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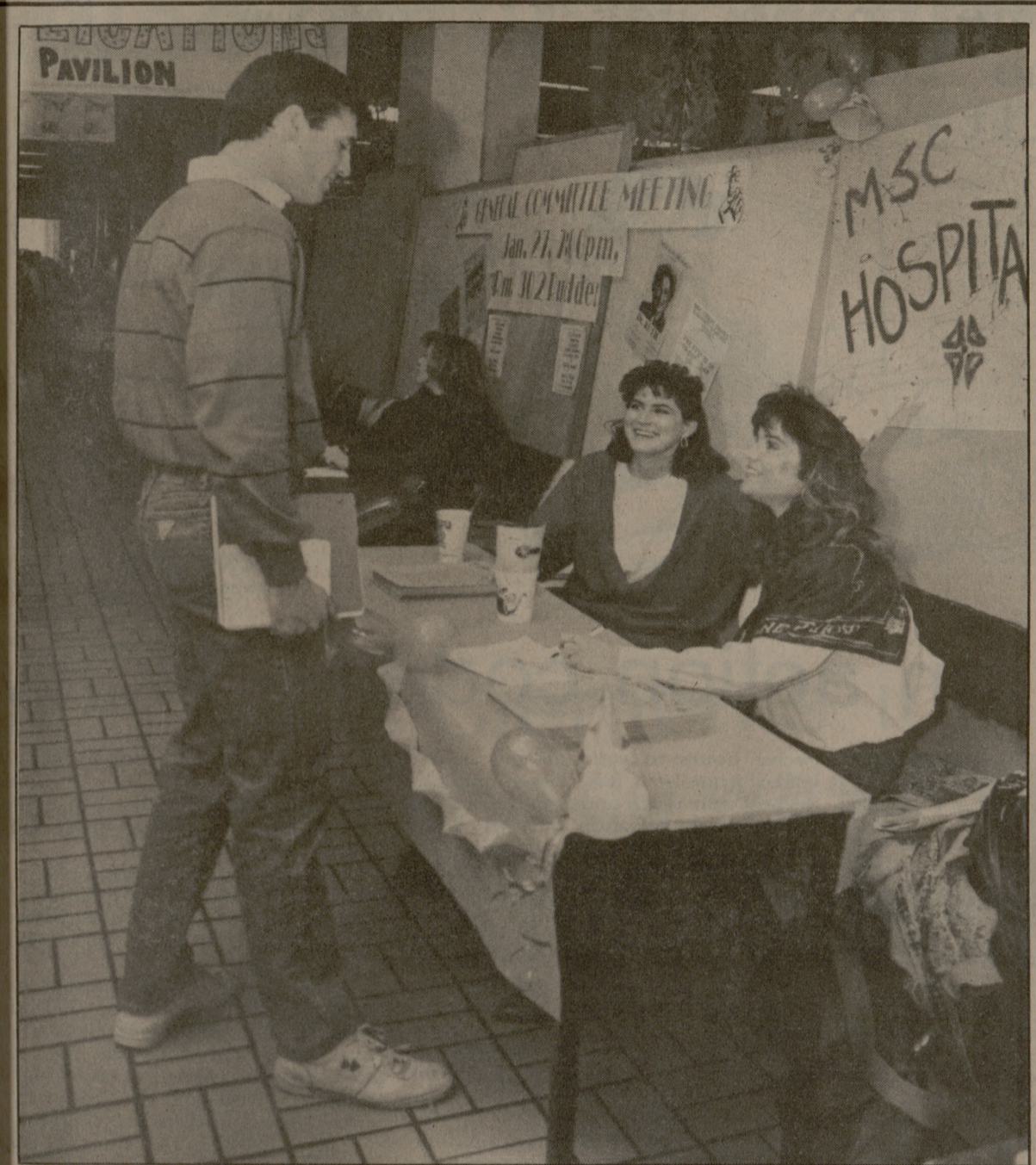


Photo by Shelly Schluter

Sign on the dotted line

Speech communications majors Elizabeth Edmondson, a junior and chairman of the Hospitality committee, and sophomore Yvette Schrock, fash-

ion chairman of the Hospitality committee, tell Tod Klubnik, a senior mechanical engineering major, about upcoming events.

Reagan solicits more Contra aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan said Wednesday that Congress will commit "one of America's most tragic mistakes" if it refuses to give more money to Nicaraguan rebels.

House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, accused Reagan of pursuing a military victory and the overthrow of the Sandinista regime.

There was a sharpening of rhetoric on both sides as supporters and opponents of rebel aid tried to marshal forces for a showdown vote next month that will sustain the Contra force or effectively put it out of business.

The White House angrily rebutted charges that the administration was trying to sabotage the peace process in Central America.

"The Democrats, Chris Dodd and others, they want a surrender," presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said. "They think surrender is the best way to achieve peace. We disagree."

