

Texans favor spending cuts over tax increase, poll says

AUSTIN (AP)—Recent Texas opinion polls show that a majority of Texans favored spending cuts rather than tax increases to balance the state government budget and support different positions on the "Star Wars" nuclear defense system than do their congressmen.

The budget survey was conducted by Arthur J. Finkelstein and Associates of Irvington, N.Y., for the Foundation for Education on Free Enterprise, which made a copy available to The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The poll, conducted June 14-19, found 53 percent of respondents favoring spending cuts, while only 10.4 percent called for higher taxes.

Another 27.9 percent favored a combination of cuts and taxes, the poll found, while 2.1 percent said the budget shouldn't be balanced and 6.6 percent either didn't know or declined to answer.

Foundation spokesman Joe Wyatt, a former Texas congressman, said the telephone survey interviewed 606 Texas voters. Its accuracy was pegged at plus or minus 4 percent.

The foundation is a recently established, tax-exempt organization.

It says its activities include research and publication of information on how the free enterprise system relates to Texas.

"Most Texans would cut state spending to balance the budget," said an analysis that accompanied the poll results.

"Spending cuts were favored over tax hikes by Texans who vote for Democrats as well as by

those who vote for Republicans," the analysis added.

The poll was conducted when the state's budget deficit was about \$2.3 billion.

Last week, Comptroller Bob Bullock said the deficit had ballooned to \$3.5 billion, and a special session of the Legislature begins Aug. 6 to try to balance the books.

The poll also found respondents saying state government's workforce is too large.

The "Star Wars" defense system poll was conducted by the National Endowment for the Preservation of Liberty, a privately supported Washington organization.

NEPL president Carl Russell told a news conference, "Clearly, the public is in tune with the president and supports the research for development of and deployment of a strategic shield against nuclear attack."

He said approximately 3,000 "regular voters" in four Texas congressional districts were asked 44 questions each concerning support of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, often called "Star Wars."

He said the poll showed 62 percent of the voters questioned in the 10th District of U.S. Rep. J.J. "Jake" Pickle, D-Austin, had a favorable opinion of Reagan.

He said 78 percent of the same voters said they approved development of a defense system to protect the nation against a nuclear missile attack.

In the 15th District of Rep. Eligio "Kika" de la Garza, D-McAllen, 81 percent favored Reagan and 90 percent were for SDI, Channell said.

State and Local

Easterwood to get terminal, taxiway

By Greg Calvin
Reporter

A three-phase construction project is underway for a new terminal and taxiway at Texas A&M's Easterwood Airport.

The first phase of construction will consist of building a taxiway, an access road and some underground utilities, said Earl Fratus, project manager of the Texas A&M facilities department.

Construction inspector Stewart Cushon of the facilities department said the taxiway is being added to the north end of the new runway. The new runway has been lengthened once to approximately 7,150 feet, which Cushon said still isn't long enough to accommodate large planes.

