

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Candidates strive to lead debate

DALLAS (AP) — Five of the six remaining Democratic candidates faced the first big event of a three-week struggle for the South Thursday night, hoping to shine in a debate leading off the fight for the region's hundreds of delegates on Super Tuesday.

The presidential debate, just two days after seven Democrats faced Northern voters in New Hampshire, was held without Bruce Babbitt, who withdrew from the race earlier in the day, and Paul Simon, who felt he

could do more for his endangered candidacy by campaigning in the upper Midwest.

Gov. Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri, Sen. Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee, Gary Hart and Jesse Jackson were hoping to distinguish themselves in the region where more than one-third of the Democratic delegates are up for grabs in the Super Tuesday primaries March 8.

The debate, at Southern Methodist University, was provided to public

broadcasting stations and moderated by PBS' Roger Mudd. The Republican candidates were to meet in a similar debate here Friday night.

Babbitt, the former Arizona governor whose dark horse campaign advocating higher taxes never got off the ground, said Thursday morning in Washington he was dropping out of the presidential race.

Sen. Simon of Illinois, his presidential hopes in jeopardy following a third-place finish in New Hamp-

shire, spent the day in Minnesota and South Dakota, hoping to win a victory in one or both next week to keep his campaign going into the South.

Dukakis came into the debate needing to establish himself as a candidate with an appeal broader than his own New England region. He won going away in New Hampshire's leadoff primary and immediately headed South, hoping his campaign that stresses management experi-

ence in 10 years as a governor will sell there, too.

Gephardt, who finished second in New Hampshire after winning Iowa's caucuses, came into the debate hoping to score points with Southern audiences after focusing on other states up to this week.

He has demonstrated appeal to blue-collar, union and conservative voters in the two states where he has competed, saying that the country has begun an economic decline that

must be reversed in part through retaliation against nations that don't trade fairly with the United States.

Gore and Jackson have concentrated on the Southern campaign, although both competed in New Hampshire. Jackson finished in fourth place there ahead of Gore.

Hart had vowed to continue on his campaign, despite finishing behind the leaders in the earlier contests.

Officials tell conference B-CS on recovery road

By Jeff Pollard
Staff Writer

Local businesses are on the road to recovery, a member of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce told participants in the chamber's Brazos Valley Economic Outlook Conference on Thursday.

"Times have changed and the rules for businesses have changed with them," David Shellenberger, president-elect of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce said. "In order to prosper, business leaders have learned to manage their time and resources to deal with increased local competition and the economic downturn."

Shellenberger, owner of a retail clothing store, was one of many local business men and educators who outlined the economic developments of various markets in the Brazos Valley. Shellenberger told participants that "... in times like these it is important to find your niche in the market to keep from being just another statistic."

Shellenberger said early figures show retail sales in Brazos County

up by about 2 percent (\$715.4 million in sales), but because the number of retail outlets went up from 1,621 to 1,657, individual sales remained about the same compared to 1986.

"Based on strong third and fourth quarter sales (up 8 percent and 6.6 percent respectively over last year)," Shellenberger said, "we're projecting a 4-5 percent increase for 1988. A&M's expanding enrollment and commitment to capital expenditures will also help things in '88."

This point was emphasized by Eddie J. Davis, deputy chancellor of finance and administration at A&M, speaking on the impact of A&M activities on the local economic community. He said that for every dollar that is paid in sales tax by the community, nine dollars is returned to the University for local expenditures.

Davis said that in payroll alone, A&M plans to spend about \$280 million, which would affect about 39,000 employees and their families. This means that the A&M payroll supports in some way about 40 per-

cent of the population in Bryan and College Station.

"A&M directly inputs over \$800 million dollars into the local economy," Davis said, "and after figuring in several economic factors, that comes to about \$63 per second, or \$2 million, that is circulating through the B-CS area that can be attributed to Texas A&M."

Davis went on to say that, when compared to receipts of corporations operating in Texas, A&M would rank in the top 15 among private corporations and the top 50 among public corporations. To replace A&M, he said, it would take bringing in all of the operations (the offices, stores and headquarters) of Luby's cafeterias, Pizza Inn, the La Quinta Inns hotel chain and Pier 1 Imports.

Further impact is shown in the area of University research. Duwayne M. Anderson, associate provost of research studies, said that research funds continue to expand and is expected to exceed the \$200

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NASA astronaut helps A&M celebrate Black History Month through promoting involvement in Air Force ROTC activities

By Pam Mooman
Reporter

Col. Guion S. Bluford, a NASA astronaut, came to Texas A&M Monday to participate in activities celebrating Black History Month. Bluford, who has been up in space twice, said he is proud to be part of the astronaut program at NASA.

"I'm proud of being a part of that team," Bluford said.

