



# Kennedy obtains Senate approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate on Wednesday swiftly and unanimously confirmed Anthony M. Kennedy to the Supreme Court, ending a ferocious political battle that began seven months ago.

Kennedy, a federal appeals court judge who was President Reagan's third choice to succeed retired Justice Lewis F. Powell, was approved by 97-0 with Democrats and Republicans alike praising him as a moderate, open-minded conservative.

Reagan, in a statement, said he is "extremely pleased" and declared Kennedy "will make an outstanding addition to the Supreme Court."

"The Senate has not only restored to the nation a full nine-member Su-

preme Court, it has reaffirmed this country's commitment to the philosophy of judicial restraint," Reagan said.

In Sacramento, Calif., Kennedy issued a statement saying he could "conceive of no greater honor for an attorney or a judge" than to serve on the Supreme Court, and adding he is committed to the American constitutional system.

Kennedy, 51, will be sworn into office Feb. 18, becoming the 104th justice in the history of the nation's highest court.

He is expected to play a pivotal role on the sharply divided court, particularly on such issues as abortion, affirmative action and separa-

tion of church and state.

His confirmation, after a one-hour debate, was in marked contrast to the stormy fight touched off by the nomination last July of Robert H. Bork.

Bork, Reagan's first choice to fill the vacancy created by Powell's June 26 retirement, was denounced as a rigid right-wing ideologue who threatened individual freedom and civil rights progress. The Senate rejected him by 58-42 on Oct. 23.

Reagan, calling Bork the victim of a lynch mob, then picked Douglas H. Ginsburg, who withdrew from consideration after admitting he had smoked marijuana while a Harvard law school professor.

# Students blame assault on A&M football player

By Drew Leder  
 Staff Writer

Two Texas A&M students and a College Station resident said they were assaulted by an A&M football player in an attack last weekend that left all three in the hospital, according to College Station Police Department records.

Involved in the incident were A&M students Walter Voigtman, a junior political science major, and Mary Barclay, a senior elementary education major. Mary Barclay's husband, Andy Barclay, also was involved.

Andy Barclay told police that an A&M football player got out of a car and attacked them at about 12:30 a.m. Sunday and then sped away, police records show.

The attack took place in the parking lot of the Woodstone Shopping Center on Harvey Road, the records show.

According to a police report, Voigtman told the police officer that he knew the attacker to be an A&M football player.

The report says the man was identified later as a football player by witnesses in the parking lot.

Mary Barclay said Wednesday that she went to the College Station police station Monday to file formal charges of aggravated assault, but police said that an arrest warrant for the man hasn't been issued.

Diann Williams, records technician for the College Station Police Department, said Wednesday evening that aggravated assault charges against the man are being processed

and will be officially filed in a few days, but she could not provide further information.

According to the report, the attacker was a passenger in a Corvette convertible being driven through the parking lot in front of Archie's 39¢ Hamburgers.

The Barclays, Voigtman and another woman were in a car that had just pulled into the parking lot. The report said Andy Barclay had just exited the car when the man called out, "Look at those faggot cowboy boots."

According to the report, Barclay replied, "What's wrong with cowboy boots?"

The report says the man exited

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**Squeeze me**  
 Matthew Blake, a junior marketing major from Houston, chooses a poster from a display that is currently set up in the MSC. Each semester the Aggie Cinema invites the Austin business to sell the posters at A&M. The display will last until Friday.  
 Photo by Shelly Schalter

# House kills Reagan's request for more aid to Contra rebels

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bitterly divided House voted Wednesday to cut off U.S. military support for Nicaragua's Contra rebels, rejecting President Reagan's aid request in the hope of spurring peace prospects in Central America.

The 219-211 vote, culminating six years of overt and covert military support for the rebels fighting the leftist Sandinista government, killed Reagan's request for \$36.2 million in new aid to keep the Contras alive as a fighting force through June.

It was a serious defeat for the president, who had lobbied hard on the issue for two weeks and put the Contras among the top foreign policy priorities for his final year in of-

ice. Only a day earlier, Reagan had argued that failure to extend aid would strengthen communist influence in the hemisphere.

"Today's vote is the end of a chapter," House Majority Whip Tony Coelho, D-Calif. said. "The Contra policy is the past. Now we can deploy America's greatest strengths, from aid and trade to diplomacy, to stoke the flames of liberty and secure the future for Central America."

But Republicans bitterly warned that the action would relieve part of the pressure on Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega that has forced him into recent concessions, and that Managua would slip backwards into renewed repression.

"The issue of Nicaragua and Central America will not go away," House Republican Leader Robert Michel of Illinois said.

"If you vote this package down, you'd better be prepared to bear the consequences," Michel said. "And who among you is smart enough to predict the path on which Daniel Ortega will take you?"

Current aid to the rebels expires Feb. 29, and Democrats pledged to hold another vote before then on an alternative package of purely humanitarian aid to the rebels, and to follow that up with a new emphasis on economic development aid for countries in the region which abide by terms of a five-nation peace accord.

"We recognize that we cannot morally walk away and leave them abandoned in the jungle," Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., said.

The most controversial part of the defeated package was \$3.6 million earmarked for weapons and ammunition, which Reagan had said he would withhold until March 31 to see how cease-fire talks go between the rebels and the Managua government. Those talks are scheduled to resume Feb. 10.

