

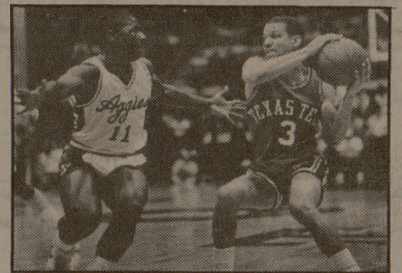


Shakespearean production
lets audience interpret setting

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with 71-58 victory over Tech

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Clements: 13% cut 'absurd'

*That's not the way
you cut a budget*

By FRANK SMITH
Staff Writer

Former Gov. Bill Clements called Gov. Mark White's request for a 13 percent budget cut from each state department "absurd" in a Wednesday press conference at Texas A&M.

Clements, a Republican gubernatorial candidate, later addressed an audience of about 150 in the Memorial Student Center, but not before he had questioned White's experience in budgetary matters.

"I think that what that (White's request) really says to the public is that this is a clear indication and solid evidence that he has had no experience in this field," Clements said during the press conference. "That's not the way you cut a budget. You don't cut it 13 percent across the board."

"I've already said that you do exactly the opposite. You set your priorities. You recognize that you're going to have to increase some things and decrease others. And that's just nonsense — it's absurd — to think that we in Texas are just going to suffer a 13 percent cut across the board."

White had made the request Monday in an attempt to overcome an estimated \$1.3 billion shortfall in the two-year state budget that ends in August 1987.

Clements, whose visit was part of MSC Political Forum's gubernatorial series, said if he was governor he would immediately call for a special session of the Legislature, set the budget priorities, and charge the Legislature to scrub the budget and open it for restructuring.



Former Gov. Bill Clements, a 1986 gubernatorial candidate, speaks at the Memorial Student Center.

"We in Texas have the highest tax revenues that we've ever had in our history," he said. "The tax revenues in Texas are up 41 percent in the three years since I've left office. Just think about that."

"I don't know of any business in the state of Texas where their profits or their revenues are up 41 percent. It's an all-time historic high. And so what I'm saying to you is that we have ample revenues and what we have to do is set our priorities and, to borrow a phrase, we have to cut the cloth to fit the pattern. And we can get by with no tax increases whatsoever."

But Clements said he thinks a state income tax is "a very real possibility" if White is re-elected.

"In fact, I will say to you that, in my judgment, if he is re-elected it is inevitable that we will have either a personal income tax, a corporate income tax, or both," Clements said. "And to the

contrary, I'm telling you that if I'm elected governor, just as in the previous four years, there will be no new taxes in Texas as long as I'm your governor."

Clements also elaborated on what his own budget priorities for the state would be.

"I can name you two things that I know that I would increase," he said. "One has to do with our prison system. And the other is our Department of Public Safety, which looks after us from a crime standpoint."

"Another one that I can tell you that should be set aside and be in a priority area would be higher education. Any kind of an anticipation of what Texas should be like and the quality of life in Texas in 2001 has to have as a fundamental building block higher education."

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System comptroller: Budget cuts take time

By MONA L. PALMER and
SONDRA PICKARD
Staff Writer

Texas A&M administration and faculty aren't looking for quick solutions to Gov. Mark White's 13 percent reduction order, Bill Wasson, vice chancellor and System comptroller, said Wednesday.

Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen Tuesday asked the presidents of the four System universities and the heads of the eight University extensions to develop an impact statement as a preliminary move toward March 1, the deadline for the reduction implementation plan.

Wasson said, "There's a need to

carefully look at size and type of cuts and what they will or won't do."

"Then you've got to sit down and analyze what you can and can't do." It's also useless for the administration to speculate on what budget items it will cut, he said.

"You have to take it item by item and area by area — and move very quickly," he said.

Dr. Gordon P. Eaton, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the governor's goals of retaining faculty members and raising salaries by 3 percent aren't compatible.

"The arithmetic just doesn't work out," he said. "Apparently they didn't do their arithmetic in Austin before the press release."

"If the cuts remain as deep as they

are, then the governor's goals simply can't be realized."

