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Judge for high court may be named soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Judge Anthony M. Kennedy's selection to the Supreme Court could come as early as Wednesday, the White House said Tuesday, as officials reviewed FBI checks into Kennedy's background to guard against surprises.

With Kennedy's selection apparently imminent, President Reagan's chief advisers met at the White House along with a team of FBI investigators "to review the status of the FBI's work" in checking Kennedy's background, said presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

Fitzwater said there was "a possibility we'll have an announcement tomorrow."

Originally, Reagan had no activities on his schedule because it is Veterans Day, a federal holiday, and the White House staff was to have the day off.

Fitzwater said the press office would be open for business.

Fitzwater said a preliminary investigation could be completed by Wednesday but that a full field check of Kennedy's background, including interviews with associates and colleagues, will not be finished for some time.

White House officials went to unusual lengths to guard against the failures that brought down President Reagan's previous two choices.

Attorney General Edwin Meese, White House chief of staff Howard Baker, counsel A.B. Culvahouse and FBI Director William Sessions met at the White House along with a team of FBI investigators.

And administration officials arranged courtesy calls with leading senators for Kennedy amid Republican bickering over the defeat of Robert H. Bork and the withdrawal of Douglas H. Ginsburg.

In a Senate speech, moderate Republican Sen. William Cohen compared conservatives' criticism of White House chief of staff Howard H. Baker Jr. to a mugging "on the back stairs of the White House."

Reagan met for a half-hour Monday evening at the presidential residence with Kennedy, a

federal appellate judge from Sacramento, Calif., spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

The nomination announcement would be forthcoming before the week was out, he said.

A face-to-face session with the president is customarily the final step before such an announcement.

But Fitzwater said it had been agreed that "more consultations would take place" first, particularly with members of Congress.

Kennedy, 51, was accompanied to the White House by Baker and Attorney General Edwin Meese

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— Senator Cohen, R-Maine

III, two top advisers who reportedly have disagreed over strategy and nominees for the seat that has remained vacant for more than four months.

Meese and other conservatives are widely reported to have persuaded Reagan two weeks ago to select Ginsburg for the court seat after the Senate voted down Bork.

Baker is said to have favored Kennedy, and he has been accused by conservatives of undermining Ginsburg when an uproar followed Ginsburg's admission he smoked marijuana in the 1960s and 1970s.

On Tuesday, Cohen, R-Maine, said, "The truth is that Howard Baker was shoved overboard by the ideologically pure because he was recommending a 'confirmable conservative,'" Cohen said. "That phrase suggested compromise or, worse, appeasement."

Cohen said the conservatives took the view that in Ginsburg,

"We've got a man who will make the Bork haters beg for a chance to recant."

But the Maine senator said that after the marijuana disclosure, it "was a group of conservatives who gathered on the floor and came to the conclusion that Judge Ginsburg had to go, not any liberals or not any moderates."

Cohen contended that if Baker had urged Reagan to fight for Ginsburg "to the very end, and then the vote was lost sometime in later December or early next year, his critics would have then blamed him for not advising the president to cut his losses more quickly."

"These attacks only confirm the fact that you can get mugged more easily on the back stairs of the White House than you can on the streets of any urban ghetto," Cohen said.

On Monday, conservative Republican Orrin G. Hatch told reporters there were "gutless wonders" in the White House who forced Ginsburg to request withdrawal of his nomination last Saturday, even though the nominee was willing to fight for confirmation.

Hatch would not say whether he counted Baker as a "gutless wonder" but commented, "Howard Baker believes almost everything can be compromised. I don't believe you compromise on principle, and there was a principle here."

Reagan, asked by reporters whether he still had confidence in Meese, said that he did, and he added, "He's no embarrassment to me" despite the failure of two Meese-backed nominees.

"I've known him for 20 years and I've found him of sound mind and great loyalty and capability in all that time," Reagan said.

Meese himself said he hadn't given any thought to resigning and "I don't think there's any disarray" in the administration.

Meanwhile, Meese said Tuesday he couldn't understand how Ginsburg's past marijuana use hadn't shown up in extensive FBI interviews with friends and associates.



Milling about

Photo by Sam B. Myers

Marine ROTC cadets, officers and enlisted men congratulate each other Tuesday morning after competing in a 3-mile run celebrating the 212th birthday of the Marine Corps.

