

Local Democrats, Republicans anticipate victory

Local 'superdelegate': Democrats can win

By Karl Spence
Reporter

Erma Jefferson, a member of the Texas Democratic Executive Committee and a "superdelegate" to the Democratic National Convention, is still riding on a crest of excitement.

She came home from San Francisco displaying an orange vest she wore as a Mondale whip, a cowboy hat loaded with campaign buttons, an autograph-covered convention guide and a tote bag full of delegate brochures and official souvenirs. She also came back happy with the ticket.

Jefferson points to a yellow ribbon she attached to the cowboy hat when the Texas delegation met with Democratic presidential and vice-presidential nominees Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro.

"This is so that the women of Texas can let Geraldine know she is a yellow rose," she explains.

The concord of the convention and the ticket that emerged from it have fired Jefferson's enthusiasm.

"To my way of thinking," she says, "the new ideas that Gary Hart had, the caring for people that is epitomized by the Kennedy family, the dreams that Jesse Jackson talked about in his speech, the family that

Mario Cuomo talked about in his — I think that Fritz Mondale can bring all these dreams and ideas to reality."

For that to happen, of course, certain Republicans in office must be gotten out of the way, and posters and buttons around Brazos County Democratic Headquarters show that the Democrats are after their scalps.

"Get the stuffed actor out of our White House," says one.

"Let's send the Gramm cracker back to Georgia!" says another.

A campaign button refers to Governor Mark White's 1982 victory over Republican incumbent Bill Clements: "Democrats: Let's send Ronnie and Phil the same message we sent Bill."

Jefferson takes courage from her party's success in White's campaign.

"I think we have good prospects of winning," she says. "I want to see them do on the national scene what we did in Texas in 1982."

The key to victory, Jefferson believes, is getting out the vote. She sees the Democratic Party constituencies as spokes in a wheel, all of which must get out and work to win. That, she says, is the strategy that



Geraldine Ferraro

succeeded two years ago.

Asked whether the strategy will work as well in the '84 boom as in the '82 recession, Jefferson emphasizes voter education.

"We have got to let them know the horror of Ronald Reagan being re-elected and him winning the opportunity to appoint five Supreme Court justices," she says, mentioning also the threat of war, cuts in student loans, tax breaks for private schooling and the big federal deficits.

However, Jefferson feels that much is already achieved this year.

"Some day in the future, when women are running for president and vice-president, they'll say it all started in July, 1984, at San Francisco."

Brazos County Republican chair: party has good shot at victory

By Karl Spence
Reporter

"It was an interesting convention," Republican Gloria Wilkins says of the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, "and it will be an interesting election with a woman running mate. But she's running for vice-president, not president. The presidential candidate is most important."

Wilkins, GOP chairman for Brazos County, is assessing her party's chances of success in this year's election campaign.

"I think we have a very good chance of winning," she says, adding that Republicans and Democrats this year have offered the voters a clear conservative-liberal choice "right down the line."

Conservatism is certainly much in evidence at the Reagan-Bush headquarters. Newspapers such as "Human Events," "Christian Inquirer," and "Moral Majority Report" are on display. Buttons for Republican district attorney candidate Hank Paine proclaim: "Inflict PAIN on Brazos County criminals."

Wilkins charges that Walter Mondale, the Democratic presidential candidate, is too liberal for Texans, tied too closely to special interests

such as organized labor. But she acknowledges mixed emotions about Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate.

"Every woman feels like we have taken another step forward," she says of Ferraro's nomination. "I'm proud as a woman that she got on the ticket, but I couldn't vote for her just because she is female. We've got to vote for people because of what they are, not because of the adjectives in front of them."

Wilkins calls Ferraro an attractive, energetic candidate who brought life and spirit to the ticket. Mondale needed that, she says. But she insists that candidates be judged on their qualifications and their stands on the issues rather than on their sex or ethnic background.

"I think Geraldine's going to have some problems," Wilkins says. "She is Catholic but pro-choice on abortion: that is a conflict."

Wilkins also questions Ferraro's ties with the northeastern Democratic Party.

"Tip O'Neill is not that well-liked in Texas," she says, referring to the Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives. She admits there are still a lot of "yellow-dog" Democrats in Texas (party loyalists who

would vote for a yellow dog so long as it ran on the Democratic ticket), but she believes that is going to change.

"It seems like the Democratic Party has been taken over by the liberals, so people will have to make a choice," she says.

