

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## 34% cut would give little chance for 'survival'

**University News Service**  
AUSTIN — Funding cuts of the magnitude proposed most recently by the Legislative Budget Board would give the Texas A&M University System "little opportunity for survival" in its current scope and would put out its unique ability to help improve the state's economy. As many as 20,000 students could be turned away at the system's four universities, including 18,000 at Texas A&M.

That was the message delivered to Gov. Mark White Thursday by top system officials responding to the governor's request for an assessment of cuts of 34 percent for most of the parts of the statewide teaching, research and public service system — and even more for two of its agencies.

In striving to determine the level of cuts needed to allow the state to meet its projected \$3.5 billion shortfall, the Budget Board has set a target of 34 percent.

If the Level III (34 percent) funding recommendations were put into effect for the fiscal year beginning Sept. 1, 1986, the system would be forced to terminate 4,000 employees, system Chancellor Perry Adkisson and Board of Regents Chairman David Eller said. They said they would do everything possible to protect the faculties, so a large percentage of the cuts would have to be among staff, administrative and maintenance personnel.

Adkisson and Eller agreed that in looking at the magnitude of the problem in one perspective, all eight research and service agencies within the system and Texas A&M at Galveston could be closed down. Even with this the system would be more than \$1 million short in achieving Level III funding cuts. They added that such action would cut 4,500 employees and affect every county in the state.

Under that scenario the following would be closed:

- Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
- Texas Agricultural Extension Service
- Texas Engineering Experiment Station
- Texas Engineering Extension Service
- Texas Transportation Institute
- Texas Forest Service
- Rodent and Predatory Animal Control Service
- Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

Level III cuts for the system would total \$92.1 million (37.2 percent), which is more severe than the Budget Board projections because the proposal targets the Texas Agricultural Extension Service for a 47 percent cut and total elimination of the Rodent and Predatory Animal Control Service.

In a report presented to the White, Ad-

kisson and Eller said that figure translates into a loss of about one of every three people whose salaries are funded by state appropriations.

A&M alone would be forced to cut 1,800 employees, they noted. Even under Level II funding — the 13 percent reduction originally proposed by White — the personnel loss to the University only would be about 600, they added.

Almost all additional cuts — at any level — will have to involve termination of personnel, they emphasized, because major cuts in other areas were made earlier this year when White initially requested budget reductions.

Earlier this month, system officials announced a "Commitment to Texas" program in which more than \$53 million in the system's "excellence fund" would be redirected from previously targeted programs to ones that have a higher priority in help-

ing the state diversify the economy. The regents emphasized at the time, however, that the institution could sustain its "Commitment to Texas" program only if regular state funding continued at a level at least equal to the current support.

"Funding cuts of these proportions (34 percent) make it impossible to survive, let alone maintain the commitment to quality education which is the threshold of the future of the State of Texas," the system officials said in their report and supporting documents.

Summarily, the officials said A&M: "Would suffer for at least a generation and most likely beyond that... effect on the remaining faculty's morale would be disastrous... devastating effect on the University's educational and research programs which, in turn, will impede the state's ability to shake off its present woes."



Photo by Janet Swartz

### Flying High

Despite the hot weather, Joel Griffin, Ali Mills and Michael Burnett take advantage of free time during their summer vacation by practicing skateboard stunts at The Grove. The trio is from College Station and they said they often skateboard on campus.

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## Deed restriction found on second Rehnquist home

WASHINGTON (AP) — The confirmation hearing for Chief Justice-designate William H. Rehnquist erupted into partisan quarreling Thursday after Democrats disclosed that the deed for the nominee's former home in Phoenix, Ariz., included language to bar non-whites from owning the property.

It was the second disclosure in two days of a restrictive covenant in a Rehnquist-owned property, as liberal Democratic senators continued to portray the conservative nominee as an extremist who is insensitive to civil rights.

On Tuesday, Democrats pointed out that Rehnquist's vacation home in Greensboro, Vt. contained a clause barring Jews from owning the property.

Asked by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., if he had read the Phoenix deed, Rehnquist said: "I simply can't answer whether I read through the deed or not. One relies on a title company. While very offensive, it (the covenant) has no legal effect."

Rehnquist said he was not aware of the restrictions in either deed until several days ago.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, a staunch Rehnquist supporter, turned red-faced at the latest disclosure. His voice rising, Hatch said, "This is the biggest red herring in the whole hearing. It's ridiculous."

Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, a Rehnquist critic, said, "I don't know that it's ridiculous at all."

Kennedy said it was important to the issue of Rehnquist's sensitivity to civil rights matters.

The restrictive language for the Palmcroft subdivision in Phoenix was written in 1928. Rehnquist owned his home there from 1961 to 1969.

The language said that for 99 years, property in the subdivision could not be "sold, transferred or leased" to someone "not of the white nor Caucasian race."

Rehnquist repeated to senators a promise he made Wednesday to remove the anti-Semitic language from the Vermont deed, which applies not to a subdivision but to his specific property.

## World Court resolution vetoed by U.S.

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States on Thursday vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for it to comply with a World Court order to stop aiding Nicaraguan rebels.

The vote was 11-1 for the resolution, with Thailand, Britain and France abstaining. The negative vote of the United States, one of five permanent members of the council, killed the measure.

U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters said the resolution "painted an inaccurate picture of the true situation in Central America" and would not have contributed to peace in the area.

Sir John Thompson of Britain abstained, saying the resolution gave the impression that the Central American problem was between Nicaragua and the United States and did not deal with Nicaragua's failure to live up to regional commitments.

## Windfall profits tax abolished in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate voted Thursday night to abolish the windfall profits tax first imposed on oil companies during the Carter administration in reaction to high prices.

