

State and Local

Gramm discusses issues at annual B-CS banquet

Senator stresses great importance of budgeting

By Lee Schexnaider
Staff Writer

The United States should continue the quest for a balanced budget and move to push back the borders of communism, Republican Sen. Phil Gramm said Friday at the annual Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

The Texas senator said that President Reagan's time in office has been a success economically, but that there is work yet to be done.

"I think we need a vision beyond the Reagan vision," Gramm said. "We need a new agenda as to where we are going to go in America. Clearly part of the new vision for America is completing the old vision of balancing the federal budget."

Gramm said the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act is helping to balance the budget, but he criticized some of the actions taken to meet the law's specifications.

"I quite frankly didn't think a whole lot of the agreement that was worked out to meet the Gramm-Rudman targets this year," he said. "I thought with the instability of the stock market and the economy that we could have — and should have — done a lot better."

Constraints that would have cut spending across the board forced Congress to act, Gramm said.

"It was not a very happy marriage between the president and the Congress," he said. "It was not a marriage of love or convenience that brought everybody together at the altar to work out this deal. But it was a marriage of necessity. And while I think we could have and should have done a lot better, we did a lot better than we have done in the past."

Gramm also supports a change in the relationship between the United



Phil Gramm speaks.

Photo by David Elmer

States and the Soviet Union.

"You can always take the position that maybe we ought not to be making agreements with the Soviet Union, and I think one could make that case," he said.

But Gramm praised the intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty signed last month by Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, calling it the best agreement we have made in the post-World War II period. To take effect, the arms reduction treaty must be approved by two-thirds of the U.S. Senate.

Gramm said the people of the United States should not be content with simply making sure none of the free world has fallen to the communists.

Instead, he said, the nation should strive to spread democracy.

"Our goal is not an unstable state-mate," Gramm said. "The whole world belongs to us. We need to have a goal to roll back the borders of communism and extend the frontiers of freedom."

"There can't truly be peace on this earth until all the world is free, including the people of the Soviet Union, and that's got to be our goal."

Gramm said the United States has been able to negotiate with the Soviet Union because of its strength. He said the United States has rebuilt its conventional and strategic forces and is stronger today than it was in 1980 when Reagan took office.

"We've brought the Russians to the bargaining table not because we were weak or because we made concessions, but because we were strong," he said.

Soldier arrested after disturbance at Dixie Chicken

By Drew Leder
Staff Writer

College Station police arrested a 19-year-old U.S. soldier Saturday night in front of a Northgate bar after he attempted to flee from an officer and attacked two employees, a police report said.

Nearby crowds outside busy Northgate establishments saw the 5-foot-8-inch, 180-pound man — identified by the police as Thomas Gifford of Arkansas — dart away from Police Sgt. Johnny Campbell while Campbell and employees of the Dixie Chicken tried to obtain identification from Gifford and two men who were with him.

Employees of the bar had called the police to pick up the three men after they entered the club and appeared to be intoxicated, said Don Ganter, owner of the Dixie Chicken.

The police report said bar employees chased Gifford, who is enlisted in the Army, and caught him. The report said that as they escorted him back to the police car, Gifford attacked them. Gifford, who was shouting obscenities at Campbell and the crowd of

onlookers, had to be restrained by the officer and the employees to be handcuffed, the report said.

It said that when Campbell tried to place Gifford into the back seat of a police car, Gifford put his legs through a space between the front seats of the car and kicked the police radio and gear lever.

Ganter, who witnessed the events unfolding in front of his nightclub and restaurant, said Gifford "went berserk and was tearing up the police car."

"He resisted the police officer in a horrible fashion and created a scene," Ganter said.

According to the police report, Campbell suffered some pulled muscles in his left ribcage while trying to restrain Gifford.

Campbell eventually was able to subdue Gifford by calmly talking to him, the report said.

Gifford was charged with public intoxication, resisting arrest and criminal mischief with damages under \$20, a misdemeanor offense. Bail was set at \$812.50. As of 7 p.m. Sunday, Gifford still was being held at the Brazos County Jail.

\$850 of property taken from homes in CS burglaries

Both an A&M student and an A&M assistant professor Friday night were victims of burglaries in which property valued near \$850 was taken.

The two College Station homes in the 200 block of Richards Street were entered between 7 p.m. and 11:15 p.m. Friday and an estimated \$850 in property was stolen, according to police records.

A .22-caliber rifle and two television sets were taken from one home. One television set valued at \$450 was taken from the other home during the burglaries, the records show.

Both the professor and the student were in town at the time of the burglaries. However, neither of the victims were at home at the time of the crimes.

Habitation burglary tends to rise in College Station during the Christmas holidays because most A&M students leave their residences to go home, said Lieutenant Todd of the College Station Police Department.

"When lots of people leave their homes, the burglars come out," Todd said.

Todd also said that this situation makes it harder for the police to find any suspects because the crimes are usually not discovered until the student returns.

Contenders vary in religious beliefs

NEW YORK (AP) — The contenders for the 1988 presidential nominations reflect a melange of religious adherence, including three in religiously mixed marriages.

All the major candidates are Christians, but one has a Jewish wife, and two who are Protestants have Roman Catholic wives.

In denominational affiliation, four candidates are Baptists, two Roman Catholics, two Episcopalians, two Presbyterians, and one each

Methodist, Lutheran and Greek Orthodox.

The presidential race "is likely to be the fourth one in a row in which religion and church-state relations play an important role," Albert J. Menendez, associate editor of Church & State, writes.

Menendez, of Washington, D.C., compiled the candidates' religious profiles for the monthly published by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

The seven Democrats include

three Baptists, a Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran and Presbyterian. Of six Republicans, two are Episcopalians and the remainder a Catholic, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian.

Most of the Democrats have indicated opposition to tax aid for church and private schools and to constitutional amendments to restrict abortion and allow organized prayer in public schools. Most of the Republicans have supported such steps.

YOU'VE GOT THE GOOD SENSE TO GO TO A&M...

WE'VE GOT THE DOLLARS AT FB&T.

First Bank & Trust is now offering a guaranteed student loan program.

To get into college, it takes intelligence, talent and ambition. We can help with the rest...financing. If you want change in your life, come talk to our loan officers...we want to make getting a student loan easy:

- Fast turnaround time on loan processing
- Efficient check service
- Eight locations in Texas
- Easy repayment terms



For further information, complete and return the following to P.O. Box 1033 Bryan, TX 77805, or call First Bank & Trust at 268-7575.

Please send me information about a Texas Guaranteed Student Loan.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

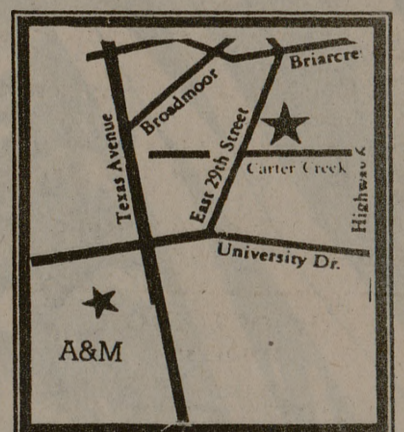
Month and year the student expects to enroll in the college, university or junior college at which this loan will be used: Month _____ Year _____

NATIONAL VIDEO SUPERSTORE with OVER

8,000 MOVIES To Choose From!

Keep Movies 2 Days Sun.-Wed. At NO EXTRA COST!
OPEN: 7 Days a Week 10:00 am til Midnight

NATIONAL VIDEO SUPERSTORE
846-9090



Carter Creek Center • 4001 East 29th Street • Bryan