Wilkins shakes her head when questioned about Walter Mondale's warnings of tax hikes or economic busts that lie ahead as a result of the current federal deficits.

"The economic policies weren't so great when he was vice-president," she says. "Democrats have always found it easier to raise taxes and keep spending so that they can keep everyone happy."

Wilkins holds those policies responsible for the high inflation and interest rates of 1980. Ronald Reagan's tax cuts have caused the economy to boom, she says, and that will help cut the deficit.

Wilkins believes there is still some fat in the budget that can be cut without hurting people in need, but she warns it will take "a lot of wisdom" to do that job well.

"Everybody wants to cut," she says, "as long as you don't cut my pet project."

No decision yet in De Lorean trial

United Press International

LOS ANGELES — Jurors in the John De Lorean trial, operating under new security measures, failed to reach a verdict Thursday in the second day of deliberations in the complex cocaine trafficking case.

The 59-year-old defendant awaited the verdict with his wife, fashion model Cristina Ferrare, 34, at her mother's West Los Angeles home.

As he left the downtown federal courthouse Wednesday, he told reporters, "It's all in God's hand."

The jury of six men and six women now has deliberated 8½ hours since receiving final instructions from U.S. District Court Judge Robert Takasugi Wednesday morning.

The panel has not been sequestered. But unlike the trial when jurors arrived individually, parking in a lot across the street and walking into the courthouse, the jurors apparently assembled somewhere else Thursday and were whisked by van through a secured entrance.

They resumed their deliberations Thursday at 8:30 a.m., going through a back entrance to a guarded room down the hall from Takasugi's court. They left at 1:30 p.m. in the same, secretive fashion.

The panel has elected to meet

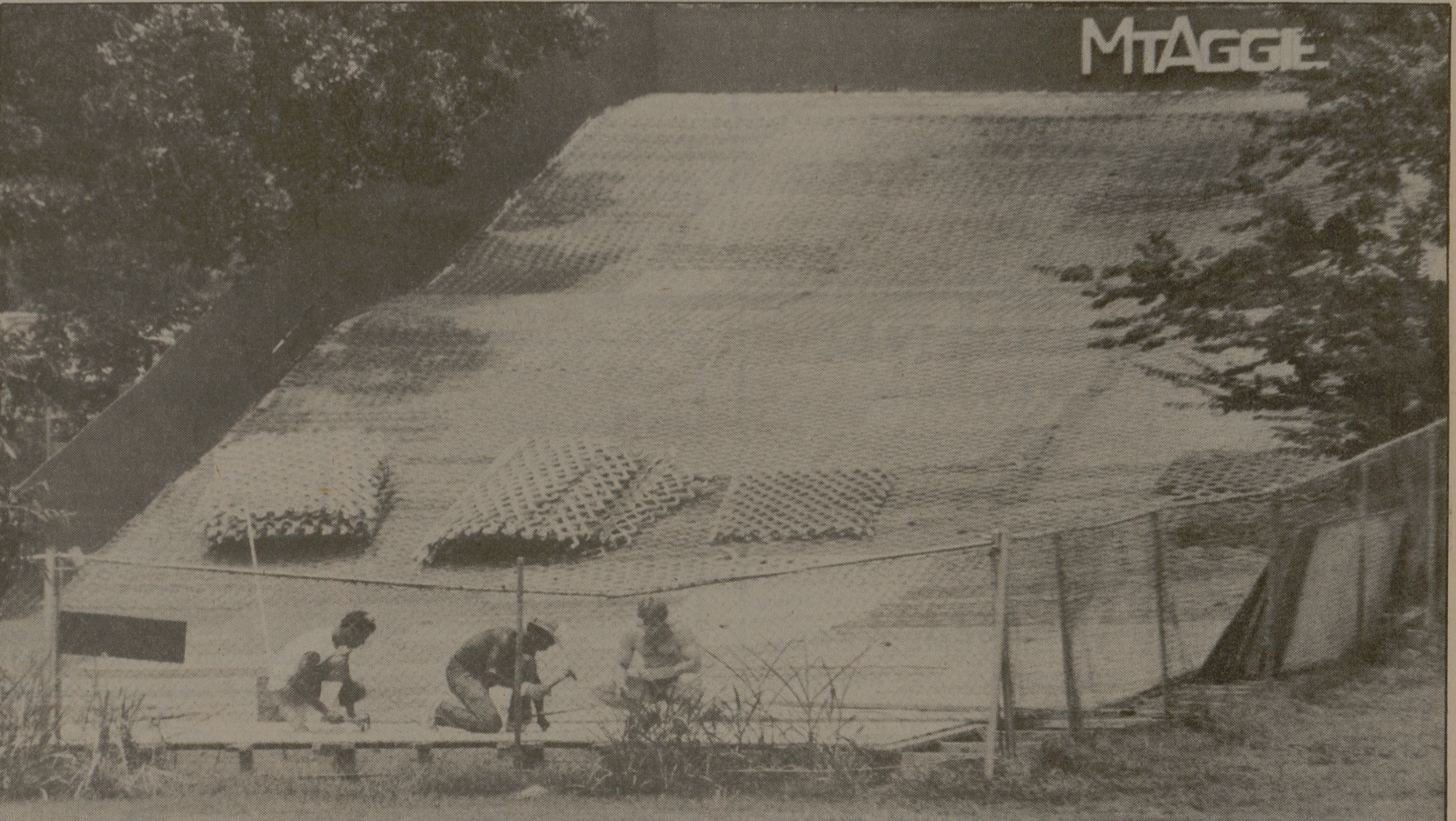
Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the same hours kept during De Lorean's 22-week trial.

