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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Mondale is Democratic nominee

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — The Democratic Party nominated Walter Mondale as its presidential candidate Wednesday and sent the old-line liberal from Minnesota out to battle Ronald Reagan for the White House.

The state-by-state roll call went as Mondale's forces had expected and cheers exploded as the former vice president went over the 1,967 total needed for nomination when the vote from New Jersey was cast.

Gary Hart, Mondale's most persistent rival, arrived at the hall before the voting ended and was prepared to endorse Mondale before the session closed.

Initial attempts to gavel the Dem-

ocratic National Convention to order to complete the formality of the tally proved fruitless. The 6,000 delegates and alternates packed into the Moscone Center abandoned their gray folding chairs and swarmed over the litter-strewn floor as a huge blue-and-white Mondale beach ball careened over their heads.

Mondale's nomination came on the eve of the convention's history-making roll call to pick a woman — Rep. Geraldine Ferraro of New York — as its vice presidential standard-bearer in the crusade to drive the Reagan administration out of Washington.

Mondale, with his wife, Joan, and three children at his side, watched the balloting on television in his 35th floor hotel suite near the convention

site. The family hugged one another after Mondale clinched the nomination.

Chanting, squeals of delight and applause reverberated in a cacophony known only in American politics as the party united after a bitter and divisive primary season — but only after the names of Mondale's two major rivals, Gary Hart and Jesse Jackson, were put in nomination for a last hurrah.

Unexpectedly long nominating speeches and prolonged demonstrations, including two sandwiching a speech by Hart, thwarted Mondale's hope of having his first-ballot victory televised during prime time on the East Coast.

Mondale, who lived a heartbeat away from the presidency as Jimmy

Carter's No. 2 from 1977-1981, is a 56-year-old liberal from the mold of Hubert Humphrey, steeped in the party's New Deal tradition.

Hart, who battled for the nomination with tenacity, did not go down easily and his operatives worked the floor until the last minute, struggling to collect the votes to deny Mondale his goal.

Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, formally presenting Hart's nomination to the convention, said, "It is not too late to make the right decision. It is not too late to choose." But that was not the will of the convention.

Jackson was placed in nomination by Washington, D.C., Mayor Marion Barry, who said the civil rights

leader had "changed the course of American politics."

"The man I nominate tonight has brought us all together and for that the nation owes a debt of gratitude," Barry said.

Diehard Massachusetts supporters put the name of former Sen. George McGovern, the party's 1972 candidate who dropped out of this year's race early in the primary season, in nomination. McGovern withdrew following a brief speech denouncing President Reagan's foreign policy and calling for an end to the arms race.

On the convention floor, Hart operatives maneuvered right up to the roll call to shake loose enough delegates to deny Mondale a first-ballot nomination. But whips in the Mon-

dale command post just off the convention floor said there was nothing for their candidate to worry about.

Mondale was nominated by Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, who was once on the list of possible vice presidential candidates, with seconding speeches by Rep. Robert Garcia of New York and Texas State Treasurer Ann Richards.

"We want Fritz. We want Fritz," Mondale delegates shouted when Bradley began speaking, waving blue Mondale signs all across the hall.

The session had offered a prime-time swan song for Hart who made a final pitch for his campaign of "new ideas." The speech apparently did not shake loose any Mondale delegates.

Gunman shot after killing 20

United Press International

SAN DIEGO — A crazed gunman blasting away at random from a McDonald's restaurant in the worst single massacre in the nation's history Wednesday killed 20 people, slaughtering men and women and children on bicycles before police gunfire killed him.

"I've killed a thousand. I'll kill a thousand more," screamed the balding, 41-year-old assailant as he shot at patrons and passersby, picking off infants and adults with a variety of weapons including a shotgun, a rapid-fire rifle and a handgun.

His gory siege lasted from 4 p.m. PDT to 5:25 p.m., when a SWAT team sharp-shooter firing from the roof of an adjacent building killed the man, identified as James Huberty of San Diego.

The shooting ended in the worst multiple killing by a single gunman in U.S. history, topping the 1966 shooting of 16 people by a sniper from atop a tower at the University of Texas, Austin.

"It looked like something I've never seen before in my life — men, women, little children all shot," San Diego Police Chief William Kollender said.

"It was a sickening massacre," he said.

One of the dead was a 4-month-old girl. One of the 13 people injured was a 4-year-old girl.

"Even people lying on floor were moaning," one unidentified witness said. "He would go through the crowd picking them off one by one."

"There are piles of bodies in there," Police Cmdr. Larry Gore said.

The scene was a jumble of broken glass, blood and lifeless bodies. The McDonald's windows were riddled with bullet holes as were several car windows.



The Aggie Seat Photo by Peter Rocha

The Aggie Seat, an invention of three instructors at the fireman's training school which is especially useful in rescuing firefighters from caged ladders, is demonstrated Wednesday afternoon. See related story page 3.

Drop-add begins today

By SUZANNA YBARRA

Reporter

Open drop-add begins today for Texas A&M students who have registered for the 1984 fall semester and have their paid fee receipts or the pink copies of their schedules.

The three-week drop-add period will end Aug. 17, but drop-add days based on classification are scheduled Aug. 21-24. One more open drop-add is set for Aug. 27-31.

