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## Oil PACs give most money to Texans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oil industry campaign contributions have grown to more than \$1.2 million so far this year, and Texans lead the list of recipients, records indicate.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, has received more money — \$159,525, or about 13 percent of the total — from oil industry political action committees than anyone else in Congress, according to Federal Election Commission records.

Speaker Jim Wright, D-Fort Worth, with \$23,500, and Rep. Joe Barton, R-Ennis, with \$22,500, rank first and second on the House list of oil-PAC money recipients, a study by the Harte-Hanks Newspapers' Washington bureau shows.

Vice President George Bush has received \$33,800 in oil money, more than the \$30,725 garnered by all his presidential rivals combined, the study shows.

The money apparently is paying off on legislation that would help revitalize the oil industry, which is reeling from the 1986 price slide, the Harte-Hanks bureau found.

Sixteen of the top 20 oil-PAC money recipients — and nine of the top 10 — in the Senate voted for a repeal of the Windfall Profits Tax this year, records show.

The repeal, which oil producers have sought for years, passed 58-40 and now is in a House-Senate conference committee.

The oil lobby was less successful on Bentsen's proposal for a 50 percent cap on oil imports, which was defeated 55-41.

But 11 of the top 20 Senate oil-PAC recipients voted for it, while nine opposed it.

Meanwhile, the top 10 recipients in the House have sponsored or cosponsored more than 50 bills that would benefit oil producers.

"What the oil industry is doing is buying access and votes," said Craig McDonald, director of Congress Watch, an organization that monitors PAC money contributions and their influence. "That (\$1.2 million) is a pretty good share of money."

Texans are not the only recipients of oil contributions. The 112 oil PACs representing organizations which have a full or partial interest in oil and gas operations have contributed to 381 different members of Congress and four presidential candidates, according to the study which covers campaign reports up to Aug. 1.



**Howdy, Sir!**  
Cadet Ward Miller, a freshman biology major from Philadelphia, Pa., introduces himself by "whipping out" to senior Corps member Head, a computer science major from Houston.

Photo by Sarah [unclear]

## Business gives elderly chance to resume work after retirement

DALLAS (AP) — At age 67, with a long, hard life of house-painting behind him, Ray Yates might be ready to settle back into a rocking chair on a shady front porch somewhere.

Yates doesn't see it that way. In fact, he'd rather hawk hot dogs on a 100-degree sidewalk than rock away his life.

"I've never been the type to quit," he says. "I just can't sit around at home all the time. I figure if I quit, I won't live much longer."

So the lifetime Oak Cliff resident hooked up with Hot Diggity Dog Inc., a fledgling company that makes hot dog vendors out of elderly and handicapped people who can't find work elsewhere.

Yates says Hot Diggity Dog might keep a lot of people like him off front porches.

Hot Diggity Dog founder Scarlett Rabalais says that's the idea.

"We want to put the elderly back to work and help find jobs for the

handicapped," says Rabalais, who locates her hot dog stands at area Sam's Wholesale Clubs. "We've got two stands and seven employees right now and we have plans to open stands in Oak Cliff and Grand Prairie."

Rabalais says she got the idea for the business in May, after her 52-

*"I've never been the type to quit. I just can't sit around at home all the time. I figure if I quit, I won't live much longer."*

— Ray Yates, 67-year-old hot dog vendor

year-old stepfather suffered a heart attack and couldn't find work.

"He worked for 22 years for that company, and they retired him after the heart attack," she says. "And with his age and health history, he couldn't find another job."

So Rabalais and her husband, Al Rabalais, took their idea to Bentonville, Ark., the home of Wal-Mart Stores and Sam Walton, the richest man in the United States, according to Fortune magazine. Al Rabalais says they never got to talk to Walton, but Wal-Mart representatives gave them permission to open their first

training manager, says the are instant hits.

"With our prices (\$1.50 for a hot dog and a Pepsi), we do real well," Taylor, 18. "Senior citizens are amazingly helpful, and they can't keep the things they've won for all their life."


The Rabalaises, who live in apartments and condominiums in Texas, California and Utah, made about \$22,000 in Hot Diggity Dog sales last year. They also negotiated a deal by which they buy all the supplies from Sam's, and Wal-Mart a cut of the profits.

Scarlett Rabalais says the business isn't important.

"The critical thing," she says, "is creating jobs for these people."

To qualify to work for Hot Diggity Dog, a worker has to be at least 55 years old or have some sort of handicap. Yates says the job is tailored for older people.

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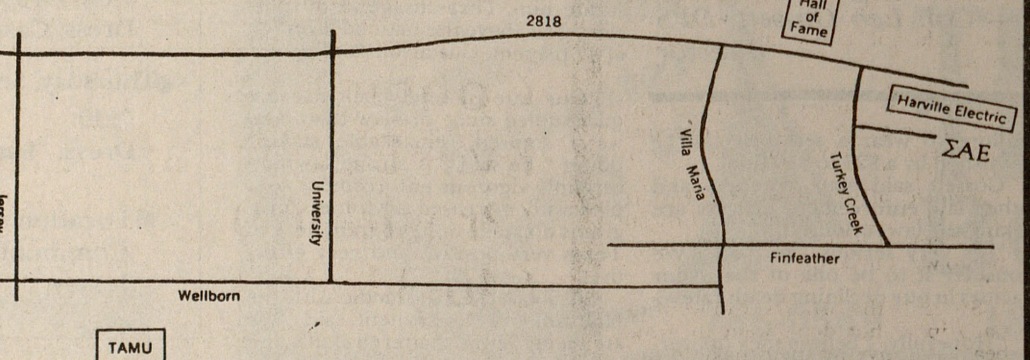


**Amuck in College Station - Part III**  
Featuring "The Pictures" at the **ΣAE** House  
Wednesday, September 2, 7:30 p.m.

**Barbeque Bash**  
Ribs and Beef at the **ΣAE** House  
Friday, September 4, 4:00 p.m.

**Smoker**  
At the **ΣAE** House  
Wednesday, September 9, 7:30 p.m.

**Just Guys**  
Poker Smoker at the **ΣAE** House  
Friday, September 11, 4:00 p.m.



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