

State and Local

A&M senior will reign as queen during 1988 Cotton Bowl game

By Lisa Dieterle
Reporter

As the Texas A&M University football team battled University of Texas players on Thanksgiving day for the Southwest Conference championship, one woman stood with her fingers crossed and said her prayers throughout the game.

She is Cathy Park, a senior finance major from Plano and — since A&M won the game against UT — A&M's 1988 Cotton Bowl queen.

"The Texas game was unnerveing," Park said. "All I could think about the whole game was that there's some girl in this crowd from Texas sitting here as nervous about this as I am."

The queen represents the school that wins the conference title.

Park said she heard about the application through last year's Cotton Bowl Queen, ReCi Reeves Brooks, and became interested after hearing about Reeves' activities.

Fifteen applicants and their escorts were chosen to be interviewed. Eight administrators from campus and one student representative made up the interviewing panel. Questions asked ranged from news traditions, activities and grades.

Park has been active in many programs at A&M. She is involved with the College of Business Administration Fellows Program, the Aggie Hostess program, the Spring Leadership Committee and the Aggie Muster Committee, and is an activities chairman of Chi Omega soror-

ity and a Kappa Alpha little sister.

She said her hobbies include riding and showing horses, playing tennis, hunting quail and dove, shooting skeet and trap and sleeping.

Park's escort as queen is someone she says has been her best friend since the second grade, Bo Collins, a senior finance major at A&M.

"He's phenomenal and really good with people," Park said about Collins. "It's really neat to be able to have your best friend with you through it all."

Park said she is pleased to have been chosen to represent A&M.

"The opportunity to represent Texas A&M University anywhere is an honor, but it will be an exceptional experience at the 1988 Cotton Bowl," Park said.

Park said she felt one of the main reasons her interview went so well was because of Collins' support. She said it made her nervous to have to wait and see whether A&M would win the conference title and validate her title.

"I got the call (from the selection panel) that night," she said. "From there on out I kept my fingers crossed the rest of the season."

Park's activities as queen will begin Dec. 29 and end after the Cotton Bowl halftime activities. She will attend brunches, luncheons, cocktail parties and balls.

The people attending these parties mainly will be the Cotton Bowl sponsors as well as former students, Park said. She also will be in the Cotton Bowl Parade on New Year's Day.



Cathy Park is the 1988 Cotton Bowl Queen. Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Sources: Texas among finalists for super collider

WASHINGTON (AP)—Texas was among six states identified by unnamed sources Tuesday as finalists in bidding for the \$4.4 billion superconducting super collider, but members of Congress denied the existence of any such list.

Rep. Joe Barton, R-Ennis, said he was told by "highly placed sources" in the Energy Department recently that the final list would contain about 10 sites in the same number of states and be released in early January.

"The DOE wants to make sure they pick the best technical sites and that they have a broad enough base of support so the states that are picked will continue to go to bat for the project and the states that are not picked do not go against it," said Barton, in whose district lies one of the two official Texas sites.

Texas has four bids for the super collider. Waxahachie and a site near Amarillo are the two state-proposed sites, while sites near El Paso and Midland are being proposed by two maverick groups.

Energy Department officials and the director of the National Academy of Sciences panel evaluating 25 states' proposals for the \$4.4 billion atom smasher also said no list of finalists has been prepared.

However, an aide to a member of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee said Illinois, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and North Carolina have had sites accepted by the academy panel.

"There's still the possibility that you'll see a New York or a California or an Ohio added in there," said the aide, who spoke on the condition that he not be identified further. "We think there will probably be more."

He said the six-state list was provided by Department of Energy sources working with the site-selection team.

"There may be such a list, but it's not our list, and it's not the academy's list," DOE spokesman Phil Keif said.

Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y., said, "I am sure there are some lists floating around at DOE." But he said any such list would be so preliminary it probably is "written on the back of an envelope."

Boehlert also predicted there would be no serious reduction in contenders before Congress votes to authorize spending on the project.

"That would be suicide for the project if they did that," he said.

Scientists say the super collider, to be built underground, would whirl beams of protons together with 20 times the energy now possible to probe the deepest secrets of the origin of matter.

Twenty-five states have submitted 35 proposals for the project, which will create thousands of construction jobs, employ 2,500 people and have an annual budget of \$270 million.

Energy Secretary John Herrington asked the academy to review the bids and come up with a "short list" by the first week of January from which he will make the final selection next July. Herrington is to confirm the final selection by January 1989.

"The academy hasn't compiled such a list yet," Keif said. "When they do, we'll announce it with full flair."

Raphael Kasper, executive director for the academy's Commission on Physical Sciences and director of the site-selection project, said, "We don't have a report or a list yet."

Clements: Creating jobs to be key aspect of border talks

AUSTIN (AP) — Creating jobs will be a key aspect of this week's meeting between U.S. and Mexican border state governors, Gov. Bill Clements said Tuesday.

"For both days, we will focus our collective attention on jobs and the industrial development of the border," Clements said.

Clements said he is interested in

the "maquiladora" twin-plant concept, but the agenda will be open to questions on the environment, academics, drug problems, energy or issues the governors wish to discuss.

Clements, the governors of New Mexico, Arizona and California, plus the governors of the six Mexican states, will open talks Thursday at Las Cruces, N.M.

The Texas governor said he is interested in expanding the twin-plant program so more factories on the American side of the border can make components to be assembled by Mexican manufacturing plants.

Thousands of new jobs could be created in Texas from expanding the program, Clements said.

"It's nothing in the world but a

plus for us in Texas," he said.

Clements said expanding twin-plant manufacturing would put Texas at a competitive advantage with many other states for new jobs.

Since Texas is closer to the Mexican manufacturing plants, the components could be produced and transported more cheaply from Texas factories, he said.

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