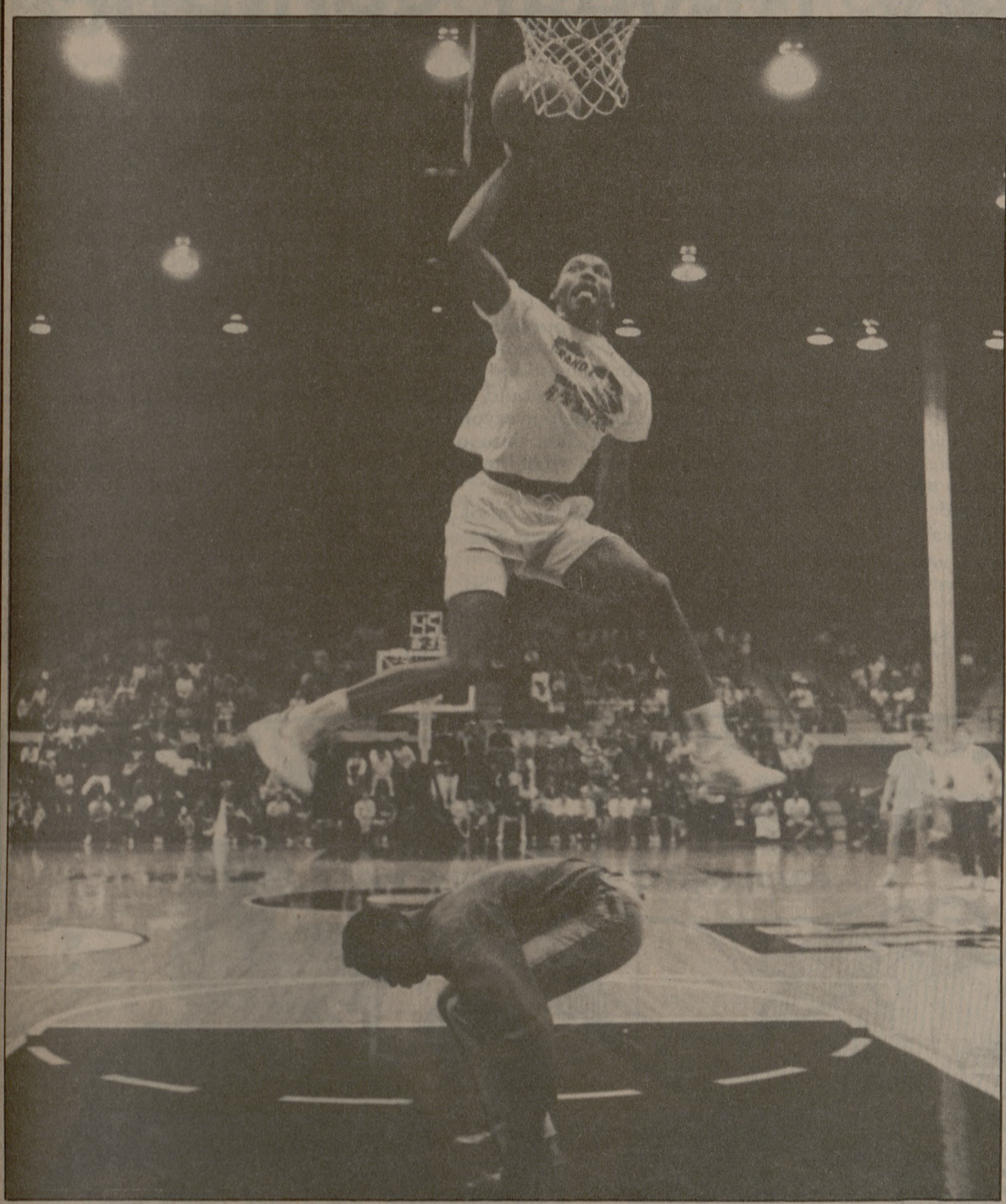


# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Air Jordan?

Freshman Andre Taylor demonstrates his special dunk Saturday during the Intramural Slam Dunk Contest finals. John Vandermeer won the contest for the fifth consecutive year.

