

Texas A&M

The Battalion

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Voters' Guide

Student election '87 preview

Dollar's dip stirs worry in investors

NEW YORK (AP) — A historic surge in the dollar's value put a dash into bull markets around the world Monday as investors worried over an unrestrained decline in the U.S. currency and the outside chance of a trade war.

The prices of stocks and bonds in Tokyo, London and New York reacted to the dollar's fall. The U.S. currency hit its lowest point against the Japanese yen since the late 1940s.

Traders said they were worried in light of President Reagan's plan to impose prohibitive tariffs on up to \$10 billion worth of Japanese electronic goods to force Japanese compliance with a trade agreement on computer chips.

It seems like the United States is playing hardball here, and the indications are quite severe," said Andy Holland, a foreign currency trader for Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corp. The dollar broke through new lows steadily last week and again Monday despite the purchase of \$10 billion on the open market by the central banks of Japan and, to a lesser degree, the United States.

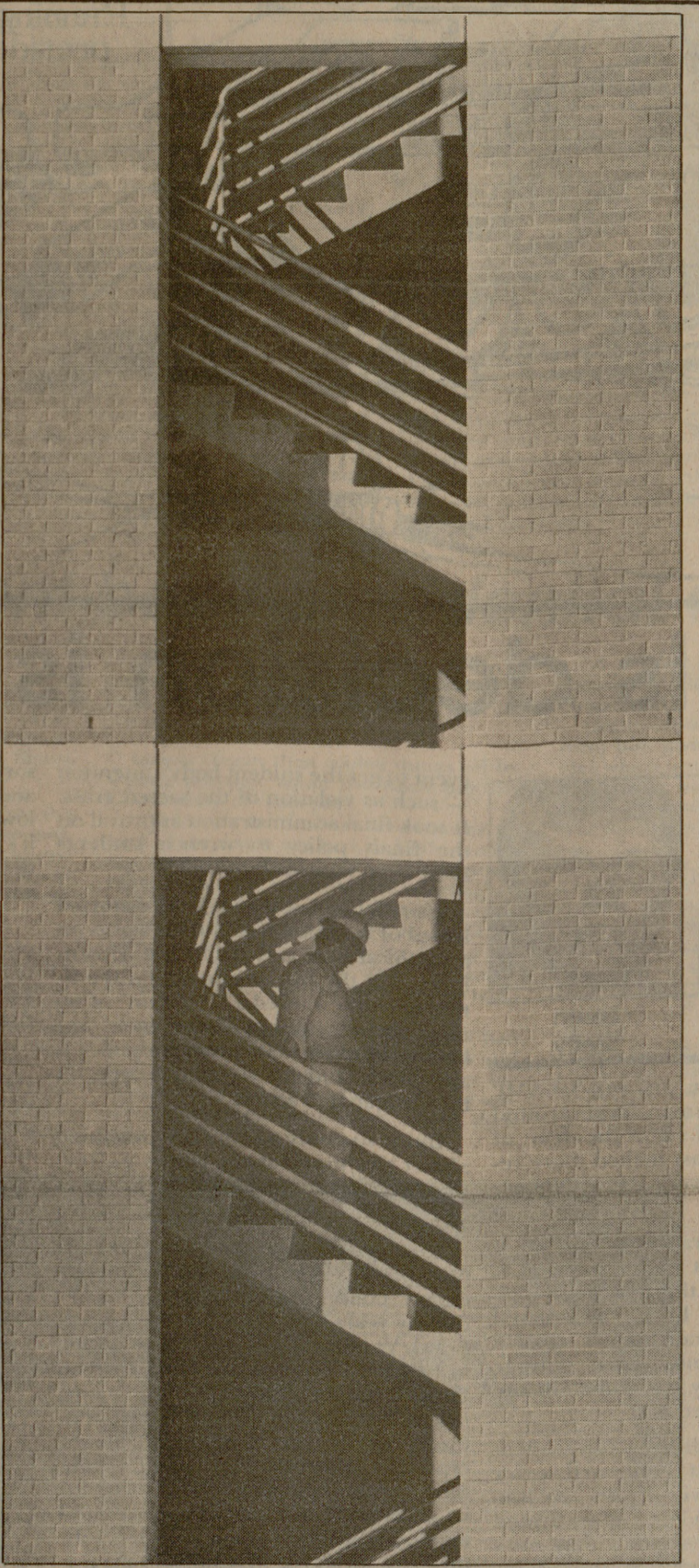
Toshihiko, senior yen dealer at Westpac Banking Corp., said, "It's a very, very dangerous situation. Nobody can stop this movement of the falling dollar, not even the Federal Reserve; market momentum is so strong."

