to create world-class engineering activities at Texas A&M," Richardson said.

"I am looking forward to working to develop the people and programs which will be increasingly important in serving the needs of Texas and the nation in engineering education, new technology for human services and economic development, and new fundamental knowledge for the future."

Richardson said he intends to foster collaboration and cooperation among engineering activities in all parts of the Texas A&M system and joint activities in all parts of the Texas A&M management, education, architecture, medicine and the physical, biological and social sciences.

Texas A&M Senior Scholars Committee also has recommended that Richardson be named a Distinguished Professor of Engineering in conjunction with his appointment as

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Wishful thinking

Photo by ERIC EVAN LEE

Chris Heltzel, a senior microbiology major from Midland, sits in the cockpit of a Cessna 152 during the last meeting of his Industrial

Education 475 class. The class is aviation education and is taught primarily for those interested in a private pilots license.

In Today's Battalion

Local

• Tips on how to conserve energy in the summer. See story page 3.

State

• The Dallas Morning News won't press theft charges against one of Michael Jackson's security guards. See story page 10.
• An attorney asks a court to consider "parent-child privilege" in the case of a Houston couple asked to testify in a murder trial against their son. See story page 4.

National

• Reagan administration orders automakers to install air bags or other automatic passenger protections in cars by 1989. See story page 10.

World

• Thirty-three bodies were found in a Taiwan mining disaster. Eighteen rescued. See story page 6.

Caperton, Lewis praise education bill

By BILL ROBINSON
Senior Staff Writer

Brazos County's legislative delegation praised educational reforms and defended accompanying tax increases at a news conference in the Ramada Inn Penthouse Tuesday.

Sen. Kent Caperton and Rep. Neeley Lewis said the reform package approved by the Legislature last week is in Texas' best interests.

"It's significant," Lewis said. "There's a (reform) movement across the country and I think Texas is one of the leaders in that movement. We have made a firm commitment to put Texas where it needs to be."

Caperton agrees, but says implementation of the reforms won't be easy. He was especially critical of the provision calling for teacher competency testing.

"I frankly don't know how you qualify the chemistry that goes on between a teacher and students," he said. "I am at a loss to say how we're going to go out and measure competency. That's my biggest disappointment."

But Caperton says the positive aspects of the reform package — the appointed State Board of Education in particular — more than offset the bill's low points.

"This board is accountable instantly," he said. "We will have 15 members the state can focus on." Caperton said the current 27-



Rep. Neeley Lewis



Sen. Kent Caperton

member board is not accomplishing what it is supposed to accomplish. Lewis agreed, saying the smaller board is necessary to "drive the reforms forward."

Both men said the Legislature's

job reforming the state educational system was just beginning, though.

"We have set the framework, but we have a continuing job," Lewis said. "There may be some fine tuning areas."

One area Caperton wants adjustments in is the career ladder.

"Librarians — who are certified as teachers — are left out of the career ladder plan," Caperton said.

He says the oversight was a result of the Legislature's desire to get more money to the classroom teachers.

"The money was put into the classroom," he said. "I think that's a clear policy choice."

A \$4.8 billion tax plan was enacted to fund the educational reforms and highway improvements. Caperton and Lewis say that increase was necessary.

"I think the people of Texas realize the time had come to bite the bullet," Lewis said. "We needed to broaden the sales tax base. It was a tougher way to go, but I think it is the right way."

Caperton said the tax was designed with fairness in mind.

"I won't say it's the fairest," he said, "but I think we recognized where the loopholes were and closed those loopholes."

The legislators also discussed the deletion of a college tuition hike from the tax bill and the possibility of its being reintroduced during the regular session in January.

"We need to have an analysis of where we are and make adjustments," Lewis said. "I was opposed to having it crammed down our throats without proper notice."