Photo by Jay Janner

## Campaign wars escalate as primary approaches

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Republican candidate Pat Robertson Sunday called for phasing out Social Security, as Democratic front-runner Michael Dukakis was attacked by his rivals in the closing hours of the increasingly bitter campaign for the New Hampshire primary.

With Republicans George Bush and Bob Dole running neck-and-neck, the five GOP candidates gathered for an hour-long League of Women Voters debate in which Bush and Dole both came under attack from the rest of the field.

Dole, the Republican winner in

Iowa last week, indicated he hoped to deliver a knockout blow to Bush in New Hampshire.

"Some of us would like to see it end Tuesday here with someone winning," said the Kansas senator.

Bush, for his part, made an impassioned appeal for support. "My work isn't done yet," he said.

With less than 48 hours to go before the first votes are cast on Tuesday, Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois switched to attacking Dukakis, the clear front-runner in the Democratic field. Simon dropped his controver-

sial focus on Missouri Rep. Richard Gephardt, with whom he is battling for the No. 2 spot.

For his part, Gephardt has a television ad calling Dukakis "one of the biggest tax raisers in Massachusetts history."

Robertson, who ran third in the Iowa caucuses, speculated he might do even better in New Hampshire.

"I want to have the satisfaction of seeing the television anchor's faces when they have to report that Pat Robertson won New Hampshire," he said.

## Experts discuss minority students

By Tracy Staton  
Senior Staff Writer

Minority students who have positive role models and are aware that higher education is a viable alternative are more likely to attend college, minority educators said Friday.

Experts in many fields gathered at Aggeland Inn Thursday and Friday to discuss "Race and Ethnic Relations in the 1990s," a conference organized by Texas A&M's Department of Sociology Race and Ethnic Studies Group.

Early exposure to the idea of attending college was an underlying theme in two sessions that concentrated on education. The educators who led the roundtable discussions "Education and Race — I" and "Recruitment and Retention of Minority Students in Predominantly White

Colleges" stressed the importance of informing minority students about their educational prospects.

Dr. Karen Wilson, an educational researcher from the University of Pennsylvania, said the most influential factor in determining whether a black male attends college is the student's aspirations.

"The high school and beyond senior survey indicated that the seniors who had had plans to attend college were more likely to do so," Wilson said. "Those students with higher goals are more likely to achieve them."

In an attempt to increase the aspirations of minority youth, Texas A&M has started a Minority Outreach Program in conjunction with the University of Texas. Judy Young of A&M's Office of School Relations said the program is designed to get

minority students to start thinking about college.

"It's a whole new concept," Young said. "We will set up outreach centers for early identification of minority students in middle school, so we can act as the support service they need to be eligible to attend any college. It's not specific to any particular college."

The outreach program may be able to bring more minority students into the higher education system by encouraging those students who would never have considered college otherwise, Young said.

This type of program is necessary because students have few minority role models, several other educators said.

Dr. Patricia Larke, Texas A&M

See Minority, page 9

## Bush emphasizes ties with Reagan in debate

GOFFSTOWN, N.H. (AP) — Vice President George Bush, struggling to regain his footing in the GOP presidential race, depicted himself as President Reagan's loyal second-in-command Sunday in a high-stakes debate two days before the New Hampshire primary.

Iowa caucus winner Bob Dole was challenged forcefully by his rivals during the nationally televised debate.

Former Delaware Gov. Pete du Pont thrust a piece of paper in Dole's face and asked him to sign the traditional New Hampshire pledge not to raise taxes.

The Senate Republican leader looked the material over and shot a barb in Bush's direction.

"I'd have to read it first," he said. "Maybe George would sign it."

When Bush said he expected the Soviets to go forward with a promised troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, Rep. Jack Kemp of New York said heatedly, "We have a State Department that has run amok on this issue."

"Wait and see," said Bush. "Don't fight progress when you see it. Don't be afraid."

Bush tried to close out the argument, saying, "I don't jump away from the president when the going gets tough" and then added, "give peace a chance," which brought another outburst from Kemp.