The dollar skidded to a low of 147.70 yen in Tokyo Monday before rising to 146.20 yen, still below Friday's late rate. It finished at the same level later in Europe and the United States.

Stock traders, already nervous over the huge run-up in stock prices since the beginning of 1987, reacted with frenzy in the currency market, selling stocks.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks plunged more than 80 points early in Monday's session and ended up down 57.39 points to 2784.41 at the close of the New York Stock Exchange. Earlier, Tokyo's stock market suffered its second-largest single-day loss in history, as it tumbled heavily on exports.

Big Japanese insurance companies and trust funds were selling dollars furiously Monday to guard their investments because they expect the dollar to keep falling and reach 140 yen within a month, Toshihiko said.



Down And Out

A construction worker heads down the stairs of the new engineering building being constructed near the Zachry Engineering Center.

Photo by Dean Saito

6 A&M candidates file overspending charges

President's race follows complaint tradition

By Christi Daugherty
Staff Writer

Six candidates running for student body president filed charges Monday against another candidate, Miles Bradshaw, alleging that he has overspent the \$300 spending limit.

Bradshaw insists he is innocent, and late Monday evening produced for *The Battalion* papers and receipts which he said proves it.

The Election Commission responded by requiring all nine candidates to submit preliminary campaign spending reports.

The six candidates who filed are: Jaime Galvan, Jody Kay Manley, Perry Eichor, Mason Hogan, Jose Castro and Spence McClung.

The complaint they filed charges Bradshaw with "... excessive overspending of the \$300 limit allotted for the student body president campaign race."

"We have checked into 'local' (Bryan-College Station) retail prices on his fliers and pamphlets, etc. . . and see no way he has kept under the \$300 budget limit," the complaint says.

When contacted, Galvan said, "I think our complaint said it all. I don't think I have to add anything to it."

But Eichor said, "We didn't come across as a single complaint. All of us got together and decided that we had run a fair campaign, and he hadn't. It's not that we had any malice toward Miles at all from the beginning."

The receipt for glossy fliers and badge inserts, which have been at the heart of the charges against his campaign, show that he ordered

2,000 each of the fliers and inserts at a printing shop in Nacogdoches, where he is from, and paid \$82.40.

Bradshaw said the estimates he got in the College Station area were very high, so he ordered the fliers in Nacogdoches and got a good price of about 3¢ apiece, or a little more than half of what he would have paid in College Station.

"The place where I got them in Nacogdoches has been there forever, and when she gave me the estimate, it was so low compared to what I'd been quoted before that I just said, 'Print them,'" Bradshaw said.

The receipts produced also show that he paid about 6¢ each for 1,500 three-fold brochures at the same printing shop.

Bradshaw's receipts show he paid for fliers, brochures, small one-quarter

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Election official terms sign, flier vandalism 'no problem'

By John Marr
Reporter

A Texas A&M student election commissioner said Friday that sign and flier vandalism has not been a real problem and that complaints have been minimal.

Derek Blakeley, one of two election commissioners, said the commission does not have time to check up on everybody and it relies on complaints being filed by candidates about any problems. If a complaint is filed, the commission takes appropriate action, he said.

