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U.S. Senate cuts Reagan defense buildup

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A rebellious Senate voted Thursday to pare the administration's defense buildup by 17.7 billion over three years and provide full cost of living benefits to federal retirees as it shredded a multi-billion-dollar deficit-reduction package endorsed by President Reagan.

"For once, grassroots America has spoken out over the military industrial complex," Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said as he and Sen. Mark Hat-

field of Oregon won approval for their plan to hold the 1986 rise in Pentagon spending constant with inflation.

The Pentagon buildup has "created a new set of welfare queens — defense contractors," Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, said. The 80-18 vote restoring full retirement benefits for civil service and military workers as well as veterans was expected, coming one day after the Senate voted to scrap a proposed curtailment of Social Security benefits.

It left the original Republican budget in tatters, with further efforts likely to restore proposed cuts in Medicare and Medicaid and numerous other federal programs.

Even so, Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole vowed to "revisit" several of the programs already voted on and said that rather than spelling the end of efforts to reduce federal deficits, it was just the beginning.

But at the same time, he served notice on the president, attending an economic summit meeting in West Germany, that Republicans had

tried their best but would have to try something other than the original approach. It provided a 3 percent after-inflation increase for defense, and cut deeply into many domestic programs.

In voting for what Hatfield termed a "historic" change in defense, the Senate spurned a trans-Atlantic lobbying campaign by the traveling president. And Dole apparently considered seeking to reverse the vote, only to drop the idea because he noted it was "five min-

utes after midnight in Bonn, too late for calls to come over."

Grassley and other advocates of the provision said it would have no impact on national security, but was aimed at rooting out waste and inefficiency at the Pentagon.

But Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., charged it has "become sort of a fetish with my colleagues in Congress that the only place we can reduce deficits is in the defense (budget)."

"Too many Americans in a position of leadership want to return to a

policy of weakness . . . isolationism," said Goldwater, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The defense amendment was ultimately accepted without a recorded vote. But that was a mere formality, following a tense 51-48 roll call on which senators refused to table, and thus kill, the proposal.

The Republican budget plan originally was crafted to reduce federal deficits by \$295 billion over three years, largely by making deep cuts in numerous domestic programs and eliminating others entirely.

Library open 24 hours for finals week

By MARYBETH ROHSNER
Staff Writer

The Sterling C. Evans Library offers students a 24-hour extended schedule for finals week, beginning May 4. The library opens at 9 a.m. and will remain open until May 10 at 6 p.m.

Although the building will be open, library services such as the reserve reading room and circulation department will be running on the usual schedule.

"Basically, we're just keeping the building open so students will have a place to study," said Evelyn King, assistant director for collection inter-retention. "We're not changing the hours on anything else."

Several other campus services will alter operating hours during finals week.

The library night shuttle, which usually runs from the West Campus parking lots, will not operate during finals week.

"We just can't find drivers on a voluntary basis during finals," said David Gutierrez, the chairman of the night shuttle program.

The University shuttle service for off-campus students will run through May 10. The outer routes — those transporting students from campus bus stops to apartment complexes — will stop at noon, but the park and ride from the parking lots will continue normal operations until 6 p.m.

Duncan Dining Hall will close after the May 8 evening meal, and the Commons Dining Hall will close after the May 9 evening meal. Sbis will remain open until 7 p.m. May 10.

The MSC bookstore will maintain its usual schedule, as will the MSC cafeteria.



Close Call

Photo by John Makely

Catherine Vincent and Amy Roberts look at the path of destruction taken by Robert's car lying in the background, Thursday night. The accident occurred at the intersection of

University and South College Avenues. Robert's car jumped the curb and plowed through the fence by Zachry Engineering Building. No one was seriously injured.

Committee reaches agreement on water plan

Associated Press

AUSTIN — House and Senate conference committee members reached a long-sought compromise Thursday on a \$1 billion statewide water plan aimed at improving water supplies and flood control.

Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock, presented a peace pipe to Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Lubbock, after conferees approved the water legislation they have been negotiating since February.

The water plan would provide

money for water use and conservation projects around the state.

The compromise plan should go to both houses next week for a vote. If it passes and is signed by Gov. Mark White, it will be put before voters in November.

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, for weeks has fought what he says is a lack of adequate protection for coastal areas.

"I had a commitment to support the conference committee before,

and I am living up to that commitment," Truan said.

Other conference committee members said the compromise plan is a good first step toward conservation and management of the state's water resources.

"What we've done is pass a bill and put forth a constitutional amendment to the people," Craddick said.

"They're the ones that are going to win in the long run," he said. "It's going to help the state, and we're not going to have to see another drought

in order to move the House and Senate and the people."

In general, the plan calls for:

- \$190 million in bonds for state loans for water supply projects and water quality projects.
- \$200 million for flood control projects.
- \$400 million for state participation in water projects.
- A \$250 million bond guarantee

program in which the state would lend its backing to local bonds issued for water projects.