"You're using the same language as Jim Wright," he said in a reference to the Democratic speaker of the House and arch-villain in current GOP mythology.

"You should be embarrassed to use 'give peace a chance,'" he said. "We're the party of peace."

Dole has eliminated Bush's once formidable lead in the New Hampshire polls since he scored a convinc-

## Hopefuls to debate in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Presidential candidates surviving New Hampshire will try to woo Texas voters in debates at Southern Methodist University Thursday and Friday as the campaigns swing into the South.

Organizers of "The Texas Debates" said they will force the candidates to address issues important to Texas and the South in preparation for the March 8 Super Tuesday southern regional primary.

But the candidates also will be addressing a national audience when they take the stage at McFarlin Auditorium at Southern Methodist University.

Public Broadcasting Service will offer the forums nationally, and most of the PBS stations in the country's top 20 markets have agreed to air the debates.

Democratic presidential hopefuls will debate at 8 p.m. Thursday and the Republicans at 8 p.m. Friday.

The Democratic candidates are former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Massachusetts Gov. Mike Dukakis, Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt, Ten-

nessee Sen. Albert Gore Jr., former Colorado Sen. Gary Hart, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Illinois Sen. Paul Simon.

The Republicans are Vice President George Bush, Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, former Delaware Gov. Pete du Pont, New York Rep. Jack Kemp, and Pat Robertson, a former religious broadcaster.

The debates, coming on the heels of Tuesday's New Hampshire primary, will draw national attention to the regional primary of 14 Southern and border states in which a third of both parties' delegates will be picked.

Sponsors of the debates include the Dallas Morning News, KERA-TV and Texas Monthly magazine.

"The Texas Debates offer a chance to focus more closely on the remaining candidates and on the issues, especially the economic ones that are critical today in the Southwest," said Burl Osborne, president and editor of the Dallas Morning News.

ing victory in the Iowa caucuses last Monday and the vice president wound up third.

He and Bush are locked in a battle for first, although the polls all indicate the tide is flowing in Dole's direction.

Du Pont, Kemp and former television evangelist Pat Robertson are in a tight race for third in the New Hampshire polls.

Robertson made one of the most startling assertions of the debate

when he said the Russians have placed missiles in Cuba. He said his source was the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"Somehow in all this brilliant negotiation which these gentlemen are so proud of," Robertson said. "They left that out of the treaty. And it seems to me like nukes pointing at the United States are more vital to our security than nukes pointing to Europe."

## Political analyst: Soviet reforms could depend on U.S.

By Tracy Staton  
Senior Staff Writer

The United States must be receptive to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "New Thinking" policies but should not make hasty assumptions about his intentions, a U.S.-Soviet political analyst said Saturday.

Strobe Talbott, Time magazine's Washington bureau chief and former diplomatic correspondent, told about 250 people at the closing address for the 33rd Student Conference on National Affairs that the success of Gorbachev's reforms

could depend on the United States' response to *glasnost*.

"Taking Gorbachev seriously and giving him a chance does not mean we should all put on little campaign buttons that say 'I like Mike,' or delude ourselves with slogans about the Cold War being over," Talbott said during his speech on "The Future of the Soviet Union."

"But it does mean... rethinking Soviet-American relations," he said. "We owe it to ourselves — not to him, to ourselves — to come up with realistic ways to test Gorbachev's intentions."

The United States must be cautious in assessing Gorbachev's reforms because they are not as liberal as they seem, Talbott said.

"*Glasnost* means many things — important things — but it does not mean a commitment on the part of the current Soviet leadership to give that country and that people something like our own Bill of Rights," he said. "What Gorbachev wants to do in a nutshell is to make the Marxist-Leninist system more efficient. He does not want to transform that system into a Jeffersonian Democracy." But Gorbachev does want to im-

prove U.S.-Soviet relations, he said. The premier's approach to the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan could indicate his sincerity about lessening the tension between the two countries.