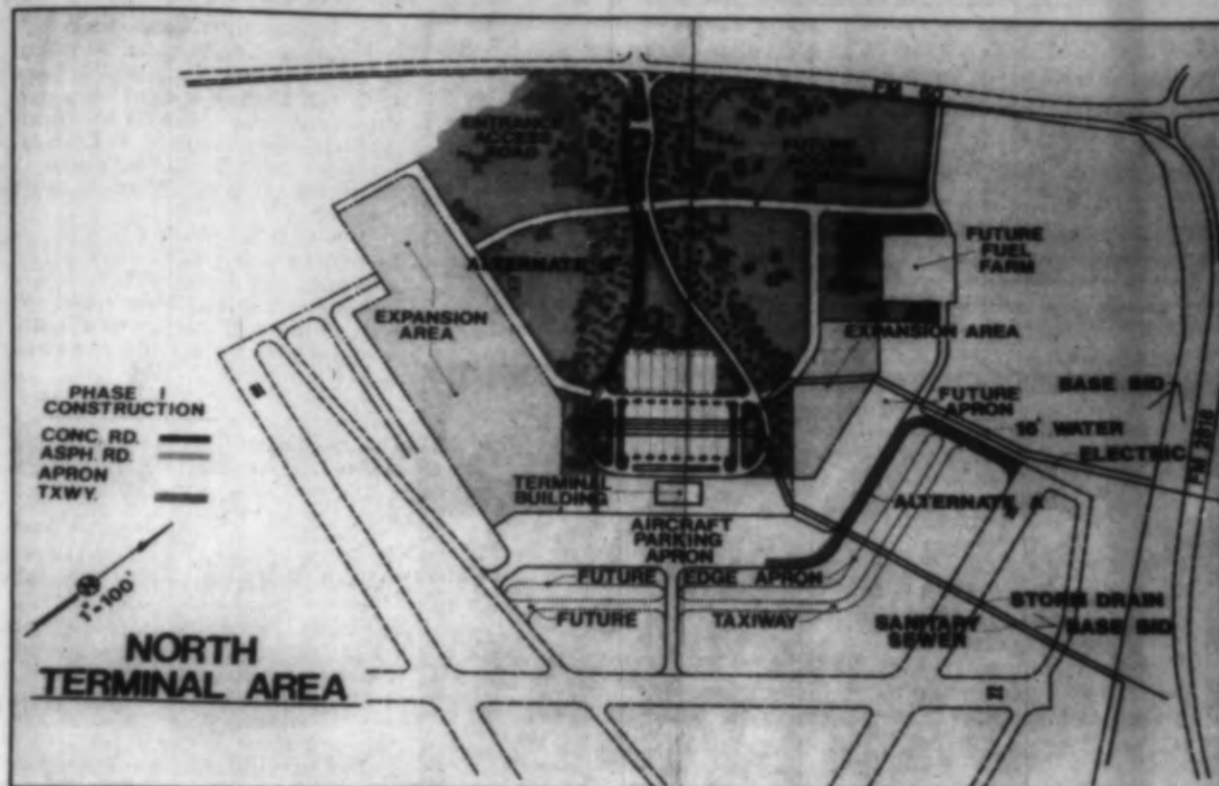
Fratus said, "We can land a 747, but there is no way of turning it around or parking it." The taxiway will give large planes the needed space to turn around, he said.

Cushon said the access road will serve as the entrance to the new terminal building and will be connected to F.M. 60 across from Turkey Creek Road. The road exit will be completed during the second phase of construction, he said.

Fratus added that the Quonset Huts will be torn down to make room for the access road.

Cushon said an electrical system will be connected into the A&M Research Park's system. Water, sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems also will be installed, he said.

Phase one is contracted to Young



Brothers Inc. and is expected to be finished by the end of November, Fratus said.

"Things have run smoothly and we haven't faced any problems yet,"

he said. Tony Heger, manager of the facilities and administration division at A&M, said the Federal Aviation Administration has contributed to the project and applications have been sent to the FAA requesting more aid. He said Brazos County, Bryan and College Station also have contributed money to the University for construction.

Nuclear protest group makes stop at Rudder

By Robert W. Rizzo
Reporter

About fifteen supporters of and participants in a 750-mile bicycling pilgrimage across Texas used speeches, songs and flyers to protest nuclear weapons at Rudder Fountain Tuesday.

Participants in the "Pantex Pilgrimage," who ranged in age from 11 months to 53 years, carried a banner reading "Peace Depends on Us" and wore shirts reading "One Earth, One Sky, One Ocean" during the luncheon activities.

Participants in the cycling pilgrim-

age were joined by Brazos Valley Peace Action members who presented local issues associated with nuclear weapons research and development.

BVPA member Dale Nave, Class of '80, said, "Texas A&M, for the last 100 years or so has been a place where people worked hard to try to make more food and a better way of life for people. Now we are being asked to use our great minds to find a better way to destroy people."

