

### Pro-choice groups mark anniversary

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Pro-choice advocates said Wednesday the emotional rhetoric of their opponents has helped spark the violence that has plagued abortion clinics.

The Texas Abortion Rights Action League and other pro-choice groups held a Capitol news conference to mark the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

Pam Fridrich, TARAL's executive director said the continuing public debate about abortion has taken on ominous overtones as violence escalates. She blamed it on anti-abortion activists who are "desperate and frustrated."

"We challenge the so-called pro-life groups to help put an end to the violence in their movement," Fridrich said. "We challenge them to take responsibility for the inflammatory and emotional rhetoric and propaganda they employ, which apparently incites some of the sympathizers to domestic terrorism."

A leader of the Texas pro-life movement said Wednesday he is totally opposed to any use of violence to further this cause.

Bill Price, president of the Greater Dallas Right-to-Life group, also said, "Those people who engage in violence are merely stooping to the same low level of activity as the other side that uses violence to kill unborn children."

Gara LaMarche, director of the Texas Civil Liberties Union, said the Supreme Court decision "has been consistently under siege."

"Leaders of the right-to-life movement bear a heavy responsibility for what is done in their name," he said. "They create a climate in which zealots and violent people among their movement feel it is justified to kill and maim people."

## Search for new provost begins; goals defined

By MONA L. PALMER  
Staff Writer

The search for a new provost and vice president of academic affairs began Friday when the search committee, chaired by Associate Provost Dr. Clinton A. Phillips, met for the first time.

Dr. Murray Milford, agronomy professor and committee member, said the members used the first meeting to get acquainted with each other, define what a provost does and discuss qualifications they wanted in the new provost.

Phillips said the committee also wrote an advertisement for the position consisting of a description of Texas A&M and a list of responsibilities and qualifications.

The committee says it wants a strong record of academic accomplishment, a commitment to higher education and excellent interpersonal, speaking and writing skills.

The committee is advertising in educational newspapers and asking university presidents and chancellors to submit nominations for the position, Phillips said.

The last provost search committee, also chaired by Phillips, received more than 75 nominations and applications.

"Some were absolute turkeys," Phillips said. "Some people just write in without any credentials — hope springs eternal I guess."

Milford said the qualified, experienced candidates are usually nominated by an administrator and do not apply themselves.

Phillips expects the nominations and applications to be in by March and plans a second committee meeting after March 1. During the second meeting the members will discuss candidates and their qualifications.

Before the March 1 meeting, committee members review the nominees and their credentials then the "bird-dogging" begins, Phillips said.

"Bird-dogging" means calling people who know the nominees and finding inside information on the individual. Information found through personal contacts isn't found on resumes or in letters of recommendation, Phillips said.

Phillips said the letters of recommendation and personal visits are sometimes useless because it's hard to see the true personality of the candidate.

The committee is working as fast as it can and hopes to have a new provost as soon as possible, he said.

Dr. Gordon Eaton, the current provost, leaves for Iowa State University in late June.

Eaton said he was depressed about leaving A&M but is ready for the challenges facing him as president of Iowa State.

Eaton said a president's job and a provost's job are very different because the president deals with alumni, the athletic program and other university publics.

The provost, however, deals with the inside workings of a university such as tenure, promotions and curriculum, he said.

Eaton said he wasn't sure he wanted to move to Iowa and take over the presidency of a university, but the governor of Iowa persuaded him to take the job.

The governor's comment, "What we can offer you is an opportunity to help and we need your help," touched Eaton.

"I found that a very persuasive argument, and I caved in within a matter of hours," he said.

## Mexican government to start issuing daily air quality report

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The government, pricked by reports that thermal inversions here were raising air pollution to unbearable levels, says daily air quality reports will be issued for the first time to soothe residents' nerves.

Mexico City, the world's largest metropolitan area with 18 million people, is generally considered also the world's most polluted city.

But Undersecretary for Ecology Alicia Barcena Ibarra, speaking to reporters on a four-hour tour of air monitoring stations Tuesday, said there was little possibility of a thermal inversion causing fatal pollution levels here.

"There is no reason for alarm. It is extremely difficult for an episode

"It is extremely difficult for an episode like that to occur in the capital of the country,"

— Alicia Barcena Ibarra, Undersecretary for Ecology.

like that to occur in the capital of the country," she said.

"We do not want to minimize the problems, but there is no reason for alarm," Ibarra said, adding that the tropical sun over Mexico makes situations like those that occurred in London previously impossible here.

Ecological activists have com-

plained that the government is not doing enough to alert residents of the dangers related to thermal inversions.

A computer center collects information from air monitoring stations throughout the city.

They have not been made public on a regular basis previously, but the ecology official said the reports would start being made public immediately.

Barcena Ibarra said large quantities of pollutants are found in the air here but remain at tolerable levels.

Her department is in the Cabinet-level Department of Urban Development and Ecology.

Thermal inversions since December trap pollution under layers of cold air.

## March for peace reaches Mexico City

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The international March for Peace in Central America arrived in Mexico City Tuesday, the final stop on a troubled 10-week journey.

The group of about 200 marchers, which has traveled by foot, bus and plane from Panama, was greeted on the outskirts of the city by local supporters.

It arrived from Puebla, a city 81 miles southeast of Mexico City, and proceeded up the major Paseo de la Reforma to the Monument to the Child Heroes at the entrance to central Chapultepec Park.

A news conference was scheduled Thursday morning.

The march, organized by a group based in Oslo, Norway, was scheduled to pass through all Central American countries except Belize.

But the governments of Honduras and El Salvador denied entry, expressing concern about possible violence, and the march left Costa Rica earlier than planned after an attack by a bottle-tossing mob.

The Guatemalan government also first announced it would not allow the march to enter but then reversed the order.

The group was warmly welcomed in Nicaragua by the leftist Sandinista government and met with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

The marchers entered Mexico from Guatemala last Friday and were received by local support groups in Tuxtla Gutierrez, San Cristobal de las Casas and Oaxaca in southern Mexico.

Puebla has a reputation as one of the country's most conservative cities, and some business leaders expressed concern that peace would be disturbed.

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