The Senate approved by voice the proposal by Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., which was an amendment to a pending bill raising the ceiling on the national debt. The repeal was passed after opponents failed by 51-47 to table, or kill, the amendment.

The levy, which is actually on oil produced and not on profits, takes effect only when oil prices are above 1979 levels. The tax has not been collecting any money during the recent price decline, and President Reagan has asked for its repeal.

Nickles and other oil-state senators said it should be repealed to save oil producers and the government from unnecessary bookkeeping.

"This is an important step toward responding to the depression in the

energy industry. If there ever were any windfall profits they do not exist today since there are no profits," said Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas.

"This is a burdensome tax, which has hurt every consumer and every energy producer," Gramm said. "It collects no revenue today and imposes a very heavy paperwork burden on oil producers and on the government."

"This is an important step toward establishing an energy policy which

can revitalize the energy industry and benefit all our citizens. It's a small first step but it's a beginning."

In Austin, Gov. Mark White said, "The Arabs beat 'em to it. The Saudi Arabians repealed the windfall profits tax when they flooded the market with oil and dropped the price below \$22 a barrel."

Oil states have been hard-hit by the price drop, and many oil producers have been shutting down

their wells because they've become unprofitable, lawmakers said.

Sen. Frank H. Murkowski, R-Alaska, said Congress should try to help "an industry that is as American as traditional apple pie."

Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., said if American wells continued to shut down, the nation would be vulnerable to future price hikes by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

## Jenco delivers message

LONDON (AP) — The Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco, freed after nearly 19 months of captivity in Lebanon, conveyed a secret message Thursday from his Moslem kidnappers to the archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie.

The Roman Catholic priest later had a surprise reunion with another former American hostage, Presbyterian minister Benjamin Weir.

Jenco, who was visibly ailing, told news conference that his captors gave him a Bible, and that he prayed, "God, I'm no Job." The Old Testament tells the story of the tribulations Job faced as a test of his faith.

The contents of the message were not disclosed, but Jenco said it was the same one he gave Pope John Paul II on Wednesday at the Vatican.

### Cities show record water use

## Heat wave death toll at 2

(AP) — Record-high temperatures throughout sun-scorched Texas caused at least two deaths and contributed to a third while electricity and water usage surged with the heat.

Steve Tisdale, 41, died of heatstroke, the Dallas County Medical Examiners office ruled Wednesday. Tisdale, whose high alcohol intoxication level was a secondary cause of death, was found unconscious beside a road in northwest Dallas, authorities said.

Texas Department of Corrections officials said Adolfo Banda, 30, collapsed while working in a field squad of 14 inmates outside the TDC Pack I unit in Navasota and was pronounced dead Wednesday afternoon, department spokesman Charles Brown said.

In San Antonio, preliminary autopsy results show an elderly

low-income housing resident died of a liver disease with the heat as a contributing factor, Bexar County medical examiner's office said in a statement.

Alfonso Perez, 75, was found Tuesday in his subsidized apartment that was without air conditioning, the *San Antonio Light* reported.

At least 30 Texas cities recorded highs above the 100-degree mark Wednesday, and forecasters had little hope for the state cooling off as they say it will be at least Sunday or Monday before a front reaches with enough power to drop temperatures by even a few degrees.

Meanwhile, many areas in the state are using record amounts of water and electricity.

Consistently high temperatures, ranging above 100 degrees, and increasing population forced

the city of Irving to buy 3 million gallons of water a day until Sept. 30 from Dallas to avert a critical shortage in the supply, city officials said.

On Tuesday, water consumption reached an all-time high of 55 million gallons. That's 10 million more than last year's daily peak.

In Houston, power consumption hit a record of 11,325 kilowatts during a one-hour period Wednesday, city officials said.

A stubborn high pressure center hovering above the area is responsible for the heat wave, the weather service said.

As air conditioners hummed, Texas Utilities in Dallas set a new all-time peak demand at 5 p.m. Wednesday of 16,537,000 kilowatts or about 4 percent higher than last year's peak, said spokesman Dick Ramsey.

## Jury asked to set aside \$10 billion settlement

HOUSTON (AP) — Attorneys for Texaco Inc. on Thursday asked a state appeals court to set aside a multibillion-dollar judgment a jury last year ordered Texaco to pay to rival Pennzoil Co. for wrongfully interfering with a planned Pennzoil-Getty Oil Co. merger.

"There's not a shred of evidence in the record to say that Texaco knew (of any contract between Pennzoil and Getty)," attorney Richard Keeton said in arguments before the 1st Court of Appeals. "There was no contract and Texaco had no knowledge even if there was."

Pennzoil's lead attorney, Joe Jamail, however, attacked the Texaco arguments, accusing the nation's third-largest oil company of using a media campaign made up of myths about the trial judgment.

"It's another plea to another court for more sympathy," Jamail said of Thursday's argument. "They're still playing their game of mirrors."

"I think what these (Texaco) law-

yers are telling us is how they would have liked to have the case tried."

The court adjourned Thursday afternoon following more than four hours of arguments. No immediate ruling was issued from the panel of Justices James F. Warren, Jack Smith and Sam Bass.

In November, a Houston jury found Texaco wrongfully interfered in the planned Pennzoil-Getty merger in 1984 and ordered Texaco to pay \$10.53 billion in damages to Pennzoil. The judgment is the largest in U.S. history.

Jamail insisted Getty and Pennzoil had an agreement and Texaco was aware of it.

"It is as brazen an interference with another contract as I have ever seen," another Pennzoil attorney, Simon Rifkind, told the three-judge panel.

Keeton contended that Getty representatives encouraged Texaco to get involved.