Jaime Galvan, a candidate for student body president, filed a complaint Friday that about 500 of his fliers had been torn down. Galvan asked the commission to allow him to print 500 more fliers without affecting his campaign expenses limit.

Blakeley said that after investigating the complaint, the commission denied Galvan's request. Because there is always a high turnover of fliers, he said, it is impossible to determine how many, if any, of Galvan's fliers had been torn down.

A certain number of fliers are removed by the custodial staff because they are in the wrong places, Blakeley said. Fliers can be placed only on general-purpose bulletin boards and

kiosks (cylindrical display structures). He added that nothing can be placed in the Memorial Student Center, Pavilion or Rudder Tower.

"Obviously some vandalism occurs, especially in the men's dorms," Blakeley said, "but no real problems have occurred."

Although he did not file a formal complaint about the incident, Galvan reported that he noticed at about 5 p.m. that his sign near Sbis Dining Hall was knocked down — its 2-by-4-inch wooden leg was broken, and a pink bandanna was tied to it.

"I admit the wind has blown the signs around," Galvan said, "but the wind cannot break a two-by-four or tie a bandanna."

Just four hours after he repaired the sign, it was broken again, Galvan said. The leg apparently was ripped off and thrown to the side.

Galvan also reported that his sign near the Commons has been broken four times. Although the repair cost was minimal, Galvan said repairing the signs was time-consuming.

"I spent approximately six hours last week on repairs when I could

have been studying or campaigning," he said.

Jody Kay Manley, another candidate for student body president, said a lot of signs have been blown down by the strong winds, but that it appeared one of her signs had been knocked down and moved.

Galvan and Manley said they are concerned about how the commission handles vandalism complaints.

"The commission is not being a police force for the elections," Manley said. "They need to take action."

Galvan said, "Candidates are afraid to voice complaints because the commission has failed to take action in the past."

A complaint can be filed only by a candidate, Manley said, but publicity from the complaint can backfire.

"It has already happened once," she said. Two years ago Brett Shine filed a complaint against Sean Royall and it backfired on Shine, she said.

Latest version of bill under committee review

Open-container legislation surfaces again

By Daniel A. La Bry
Staff Writer

Open-container legislation in Texas has risen from its two previous deaths and is back stronger than ever.

An open-container bill, sponsored by Sen. Bill Sarpalus, D-Canyon, was approved by the Senate on March 9 and now is being reviewed by the House Liquor Regulations committee.

The liquor regulations committee is reviewing another version of an open-container bill submitted by Rep. Bill Blackwood, R-Mesquite. This is Blackwood's first time to sponsor open-container legislation.

Unlike earlier legislation, neither open-container bills would affect passengers, but both would make it a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of up to \$200 for someone to drink alcoholic beverages while driving.

Trey Emery, co-owner of a local drive-through liquor store, said he doesn't expect an open-container law to affect his business or his customers — at least not to the point the 21-year-old age limit did.

"It will probably be like the 55 mph speed limit law — it will be there, but many people won't obey it," he said. "The open-container law will only affect the portion of our business in which we serve draft beer and Igloo daiquiris. As for selling packaged beer — six-packs, 12-packs, and whatever — I really don't see how that's going to affect us too much."

People still are going to come through and buy alcohol, Emery said — they're just going to keep a careful watch for police when they're driving around.

Sarpalus saw his previous open-

container proposals buried in the legislative graveyard in the 1983 and 1985 sessions. The 1983 bill survived a Senate committee but didn't make it out of the full Senate. The 1985 bill made it through the Senate, but died in the House Liquor Regulations Committee.

The bills killed in the House during the past two legislative sessions had been stricter, forbidding open alcoholic beverages anywhere in the passenger compartment of a car or truck.

Danna Reynolds, a legislative aide to Blackwood, said the main difference between Blackwood's bill and Sarpalus' is an "immediate possession" clause.