Dodd, a Democratic senator from Connecticut and opponent of Contra aid, had said the administration "ought to at least see whether or not that peace process can succeed" before pressing for more Contra aid.

Replying to Fitzwater's statement, Dodd said, "These smear tactics are only further evidence of how desperate the people in the White House are to keep their failed policy alive."

Reagan will submit a new aid request late this month, probably on Jan. 26. A Republican congressional

source said he would seek upwards of \$100 million. The House will vote on the request Feb. 3.

If the House approves the request, it will go to the Senate the next day. If it is rejected in either house, both sides agree it would be the end of the line for the Contras.

"We're at a critical juncture," Reagan said. "If Congress votes down aid this time, the decision may well be irrevocable, and if that happens it's my great fear that we will have abandoned all hope for democracy in Nicaragua and peace in Central America."

Speaking to an audience of Contra-aid supporters invited to the East Room address, Reagan said, "this is the moment of truth, the make or break vote on the freedom fighters."

Goswick undergoes tests after dizzy spell

By Mark Gee
Staff Writer

University Health Center Director Claude B. Goswick Jr. is in stable condition in the coronary care unit at St. Joseph Hospital and Health Center after suffering syncope at 3:45 Wednesday afternoon, said Edith Hill, a hospital spokesman.

Goswick's son, Ben Goswick, said his father is undergoing an evaluation by Dr. Gordon Mitchell, a Bryan cardiologist, because of the dizzy spell.

"It is suspected that it was only a dizzy spell," Ben Goswick said, "but more tests will have to be run to determine exactly what happened."

Goswick had the dizzy spell while at the health center. The Texas A&M Emergency Care Team, which Goswick directs, attended him at the scene and transported him to the hospital, said Steven McDonald, chief of Emergency Medical Services.

Goswick, director of the health center for 14 years, has expanded the facility to meet student needs while keeping costs low. For a \$15 student health service fee, students get medical treatment, laboratory tests, X-rays and 10 days of in-patient care. The Health Center also offers prescription medication.

The outpatient clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

When he began as director in 1973, there were 20,000 students; now he is responsible for 39,000. In his 14 years as director he has established an ambulance service, an endowment for health center excellence and an orthopedic clinic.

The health center reduced student's waiting time by reorganizing treatment areas and adding a treatment room in 1987.

Goswick, who keeps close contact with students said in an earlier *Battalion* interview that he likes for students to feel comfortable in the health center.

"A little too much like home when students put their dirty feet up on the chairs, but we try to overlook that," he said.

Hart faces questions about campaign contributions

Gary Hart pledged Wednesday he would "comply with the campaign laws" amid allegations of improper contributions to his Democratic presidential campaign.

In New Hampshire Hart faced questions on a new controversy as his rivals prepared for a minority-sponsored debate Wednesday night in Iowa, where the Feb. 8 caucuses will provide the first formal test for the Democrats.

Five of the candidates were participating in the debate, while Hart and Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore Jr. skipped it.

The questions for Hart in New Hampshire concerned a report that Stuart Karl, marketer of Jane Fonda workout and Playboy videos, had improperly bankrolled campaign expenses in Hart's 1984 presidential bid and again in 1986 and 1987.

For Hart, who has been trying to overcome questions about his personal life by stressing high moral standards in his public life, the disclosures were seen as a new blow in Iowa.

The *Miami Herald*, whose disclosure of

his relationship with model Donna Rice prompted Hart to withdraw from the race for seven months, said Karl has chauffeured Hart in Lear jets and helicopters, paid a monthly salary of \$3,000 to Hart aide Dennis Walto, and covered 1984 campaign expenses such as car rentals and printing costs.

Hart said, "We will comply with all the laws and regulations. (I will) hold myself responsible for whatever happened and not shift any blame to anyone else." But at

the same time, he said, "Obviously a candidate cannot know every detail" of his campaign.

Late Wednesday, Hart campaign manager Susan Casey defended Karl's role with the campaign but concluded, "The issue of impropriety goes beyond simply a legal question. Any contributions or any arrangements that appear to violate even the spirit of the law are unacceptable."

Casey said Karl billed the Hart campaign for \$96,000 in services, a debt that is under

settlement review by the FEC for 10 cents on the dollar.

Federal Election Commission spokesman Sharon Snyder declined to say whether the agency is investigating.

She said individuals are limited to \$1,000 contributions to a presidential candidate, and corporations are barred from making any contributions. The law bars assigning an employee to work on a candidate's behalf for more than an hour a week unless that work is reported as a contribution.

Officials explore claims of forgeries on candidates' petitions

AUSTIN (AP) — The Harris County district attorney's office in Houston says it is investigating possible misdemeanor offenses in connection with forgeries on petitions submitted by Republican presidential candidates in Texas.

At the same time, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported Wednesday that an unnamed federal source said the FBI's investiga-

tion into the case hasn't uncovered evidence of serious federal offenses.