White's executive order states that salary increases mandated by the appropriations bill for the current biennium will be honored. The mandated increases for state employees, including staff personnel at public universities, total 3 percent for the fiscal year which began Sept. 1.

Eaton said the System guideline had raised the mandated salary increases from 3 to 4.5 percent, but now they'll have to try to go back to the 3 percent increase.

Faculty salaries don't fall under the mandated increase, so there's a

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Budget cuts won't affect A&M construction

By CRAIG RENFRO
Staff Writer

The current construction and renovation of buildings at Texas A&M will not be affected by the ordered reduction in general revenue spending, an A&M System administrator said Wednesday.

Daniel T. Whitt, assistant vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction, said construction will continue on the eight projects now under construction despite Gov. Mark White's order to reduce general revenue spending by 13 percent. This translates into budget cuts of more than \$68 million for TAMUS.

Whitt also said five proposed projects, budgeted at a total cost of \$26.6 million, are under design for fiscal years 1986 and 1987.

"I don't know how it (budget cuts) will affect us (on proposed projects)," Whitt said. "It wouldn't help to speculate, but we will go on as planned until told otherwise."

Whitt said if planned construction is allowed to continue, none of the

"We will go on as planned until told otherwise." — Daniel T. Whitt, assistant vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction at A&M.

money will come from the general revenue fund.

"Most of our money comes from the Public University Fund," Whitt said. "And you can't reduce the PUF unless the (state) constitution is changed."

According to White's proposed budget reduction, all state agencies are to implement water and energy conservation measures.

Joe J. Estill, physical plant director, said the plant is in the midst of composing an energy and water reduction plan, but did not know whether the plan will be approved or not.

Estill said planned utility operating costs are \$62 million for the next two years. A 13 percent reduction would amount to savings of \$8 million over the next two years.

Estill said the plant is limited to what it can cut back on.

"Do we shut down buildings?" he asked. "Do we turn off the power at 5 p.m. and then turn it on again in the morning?" he asked.

System Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen Tuesday called together the presidents of A&M, Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University and Texas A&M at Galveston and heads of the eight state agencies that comprise the System. They were told to initiate a plan that would achieve the reductions proposed by the governor and to have the plan ready for implementation by March 1.

More than \$38 million would come out of the budgets for A&M if the 13 percent reduction were to be applied proportionally throughout the System.

Millionaire teaches A&M students about business world

Associated Press

"Welcome to bullshit 438." With that Clayton Williams, Midland's millionaire and self-proclaimed warrior, kicks off his lecture.

Williams is teaching young Aggie entrepreneurs the do's and don't's of the business world. And who would know better than a former insurance salesman and brick maker who worked his way up to owning a string of major companies.

But his business advice isn't the stuffy bit on high finance.

It's more of a self-help course on how to believe in yourself and trust your own judgement. Williams uses examples of his own successes and failures to teach his students that entrepreneurship is tough. He likens it to a halfback cutting down the field, dodging defenders.

Tonight he's talking mostly of failures. And his lecture is flavored with Williams' own sense of humor, Texas style.

Advice like — "Do business with good people; Don't buy anything someone else is through with. Get the best;" "Don't give it away until it's earned;" and "Dance with the one who brings you." Some of these have to be put into context.

Others speak for themselves. But to Williams they all make perfect sense.

Williams, Class of '54, got his degree in animal husbandry. And though he's achieved much of his wealth in production industries, Williams is an active rancher. But he runs his ranch differently than most others, he says, his ranch makes a profit.

And like the ranching business, Williams has made his fortune in risky ventures. But not all of them turned out the way he planned, especially the first few.

He says he made his first money by renting his garage to the local domino club for \$40 a month. And with his steady income he began his first real business by starting a paper company. It lasted about two years.

He moved on to his next idea — adobe bricks. Williams and his partner bought a brick machine and the rights to a "magic formula." But he says in the end, eating money was about the only magic the machine performed. Still undaunted, but more skeptical, he and his partner struck out on their next road to riches by buying a gold mine.

He admits it sounded crazy. But he and his partner were convinced, after looking at the gold flakes lining the cave, they would strike it rich. And the salesmen assured them that the mine also held a valuable mineral that was being used to build space capsules. So they hired a crew and began mining the gold and other minerals.