The conference committee had been under pressure from legislative leaders and the governor to reach agreement on some kind of statewide plan.

House Speaker Gib Lewis, D-Fort Worth, praised the compromise reached Thursday and predicted that "the House will quickly concur."

See TUITION, page 8

New computer system to simplify registration

By ED CASSAVOY
Staff Writer

Those dreaded registration line-ups and repeated trips to drop-add may be a thing of the past with the installation of a new computer system, says a University official working with Texas A&M's new Student Information Management System.

Cade Adams, supervising the development of the SIMS computer system, says A&M plans to have the computer system working by the beginning of the fall semester. It will allow students to correct and update their class schedule immediately, he says.

The system will allow students to leave registration or drop-add with a confirmed schedule, Adams says. They will not be required to return to the line-ups for later confirmations, he says.

Instead, A&M students can, beginning with open registration Aug. 5 (and later with delayed registration Aug. 26), go to the first floor of the Pavilion and

have the SIMS computers help with their schedule.

"Students will sit down with a terminal operator," Adams says, "and they immediately will know whether a certain class is open or closed."

"They then can try for another section (with their adviser's approval) and can get a print-out of the results."

Adams says the advantage of the system is it allows students to know immediately which classes they have confirmed on their schedule and how much their fees will be.

Adams says 30-40 computer terminals will be installed. Each terminal will have an operator who will type in the student's schedule information.

"This first phase is to make sure all the software is working properly," Adams says. "Phase two in the project would be for the eventual expansion of the system to the rest of the campus."

The expanded system is
See SIMS, page 8

Chemist joins A&M

University News Service

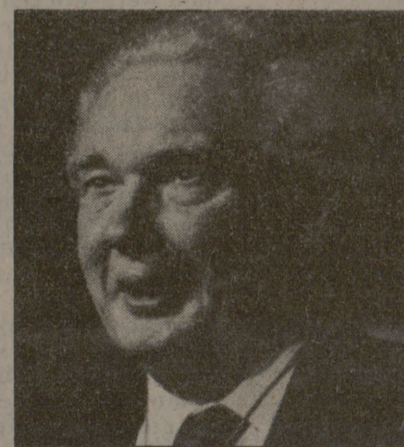
A Nobel Prize-winning chemist now working in France will become the first Nobel Laureate to join the Texas A&M faculty on a full-time basis, University President Frank Vandiver said.

Sir Derek Barton, a Fellow of the Royal Society who shared the 1969 Nobel Medal for adding to the understanding of basic chemical structures, will hold the rank of distinguished professor at A&M, Vandiver said.

He said Barton will officially join the faculty Sept. 1 but will be on leave without pay during 1985-86. He will begin work on a full-time basis Oct. 1, 1986. Vandiver said he anticipates that Barton will make visits to the campus during this year.

Barton is currently director of the Institute de Chimie des Substances Naturelles, part of a national research center near Paris.

"There is practically nothing one can do today in chemistry which is not in some way related to the concepts Dr. Barton first made well known," Vandiver said. "We are ex-



Sir Derek Barton

tremely proud to have such a celebrated scientist join our faculty."

He is the third Nobel Laureate to be affiliated with A&M's faculty but the first on a year-round schedule. Dr. Sheldon Glashow, a medal-winning physicist, and Peace Prize winner Dr. Norman Borlaug, a soil and crop scientist, divide their time between A&M and other institutions.

Vandiver noted that the University's chemistry department already ranks among the best in the nation with a productive faculty, which counts among its members a winner of the National Medal of Science and another who is a Fellow of the Royal Society.

"We're prepared to make some adjustments in light of the state's current monetary shortfall," he said, "but we're determined to go to great lengths to make them in areas that do not adversely affect our efforts to attract and retain top faculty — and we are certainly not going to pass up the opportunity to obtain the services of someone of Sir Derek Barton's stature."

His work in conformational theory analysis enabled scientists to better understand chemical reactions and aided determination of the arrangement of atoms in certain molecules.

University Dean of Science John P. Fackler says, "It is interesting to note in how many different fields

See NOBEL, page 8

Phil Gramm not speaking at graduation

U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm told The Battalion Thursday that he will not speak at Texas A&M's graduation ceremony Friday. Gramm was scheduled to speak at the 7:30 p.m. commencement for undergraduate degree candidates from the College of Geosciences and the College of Engineering.

A spokesperson from Gramm's local office told The Battalion that the senator was detained in Washington.

Commencement for the Colleges of Agriculture, Architecture and Environmental Design, and Education will be held at 2 p.m. Friday. Degree candidates from the Colleges of Business Administration, Liberal Arts, Science and Veterinary Medicine will graduate at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The ceremonies will be in G. Rollie White Coliseum.