"In the past few days, particularly since Mr. Gorbachev made some comments on Monday, it does look as though he may be willing to pull out of Afghanistan," he said. "If that happens, and in that sense the Soviets lose Afghanistan, lose the war that they've been fighting, it will be

See Future, page 9

## Ambassador says Soviet-U.S. relations reflect behavior pattern of rest of world

By Todd Riemenschneider  
Staff Writer

The interactions between the United States and the Soviet Union set the pace for the rest of the world, a Soviet representative told A&M students at a panel discussion about United States-Soviet relations Friday.

The Honorable Igor Khripunov, first secretary to the Soviet ambassador to the United States, said he believes the way the United States and

the Soviet Union relate to each other is how the world tends to act.

"Other nations tend to pattern their behavior on how we behave," Kripunov said at the 33rd Student Committee On National Affairs. "The entire world depends on how we interact and how we operate with each other."

Kripunov believes both nations set a precedent for the world to follow. He said the summit in Washington, D.C., last year was something that

was new and unique in the relations of both countries.

"The summit last year opened up prospects for both countries to leave behind the period of confrontation and work toward the improvement of our relations," he said.

He said that getting both sides to even talk was a tough job.

"The road to the summit in Washington was bumpy and sometimes zig-zagging, but, as in the Geneva summit, it showed both sides can speak to each other in a businesslike

manner," Khripunov said.

The secretary said nuclear war must not be waged because nobody wins. He said both sides need to be determined to prevent any war, either nuclear or conventional. He also said one side should not try to seek military superiority.

Khripunov said he has a great regard for the Intermediate Nuclear Forces treaty that was signed recently, "reducing the number of of-

See Relations, page 8

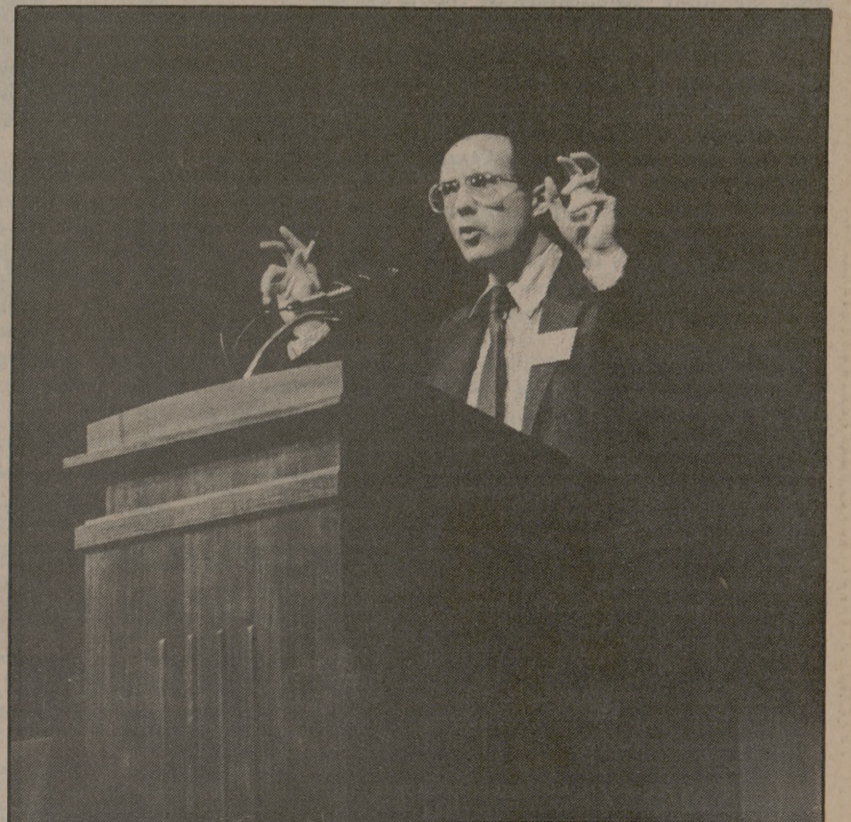


Photo by Frederick D. Joe

Strobe Talbott, Time magazine's Washington bureau chief, spoke on the future of the USSR Saturday morning in Rudder Theater.