De Lorean is charged in an eight-count indictment with conspiring to finance importation of \$24 million worth of Columbian cocaine in a failed attempt to pull his dying sports car company out of receivership. If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 67 years in prison and fines totaling \$185,000.

His attorneys claim the former automotive executive was lured into a narcotics sting operation by a "con man" informant who tricked De Lorean into thinking he was entering a deal for millions of dollars in legitimate financing.

In his final instructions, Takasugi told jurors to consider the possibility that, if guilty, De Lorean was entrapped. To acquit him under that circumstance, the judge said, they must find evidence that De Lorean would not have committed any crimes unless first approached by government agents.

"On the other hand," Takasugi said, "where a person already has the readiness and willingness to break the law, the mere fact that government agents or an informant provide what appears to be a favorable opportunity is not entrapment."



A face lift for Mt. Aggie

Photo by PAM BARNES

Workers from the Health and Physical Education department are finishing work on Mt. Aggie this week. The bottom of the hill had to be raised to prevent skiers from coming down the hill too fast and crashing into the fence.

Police beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department through Thursday.

MISDEMEANOR THEFT:
• A hubcap was stolen from a 1983 Cutlass Supreme in Parking Annex 51.

BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE:

• A Pioneer KEX-50 stereo and a Pioneer CD-5 equalizer were stolen from a 1981 Pontiac Trans Am in Parking Annex 24. The car's dashboard also was damaged.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF:
• Someone bent the antennas on several cars parked on South Bizzell Street.

Eight border towns to get health professionals

By CARL BECKER
Reporter

A program to train students for jobs in health professions such as nursing and physical therapy will begin this fall in eight southwestern border communities, including four in Texas.

The program was developed by Project Hope, a foundation specializing in health manpower training programs, when colleges in the eight communities formed the Border College Consortium and approached them with a request for help.

"The program is unique because

we are going to train people according to the needs of the individual communities," Vice-President of Operations Bill Walsh Jr. said Tuesday in a telephone interview from Project Hope's Virginia-based headquarters. "For example, at Pan American University in Edinburg, we are going to train nurses and physical therapy personnel, while at Texas State Technical Institute in Harlingen, we are going to train people in medical equipment repair."

Walsh said Project Hope representatives identified the needs of each community by visiting them

and talking with local hospitals and colleges. After identifying the needs, Project Hope met with the local college to plan training for the identified jobs and provided funds for training the people necessary to fill them.

Walsh said the trainees, who will be recruited from the individual communities, will attend a course of instruction, receive their certification and begin work in their new field.

Walsh said the project is being funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of its support for the South-

west Border Action Group, an organization that helps border communities.

HHS secretary Margaret M. Heckler was quoted in a departmental news release as being excited about the program.

"This new project responds to the great need that has arisen in the border communities for more nurses, technicians and other medical personnel," Heckler said. "Through this cooperative effort, government and health educators in border communities will make significant new progress in assuring good health in these communities."

Walsh said that in addition to health benefits, the program would also provide economic benefits by producing an estimated \$3.8 million in 290 health jobs annually.

Four Texas colleges will be involved in the program: Pan American University at Edinburg, Texas State Technical Institute at Harlingen, Texas Southmost at Brownsville, and Laredo Junior College at Laredo. The other four colleges are Cochise College and Arizona Western College in Arizona, and Imperial Valley College and Southwestern College in California.

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