Those wishing to participate in drop-add between today and Aug. 17 must contact their academic departments first to make sure an adviser will be available on the day they plan to be on campus, Associate Registrar Don Carter said.

Students must have their advisers sign the drop-add slip before turn-

ing it in at the Pavilion, Carter said.

Students will receive their drop-add bills or refunds from the University by mail some time after the 12th class day, he said.

Since the paid fee receipt or the pink copy of the class schedule is required to drop-add, students who are living here and had their fee slips mailed to their permanent addresses have three choices before they can drop-add:

They can wait for someone to mail the pink copy of their schedule to them, drive home and pick up the pink copy, or pay their fees at the Coke Building and then pick up the original invoice.

"It has changed tremendously since last year," Carter said. He said this is the first time the

University has allowed students to drop-add during the summer. It is also the first time drop-add has been divided into classifications.

"We had to do something to monitor the flow of students into the Pavilion," Carter said.

The drop-add schedule after Aug. 17 will be:

Tuesday, Aug. 21: Delayed drop-add for graduate students and seniors.

Wednesday, Aug. 22: Delayed drop-add for juniors.

Thursday, Aug. 23: Delayed drop-add for sophomores.

Friday, Aug. 24: Delayed drop-add for freshmen.

Mon.-Fri., Aug. 27-31: Open drop-add for all students.

Sept. 3-11: Drops only for all students.

Reagan signs tax hike, spending cut package

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, anxious to send a message of reassurance to Wall Street, signed a \$63 billion package of spending cuts and tax increases Wednesday in a step toward bringing huge budget deficits under control.

Reagan, who praised the bill when it passed, signed the three-year measure without fanfare. In a one-paragraph written statement, he called the measure "important legislation," but did not mention the impetus behind the bill — the deficit the White House estimates at \$180 billion in fiscal 1985.

Rather, he devoted most of his brief statement to explaining why he "must vigorously object" to "the unconstitutionality" of provisions giving the legislative branch the power to block federal agencies' contract awards.

Under the new law, Congress' comptroller general is empowered

to review contract awards and order legal fees and other expenses paid by the agencies involved to third parties that successfully contest them. Reagan said the Justice Department will decide how executive agencies will handle the requirement.

The compromise agreement includes \$50 billion in tax increases and \$13 billion in spending reductions. About half the spending cuts are in Medicare.

The measure is part of a three-year, \$140 billion deficit reduction package, half of which is still awaiting action by Congress. Action on \$40 billion in defense spending cut-backs has been stalled by disagreement between the House, which wants to limit growth to 3.5 percent after inflation is taken into account, and Senate Republicans, who have stood behind Reagan's demand for 7 percent.

Reagan signed the legislation at a

time when concern about \$180 billion-plus deficits has helped drive up interest rates, a trend his political advisers consider worrisome in an election year.

The bill closes corporate tax loopholes; increases liquor taxes 20 percent; extends for two years, until Jan. 1, 1988, the 3 percent tax on long distance telephonic calls; forces Medicare recipients to pay more for doctor visits and freezes fees doctors collect from the government for treating Medicare patients.

The tax changes do not tamper with the personal tax cuts Reagan pushed through Congress early in his presidency. He threatened to veto any deficit-reduction measure that repealed the tax cuts or blunted their impact.

Even with the reductions provided, the government will remain awash in red ink for the foreseeable future.

Prairie View A&M: Students express concern

By REBECA ZIMMERMANN

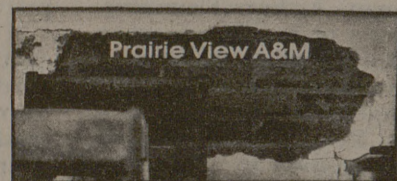
Editor

(Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series on Prairie View A&M University.)

While Texas A&M System administrators view the future of Prairie View A&M University with confidence and anticipation, students at Prairie View A&M are concerned with the present.

Students agree conditions at the university are improving and will improve even more, but meanwhile there are problems: facilities, academics and the quality of student life.

Kevin Dennis, the student body president of Prairie View A&M, calls recent and planned improvements



Prairie View A&M

the loss of traditional hangouts was emotional.

"It was like a funeral," Dennis says about the conversion of the main drag, a social area near the women's dorms, into a mall area. "People sat there and watched the bulldozers run up the cuts. That whole area used to be like a Mardi Gras."

The destruction of the main drag was disturbing, says Glenn Mackey, a senior engineering technology major from Chicago, but the area was a safety hazard.

The destruction of landmarks isn't widespread — it's all part of a master plan to upgrade facilities and beautify the campus, a long overdue process.

Three years ago, when Dr. Terry Anderson participated in the faculty

exchange program between Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M, he was shocked by conditions at Prairie View A&M.

"The situation was like primitive camping," says Anderson, an assistant professor of history at Texas A&M. The grass wasn't mowed, a garbage dump was in plain view and the stadium was condemned.

"Can you imagine what would happen if Kyle Field was condemned?" he says.

The primitive conditions included classrooms without air conditioning.

"My students sweated on their notes," Anderson says.

Classrooms in older buildings, which don't have central air condi-

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In Today's Battalion

Local

• The Battalion reviews "The Last Starfighter," a newly released movie. See story page 5.

State

• President Ronald Reagan plans to campaign in Austin next week. See story page 8.

National

• Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower blasts Reagan in speech at Democratic convention. See story page 3.