In Houston, assistant Harris County prosecutor Casey O'Brien said the petition inquiry has focused on misdemeanor forgery law.

"We are looking at forgery, and the appropriate statute is a statute that makes forgery a misdemeanor," O'Brien said. "I don't see how a felony forgery statute could apply."

Since Jan. 8, news reports have

detailed forgeries on petitions submitted by some GOP presidential hopefuls to qualify for the March 8 Texas primary election ballot.

The Republican Party on Monday announced that despite the forgeries, all six presidential candidates could receive national convention delegates if they win them in the primary. Earlier, GOP Chairman George Strake said any candidate who failed to submit 5,000 valid sig-

natures would be barred from receiving delegates.

Questions were raised about some signatures submitted by Alexander Haig, Kansas Sen. Robert Dole, New York Rep. Jack Kemp and former Delaware Gov. Pete du Pont. The GOP certified petitions from Vice President George Bush and former television evangelist Pat Robertson. Attorney General Jim Mattox and

the FBI have been trying to determine if potential offenses were committed and whether those would be state or federal violations. Mattox's office has not yet made that determination, Mattox spokesman Ron Dusek said Wednesday.

In other political news: • Bush's campaign announced that the vice president had been endorsed by Republican Congressman Steve Bartlett of Dallas. Bartlett is

the seventh of the 10 Texas GOP congressmen to back Bush.

• Democratic Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, speaking in Beaumont, called for a bipartisan summit on energy this year to "pull together elements of an effective national energy policy."

Bentsen, who is seeking re-election, said he hoped the summit could be held in Texas.

Proposal to end dispute about railroad generates no commitments for funds

By Tracy Staton
Senior Staff Writer

Although the traditional adversaries in the railroad crisis seem receptive to compromise, no monetary commitments or plan approvals have been made.

The most recent proposal has been a plan to lower the railroad tracks and Wellborn Road into a 26-foot trench. The plan has received compliments from College Station City Council members and is favored by the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

"The plan that appears to have the most support right now is a plan to trench the railroad through campus," U.S. Rep. Joe Barton (R-Tex.) said Monday. "We are trying to work with all the folks involved to come up with a plan all parties agree on and a way to fund it."

"We met with them (University

"We are willing to consider and study anything but can't say without specifics what our opinion would be."

Jim Johnson, Southern Pacific spokesman

and railroad officials) prior to starting a fact-finding investigation and gave them until the end of this month to work it out themselves," said Booker T. Morriss, counsel to Railroad Commissioner John Sharp, in a telephone interview from Austin. "If it is apparent that the situation remains at the end of this time, the commission will get involved."

Jim Johnson, public relations manager for Southern Pacific, said the railroad is willing to discuss any project, but has no firm opinion about the situation.

"We are willing to consider and study anything but can't say without specifics what our opinion would

be," Johnson said. "We can't rule anything out, but that's as far as we can go without figures and timetables."

The railroad has no objection to the attempts to resolve the situation, he said.

"We don't want to make the city or University think we're trying to debate or arm wrestle," he said. "We're not trying to be unresponsive. We want to be receptive, but it's got to be reasonable. This has to be a mutual thing."

But the proposal has its detractors.

"It won't be solved in my mind until the railroad is moved, but I don't

know if that will ever be accomplished," said William McKenzie, a member of the Texas A&M Board of Regents. "We are hoping it can be accomplished."

The depressed-track proposal will be presented to the Board of Regents during its January meeting Monday and Tuesday, probably during a closed session, Board of Regents secretary Bill Presnal said Wednesday.

"The main thing we are concerned about now is whether we are down to this being the only alternative," Presnal said. "I think the Board will be concerned about that. We also want to know how it is viewed by those who have been sitting in on the meetings about this situation."

Beyond the immediate problem of deciding on a renovation strategy is the question of funding. Barton proposed a three-way split of costs

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A&M researchers vie for share of \$60 million in state research funds

By Jeff Pollard
Staff Writer

The battle among Texas colleges and universities has escalated, again. This time, though, it's not a football game to decide the national championship or a baseball game for the Southwest Conference title. This battle is being fought in the field of high-tech research, and at stake is \$60 million in funding supplied by the state of Texas.

The Texas Legislature allocated the \$60 million last year for research in such areas as aeronautics, computer sciences, oceanography, agriculture, physics, biotechnology, information sciences and telecommunications.

Researchers at Texas A&M hope to receive some of this

money, which will be awarded in May in the form of project grants.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, authorized to distribute the funds for research at Texas institutions, set up two programs to handle the selection process.

The Advanced Research Program is responsible for about \$20 million to be made available only to state-sponsored institutions (colleges, universities, health centers and technical institutes). The Advanced Technology Program will distribute the other \$40 million for research at any school, public or private, in Texas.

The first stage of the selection process ended Jan. 5 when letters of intent for both programs were

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