# New Jersey court: Surrogate pacts are 'baby-selling' Father gets custody of Baby M

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Paying a woman to have a baby amounts to illegal baby-selling, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled Wednesday in the landmark Baby M case. But the toddler will live with her father, with visiting rights for her biological mother.

The court's 7-0 decision overruled all but the custody decision of a lower court judge in the dispute over a surrogate agreement gone sour.

Mary Beth Whitehead-Gould bore a daughter nearly two years ago for William Stern and his wife, Elizabeth. She was artificially inseminated and agreed to accept \$10,000 for having the child, but when the girl was born, she changed her mind, refused the money and fled to Florida.

Authorities tracked her down after nearly three months and returned the child to the Sterns.

In its decision, the high court said the contract between White-

head-Gould and the Sterns violated New Jersey adoption laws because of the payment to her.

"This is the sale of a child, or at the very least, the sale of a mother's right to her child, the only mitigating factor being that one of the purchasers is the father," the court said.

But the justices found no illegality in allowing women to volunteer as surrogates, provided the agreement allows the mothers to change their minds about giving up parental rights.

The judges said Whitehead-Gould is entitled to see her daughter, and directed a lower-court judge to set guidelines. They also voided the adoption of the baby by Mrs. Stern.

Because the surrogacy contract is invalid, the court said, the case boiled down to a custody dispute.

The court said it closely scrutinized both households and found it would be in Baby M's best interest to grow up with the Sterns.

# Rumors say Soviets had meltdown

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Rumors of another Soviet nuclear accident swept across Western Europe on Wednesday, triggering speculation in grain and dollars on financial markets before being squelched by Soviet and Swedish officials.

The false reports may have been the fallout from a test of an early warning system begun by an international nuclear energy watchdog agency in the wake of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union.

The national news agency Tidingarnas Telegrambyra, citing Sweden's national Radiation Protection Agency, reported "an atomic power plant accident apparently occurred in the Soviet Union."

The report spread quickly, even though officials at the radiation agency said they had made no such statement and the Soviet Minister of Nuclear Energy denied an accident had occurred.

The rumor also reached New York, as stock prices of companies that trade in grain rose on the rumor, because contaminated Soviet crops would spur U.S. exports. The dollar rose slightly on some European markets as the rumor spread.

# Degree applications due by end of week

By Amy Couvillon  
 City Editor

Degree applications are due before 5 p.m. Friday for Texas A&M students planning to graduate in May, Assistant Registrar Don Gardner said Wednesday.

To apply for an undergraduate degree and order a diploma, a student must fill out a card in the degree check section of the Office of the Registrar in Heaton Hall.

The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, but is closed from noon to 1 p.m.

Students applying for a degree also are asked to fill out another card, which provides information for the Association of Former Students Directory and mailouts to former students.

Degree candidates must pay a diploma fee, which was available as a fee option in spring registration. But if a student hasn't paid the fee, Gardner said, the registrar's office can make arrangements to send a bill to the student later.

"The main thing is to get over here and fill out the cards," Gardner said.

Computer-generated degree audit letters will be sent in April to every student who applies for a

degree, Gardner said. The letter will tell the student whether any problems — such as unresolved petitions or trouble with transfer credits — remain to keep the student from graduating.

Gardner said it is important for degree candidates to get problems like this resolved as soon as possible and not leave them until the last minute. The verification period before the graduation ceremony is much shorter this semester because it is the first semester in which graduating seniors will be required to take finals.

"The goal is that by April 1, we will send all these students a nice clean audit," Gardner said.

Gardner estimated that about 3,000 students will graduate in May.

Late degree applications will be accepted up until the time that grades are turned in, Gardner said, but because diplomas have to be ordered in advance, students who apply late may not get their diplomas in time for the May 13 and 14 graduation ceremonies.

"If they come wandering in around March, I'll let them apply," Gardner said, "but we can't guarantee when their diploma will come in."

**By Kimberly House**  
 Staff Writer

The University Police Department reported that several males were running nude in the Memorial Student Center Wednesday at 12:06 a.m.

The police also reported that three males wearing only neckties around their heads and carrying towels began creating a disturbance in Krueger Hall at 12:48 a.m.

An officer apprehended one male whom she chased to Cain Hall. The man told the officer he had organized an initiation of freshman recruits.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and University Police, said there

**"Unless someone files a criminal complaint no one can be arrested and names do not have to be revealed."**  
 — Bob Wiatt, director of security and University Police

were a number of incidents that began right after midnight that were reported to UPD and continued for a couple of hours.

No one was arrested and the case is under investigation, according to Wiatt.

"There were naked men running through campus and running through dormitories," Wiatt said. "Not only did our department have a number of calls but the Col-

lege Station Police Department did too because there were allegations at Treehouse Apartments, off campus, that there were a number of people running there.

"At this point we are conducting an investigation to see if there is any violation of hazing or any other appropriate charge such as disorderly conduct," Wiatt said. "Except, to have disorderly conduct or anything like that, you have to have a victim who will sign a complaint."

Hazing is when you force anybody to do anything against their will, he explained, or even by the virtue of your position assert your authority.

He said the incident could be a violation of the state hazing law and also the hazing laws of the University. That will be determined by Student Affairs, to which the case is being referred, Wiatt said.

When the investigation is completed the county attorney may want to determine if there was a violation of any hazing statutes, Wiatt said.

To be charged with indecent exposure, he said, you have to show

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# Nude males run through Commons, MSC in possible initiation incident