It turned out there was no gold in the mine. The flakes that he and his partner had seen were instead shotgun blasts fired into the wall by the con artists who had sold them the property. And the mineral that he had been told was in the cave was of such poor grade that they just abandoned it. He had been duped.

Needless to say, Williams decided to invest his money a little more wisely the next time. So he began brokering oil and gas leases in West Texas. To some that may sound even more risky than gold mines, but Williams was confident.

The rest of the story is history. Williams eventually hit a large gas well that made him wealthy but not too proud.

See Millionaire, page 13



Clayton Williams, Class of '54, at his ranch in Midland.

Searchers retrieve part of right booster

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Underwater searchers have recovered a part from Challenger's right rocket booster, considered a major culprit in the spacecraft's explosion, and have located other shattered pieces, officials said Wednesday.

There has been no sighting of the section of that booster which includes a seam investigators believe was the source of a destructive spurt of flame.

Air Force Col. Edward A. O'Conner, head of the shuttle search and recovery operations, and Capt. Charles A. Bartholomew, supervisor of Navy salvage, ran a videotape clearly showing

three objects in murky water at a depth of about 1,200 feet.

They were the recovered 11-by-20 inch hydraulic reservoir, part of the steering system for the booster's rocket nozzle; a stainless-steel sphere about 15 inches in diameter which normally contains about 3 1/2 gallons of hydrazine fuel for the controls; and a 10-foot-long portion of the booster's expansion nozzle.

Current theories into the possible causes of the explosion center on a leak of flame, through a joint between the lower two sections of the booster, that may have detonated the shuttle's external liquid fuel tank.

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Floods cause over 12,000 to flee

Associated Press

Torrents of muddy water from a week-old series of Pacific storms continued cascading across the sodden Western states Wednesday, and the estimated number of flood refugees rose past 12,000. But some rivers receded and people began returning home.

At least 16 people were dead and three were missing in floods, mudslides, avalanches, icy roads, high wind and smashing surf from Southern California into Canada.

Hardest hit was Northern California with up to 22 inches of rain and 9 feet of snow in the mountains. Reservoirs were brim full, towns and farmland were flooded and water and landslides blocked major highways.

"There's no town left," said Guerneville, Calif., resident Beatrice

Wood. She and nearly 600 other residents were stranded in a church and were removed Tuesday by helicopter. The unincorporated resort community north of San Francisco remained under water Wednesday, although the Russian River had receded 6 feet from its record peak of 49 feet; flood stage is 32 feet.

The sky cleared over some areas during the morning, and while more rain was forecast, Ed Clark, a National Weather Service forecaster, said "it looks like we're on the uphill side of things now. We're expecting more rain on Friday and Saturday, but it doesn't look like it's going to be as major as anything we've had."

Elsewhere, rain during the night caused renewed flooding that forced the evacuation of more than 1,000 people in northwestern Nevada and sandbag crews were hurried back

out in one northern Utah county. Many Nevada state office buildings were closed and 15 square blocks of the downtown area were flooded. Part of one Colorado town was evacuated during the night.

High water also forced evacuation of the Mustang Ranch brothel east of Sparks, Nev.

Harry Stone, spokesman for the brothel, said, "The girls are pretty shaken up. Some of them ran out barefooted."

Dick Hunt of the state Office of Emergency Services said floods had chased more than 11,000 northern Californians from their homes since the series of storms arrived Feb. 12. Company spokesman Ron Rutkowski said about 12,000 homes served by Pacific Gas & Electric were without power Wednesday.

"We've had in the last five days, (rainfall) equivalent to half of our normal annual total," said William Helms, spokesman for the state-federal Flood Operations Center in Sacramento.

In the heart of California's wine country, the Napa River fell about 9 feet Wednesday at Napa, where 4,200 people had been evacuated. The river had hit a record 30 feet Monday, 5 feet above flood stage, and flooded much of the downtown.

Authorities said 1,350 residents of a small community in Glenn County fled because of a threat of flooding from the Sacramento River. An additional 1,500 were evacuated from Thornton in San Joaquin County because of danger of levee failure and more had fled homes elsewhere.