American AIDS victim fears for life, hides out in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An American AIDS victim says he is hiding in Mexico because U.S. prosecutors won't protect him after three attempts on his life and have threatened to jail him if he does not testify at a fraud trial in Houston.

But Assistant U.S. Attorney Walter Herman of Houston denies threatening to arrest James Shuman, 34, who says he was involved in the sale of time-shares at a Galveston resort.

Herman also said he has not issued any subpoena for Shuman to testify later this month, saying Shuman has "got his story confused."

Shuman said he is scheduled to testify in a federal court trial Nov. 30 against James Freese and four other

defendants charged with mail and wire fraud in connection with time-share sales in Galveston.

It wouldn't be the first time for Shuman to testify against Freese. Earlier this year, he testified against Freese in Cobb County, Ga., where prosecutors called him an important witness. Freese was sentenced recently to 50 years in Georgia and ordered to pay \$132,000 for his part in a solar energy scam.

But Herman, who characterized Shuman as a "top lieutenant" in the time-share operation, disputes his version, saying, "He is just one witness who tells a good story. I am not hurting for witnesses."

Herman declined to say whether Shuman appeared before a federal grand jury in Houston and would not say whether he thought a jury would view Shuman as credible witness. Shuman said he appeared before the panel on May 15.

Asked if he threatened Shuman

with arrest if he did not appear, Herman said in a telephone interview, "No way, no. I told him if he absented himself from the country after being served with a subpoena, he could face criminal contempt charges. But he has not been subpoenaed. He's got his story confused."

Shuman says he was shot at twice last year while living in Acapulco, where he worked with Freese in a time-share operation, and that a car tried to run over him near his hotel a few months ago.

At that point, Shuman said, he called the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City and was told to leave Acapulco for his own safety.

Shuman said because of what he says were attempts on his life, he asked to be placed in the U.S. government's witness protection program and was refused. But Herman said he has not refused to give Shuman protection.

Aggieland takes honor of being largest school yearbook in U.S.

Evolution of annuals provides diversity throughout time

By Susan C. Akin
Reporter

The Texas A&M yearbook, *Aggieland*, is now the largest yearbook in the country, and has evolved from books that have differed greatly in scope, content, and design.

The first A&M yearbook, the *Olio*, was published by the Corps of Cadets in 1895. Its eight editors and four designers — including one woman (E. Hutson, Class of '98). *Olio*, is an Italian term meaning "a dish compounded of many ingredients."

The *Olio's* 133 pages had a formal style of writing and photography, depicting a more rigid student life and several serious-faced faculty. There were more pages of writing than of photography, probably due to the limitations of photography in the 1890s.

There were illustrations like "The Results of the Chicken Fry," caricatures of professors, poems like "Old George Mayn't be Sleeping," and short stories like "Shank's Mares Are the Safest Steeds" — all telling about memorable experiences of the 1894-95 school year.

The first page of the *Olio* had this quote: "Gentle reader, on the page opposite, the picture see of three senior-class-men sage. These their names upon this tree carved, in token they shall live in chronicle and history. This is the board executive. These, reader, be the heroes three who this book have publish-ed. Heroes whom posterity shall honor, when that they be dead."

The first yearbook staff immodestly foreshadowed the accomplishments of the 85 A&M yearbooks to come. However, the unusual characters in the yearbook didn't end with the staff.

Page 81 of the *Olio* had a chart containing four columns. The

first column had names of various seniors. The second column had their religious preference, which contained everything from Baptist to Campbellite. The third column had their political preference — most were Democrat, but a few were Free Silverites.

Believe it or not, the *Long Horn* and the *Longhorn* were once names of the A&M yearbook.

The second one, the *Long Horn*, was published in 1903 by the senior class after some debate. It was a dark blue, horizontal book with 176 pages including advertisements. There were more photographs, illustrations, poems and stories, but the contrast to today's society was still evident.

There were sections on society and statistics listing, for example, what type of chew most students used — "My Lady Nicotine" or "vile weed."

Another section called "gags on everybody" was a gossip and prank page.

The fun continued in the first yearbook known as the *Aggieland*, published in 1949. This *Aggieland* was more personal than those previous — with bright, hand-colored photographs and odd-shaped layouts.