The cycling trip started in Houston on July 27 and will end August 8 at the U.S. Department of Energy

Pantex Nuclear Weapons Assembly Plant north of Amarillo.

The Pantex plant is the final assembly facility of all the nuclear warheads produced in the United States, said Bob Henschen, a member of the cyclists' support group.

Henschen's group will join around 300 others attending an International Peace Witness conference and workshops at a Peace Camp near the gates of the Pantex Facility.

Participant Jimi Clark, 18, said the focus of the workshop at Pantex is economic conversion, which he said

means taking a community such as Amarillo and converting the industry to that of a peaceful nature.

Other activities at the conference will include a Nuke-Watch stake-out at the Pantex gate to photograph nuclear weapons traffic and a non-violent protest blockade on August 10.

"If America is going to decide that the way to be secure is determined by how many people we can destroy in another country then perhaps we have misplaced priorities," Clark said.

Two engineering department heads named

University News Service

The Texas A&M College of Engineering has two new department heads, vice chancellor and Dean of Engineering Herbert H. Richardson announced.

Dr. G. Kemble Bennett, chairman of the Department of Industrial and Management Systems Engineering at the University of South Florida, will head the Department of Industrial Engineering.

Dr. Jo W. Howze, interim department head since June 1984, was named to head the Department of Electrical Engineering.

Richardson said, "Industrial engineering is one of our strongest departments and is targeted to play a key role in the systems-oriented focus of our new engineering program at A&M. As we move to increase emphasis on manufacturing, transportation, energy and other systems that are critical to Texas' economic diver-



Dr. Jo W. Howze



Dr. G. Kemble Bennett

sification and future prosperity, this department has an increasingly important contribution to make in education and research. I am delighted that we have attracted a person of Dr. Bennett's stature and proven leadership record."

Bennett received a bachelor's de-

gree in mathematics from Florida State University in 1962, a master's in engineering mathematics from San Jose University in 1968 and a Ph.D. in industrial engineering from Texas Tech University in 1970.

He had been on the faculty of the University of South Florida since

1974 and was made a department chairman and director of the Database Management Systems Center in 1979. Along with his academic post, he held a part-time position as principal engineer of the Logistics Engineering Technical Staff of Honeywell Avionics in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Howze was educated at Rice University, receiving degrees of bachelor of arts and bachelor of science in mechanical engineering and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering there. He joined the A&M faculty in 1972 after serving as visiting professor at the Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He has industrial experience with Shell Oil and has consulted numerous other companies.

During his tenure as interim head, Howze worked to shift the department's emphasis toward increased research and graduate study.

What's up

Wednesday
TAMU SAILING CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder. For more information call Tim, 696-8642.
GREAT COMMISSION STUDENTS: formerly A&M Christian Fellowship, will present "When You Look in the Mirror, Do You Like What You See?" at 7:30 p.m. in 102 Blocker.
COMMODORE BRAZOS USERS' GROUP: anyone interested in free tutorial on Commodore 64 or 128 systems can call David Gruben at 845-8889.

Thursday
CAESAREAN PREVENTION MOVEMENT/VAGINAL BIRTH AFTER CAESAREAN: CPM/VBAC is an international support network for women healing from past births and those preparing for future births that meets the last Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at 4109 Brompton Court in Bryan. For more information call 693-4953 or 776-5657.
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE: Any junior or senior in the department of biology, chemistry, mathematics or physics who entered his current major prior to catalog 107 and who has not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to do so this semester. The exam will be administered by the English department on August 7. Please contact Marilyn Radke in 152 Blocker for details. Advance registration is required.
KANM RADIO: KANM 99.9 FM Cable has repaired its technical problems and is broadcasting again. Program guides are available at several local businesses. For more information call Georgette, 693-0513.
STUDENT GOVERNMENT: applications for External Communications and Public Relations will be available through the summer months. Please come by 221 Pavilion from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up applications. For more information call 845-3051.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to desired publication date.

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