Blackwood's bill is the same as Sarpalus' except it includes a clause that also defines an offense to include drivers having alcohol in their immediate possession when pulled over for another offense, such as speeding.

Joel Brandenberger, an administrative aide to Sarpalus, said, "The bottom line is (Rep.) Ron Wilson, chairman of the liquor regulations committee, personally has assured Sen. Sarpalus his bill will be reported out favorably."

A more receptive liquor regulations committee and some flexibility on the part of the bill supporters have improved the chance for the open-container bill to be passed this session, Brandenberger said. He expects the bill to be out of committee by mid-April.

A member of the two previous "non-receptive" committees Brandenberger referred to, Rep. Ed Watson, D-Deer Park, said he has been opposed to open-container legislation all along.

"It's a fraud on the people and



Photo Illustration by Tom Ownbey

there's no way that it can be enforced," he said.

As far as Blackwood's bill, Watson said, "That one won't see the light of day." He added that if any bill does come out of the liquor regulations committee, it will be the weaker version of Sarpalus'.

Brandenberger said, "They (the opposition) were willing to work with the bill and we were willing to

address every reasonable compromise offered to the bill."

The biggest concession made by the supporters of the bill, he said, was the addition of some language to safeguard against police harassment. The added language requires an officer to witness a driver consuming alcohol while the vehicle is in motion before initiating any action.

The additional language specifying what an actual offense would be

also quieted opponents' concern about situations like a beer can rolling out from under a seat when someone gets pulled over for speeding.

Watson said he still doesn't feel comfortable with the bill.

"I think this is another way for the police to start stopping people," he said. "One thing that concerns me is that people with tinted windows can violate the law and they (the police) would never know it. If we pass that law, the people in the tinted-window business are going to get rich."

Open-container backers were willing to compromise until the Department of Public Safety and the Texas Police Association said the bill would be unenforceable, he said, adding that both groups agreed that the bill is still enforceable with changes.

Capt. Billy Melton of the DPS regional office in Garland testified during hearings on the open-container bill while serving as chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee of the Texas Police Association.

"If the Legislature passes a law, a large percentage of the people will voluntarily obey it," Melton said during a phone interview. "If we get the law on the books, we'll have a majority of the people obeying the law regardless of what law enforcement does."

Most people obey the law, he said, leaving only a small percentage of the people for law enforcement to deal with.

"I would agree that the law may be a little difficult to enforce," Melton added, "but I think that is missing the point. If we can impact only a small part of the small percent of the people not obeying the law, then the law will be very useful."

3 athletes to go to court on April 6

By Curtis L. Culberson
Staff Writer

Three Texas A&M football players facing misdemeanor assault charges are scheduled to appear in justice of the peace court on April 6, court clerk Louisa Dunn said Monday.

Sports Information Director John Keith said the football players would seek legal counsel and could not comment on the case until after they had spoken with lawyers.

Senior defensive back James Earl Flowers and sophomore running back James R. Howse are each charged with one count of misdemeanor assault. Lafayette Turner, a freshman defensive back, faces two charges of misdemeanor assault.

The charges stem from a March 11 incident in Cain Hall involving the assault of two women students and a University police officer.

Director of University Police Bob Wiatt confirmed that University Police officers responded to an incident in Cain Hall on March 11, but said because of the pending charges against the players he could not comment further.

The charges are Class C misdemeanors and are punishable by a maximum fine of \$200.

Both women involved filed complaints of assault against Turner. One woman filed a complaint against Howse, and Officer Mark Barnett of UPD filed an assault complaint against Flowers.

Complaints were filed in the office of Justice of the Peace Mike Calliham, who will hear the case.

Flowers, 22, from Bryan, has completed his four years of eligibility and will not return to the Aggie football team next year. Howse, 21, from Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Turner, 20, from Dallas, are expected to return in the fall.

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