A&M's third yearbook was also more humorous than its predecessors. The increased enrollment was evident in photographs of people in funny situations, positions and expressions.

It contained sections such as dedication, senior's review, who's who, classes, administration, vanity fair — a beauty photo contest for the women, and senior favorites — pictures of the student's mothers, grandmothers, sisters and girlfriends.

But the yearbook not only reflected the times — it was affected by them. No yearbook was published in 1945 because of a paper shortage caused by World War II.



Photo Illustration by Jay Janner

So in 1946, A&M had two yearbooks — one for 1945 and one for 1946.

Although A&M was primarily thought of as a male institution before women were admitted in 1964, women have attended A&M since the 1890s and their presence is predominantly seen in yearbooks of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s.

Women were shown in a social light in past yearbooks because they could only attend classes, not receive degrees. Women were pictured in about six beauty contests, innumerable sweetheart contests, photograph contests and many formal social functions.

The 1964 *Aggieland* recorded the first school year women were admitted to A&M. Almost everything remained the same except that there were pictures of women in scholastic activities and in classrooms.

All individual class portraits of enrolled women were put on one

page separate from men — after the freshmen.

Blacks first appeared in the 1966 *Aggieland*. There were few general pictures of blacks on campus, and their individual pictures were dispersed throughout class portraits. Women, however — with the exception of seniors and graduates — were still put on their own separate page.

The 1984 *Aggieland* was the first yearbook not to have the senior ring on the cover. And although there wasn't a ring on the cover of the 1985 *Aggieland* either, it still won an award for cover design.

The 1988 *Aggieland* will be more modern in design and format, said Joanie Pate, senior accounting major and editor of the 1988 *Aggieland*. The theme of the new *Aggieland* will be "Worth Talking About" and will be a book of student quotes, she said.

Default figures show A&M shouldn't be hurt by financial aid cuts

By Richard Williams
Reporter

Schools in the Texas A&M University System should not be hurt by a plan to cut all student financial aid at schools with Guaranteed Student Loan default rates of more than 20 percent, according to default figures obtained from the U.S. Department of Education.

At 4.7 percent, A&M's student loan default rate is not in danger.

Announced by U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett last week, the plan will discontinue all aid — GSLs, Pell Grants, Perkins loans and work-study funds — from the appropriate schools. The announcement caused officials at schools across Texas to search for their default figures.

John Bertak, a spokesman for the U.S. Education Department, said the plan was meant to lower the cost of the GSL program.

Bennett has called the cost of defaults "intolerable."

Currently, \$1.6 billion, or 47 percent, of the GSL budget goes to pay off bad loans, Bertak said.

Figures obtained from the U.S. Education Department show that four schools in the System are not in danger of losing funding because of a high default rate. The figures show the following default rates for schools in the System: A&M, 4.7 percent; Tarleton State University, 9.95 percent; Prairie View A&M University, 11.7 percent; and A&M-Galveston, 13.2 percent.

George Torres, a policy analyst for the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation in Austin, said smaller schools will be affected most by the plan.

"This is not going to hit the SMU's or A&M's that are large, four-year schools," he said. "This is going to hit the junior colleges, trade schools

and the schools that have lots of minorities or lots of lower income students."

Torres said he did not agree with making the schools responsible for the default rate.

"The schools don't have any control over who gets the loans," he said. "They just verify a person is a student. Schools can't make a student pay back a loan. They can only inform students of their responsibility."

"He (Bennett) could just as easily have gone after the lenders, because they have more authority as to who gets a loan. You notice he didn't go after the lenders. Why? Because he's a politician, that's why."

Bertak disagrees with that assessment.

"Schools can do things to lower the default rate," he said. "They can raise the admissions standards to admit only those students who are likely to finish school. They also can provide lenders with forwarding addresses, or withhold diplomas or transcripts from those in default."

A.D. James, director of admissions and financial aid at Prairie View, disagrees with Bertak on raising admissions standards to allow only those who are more likely to graduate.

"We provide equal opportunity to all students who want to obtain an education," James said. "Raising the standards to admit only those who aren't high risk would take away from our purpose."

Bertak said the department is trying to make the lenders bear more responsibility for high default rates, but that Congress is not helping.

The department has tried to change the rate of guarantee on the loans to the lenders, he said. The loans are 100 percent guaranteed by

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