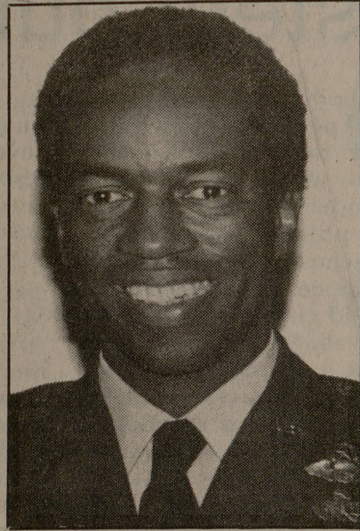
The United States Air Force ROTC brought Bluford to A&M to try to promote the Air Force to all students, not just minorities.

"Our overall enrollment (of minorities) in the Air Force ROTC is about 11 percent," Captain Kevin Gamache, assistant professor of aerospace studies at A&M, said. He said the Air Force ROTC usually mirrors enrollment in the Corps of Cadets.

"We're trying to increase the awareness of opportunities in the Air Force for any college graduate, not just minorities," Gamache said.

Bluford has won numerous awards, including four for outstanding service as a fighter pilot in Vietnam. He has also been included in Who's Who Among Black Americans and Who's Who in America.

Bluford received a bachelor of sci-



Col. Guion S. Bluford

ence degree in aerospace engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 1964 and went on to get a doctorate in aerospace engineering with a minor in laser physics from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1978. Bluford has also written several scientific papers.

"My goal was to be an aerospace engineer," he said. "I've always had

an interest in aerospace." He said opportunities for being an astronaut have improved since 1977, and that is why he became one.

He was the mission specialist and the first black man in space on the third flight of the space shuttle Challenger in August, 1983. This was the first flight with a night launch and landing.

Bluford next served as a mission specialist on Challenger in 1985 when payload control was given to Germany, the first time a foreign power had been given control during a U.S. mission.

Bluford said it has taken NASA a while to determine its directions, but now it has a clear idea of what it wants to accomplish. He said NASA is building a stronger, safer and better program that will have spacecraft flying in late summer.

"We have two years to catch up on," he said. "We need to pick up where we left off."

Bluford said the United States has given the world an opportunity to see it perform flight operations. Now the country must prepare to fly again, he said.

Bluford said there will be a major change in the overall space program. Shuttles and expendable booster rockets will be used for launches.

Space program lacks minorities

By Carol Goswick
Reporter

The space program is in great demand of minorities in the science and engineering fields, NASA Astronaut Col. Guion S. Bluford said Thursday to about 50 people in the Memorial Student Center in accordance with Black History Month.

Bluford, who has a master's degree in aerospace engineering, said he works with few minorities in his field and wants to encourage people to plan early for a career in the space program.

"When I was a child I was always interested in airplanes so I feel very fortunate to have combined engineering, flying airplanes and space missions all in one career," he said.

The colonel stressed the importance of students starting in

high school to prepare themselves for the higher levels of science and math. His advice to college students already involved in the curriculum was to "Hang tough at Texas A&M because the program itself is tough."

In the course of his career as a jet pilot and instructor, Bluford has logged over 4,200 hours in flight. His presentation, "Minority Opportunities in the Space Program," concentrated more on his experience as a black astronaut participating in two shuttle missions aboard the Challenger.

The colonel showed a slide show of his missions including one launched on Oct. 30, 1985, which was the first dedicated Spacelab mission under direction of the German Aerospace Research Establishment.

Bluford said that he was part

of the largest crew to fly in space with eight members. He described the launch of this shuttle from zero to three times the speed of sound as a very rough ride.

"It was somewhat like that of a cobblestone road," he explained.

Success of the mission included experiments on treating motion sickness, making pharmaceutical products, life sciences, astronomy and growing crystals for universities in Europe, he said.

"The fun part of the mission is walking in space," Bluford said. He described the latest device used to enable astronauts to move more freely away from the shuttle called a "man-maneuvering unit."

"Our main goal at NASA for the 1990s is the construction of a space station where we can have American astronauts in orbit all of the time," Bluford said.



I sought the law...

Senior Rich Sanden, an industrial education major, inquires about "Operation I.D.," a security seminar held in the Memorial Student Center. Pa-

trol Officer Betty Lemay explains the seminar's purpose, which was to help students learn preventive security.

Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

CARE Week ends on topic of understanding safe sex

By Laura White
Reporter

Approximately 50 A&M students and a panel of four experts discussed the importance of communication between men and women, the dangers of stereotyping and date rape, and responsible birth control last night in the fourth presentation of CARE Week.

Creating Attitudes for a Rape-Free Environment Week, sponsored by Mosher hall, achieved its goal last night to have a "frank and honest talk about sex and sexual attitudes," Charles Goodman, Greek Advisor for the Department of Student Activities, said.

Male and female students, sitting on opposite sides of the room, were given questions to discuss among themselves and then to discuss with the other group and the panel. Both groups agreed that the biggest problem dealing with sexual attitudes was a lack of communication and the problem of stereotypes.

"Don't ask for our phone numbers if you have no intention of calling," was the main argument from the females. The men responded by explaining that while males may have good intentions, the night-club atmosphere was not conducive to conversation and sometimes men do not feel like they know a woman well enough by the end of the evening to call her.

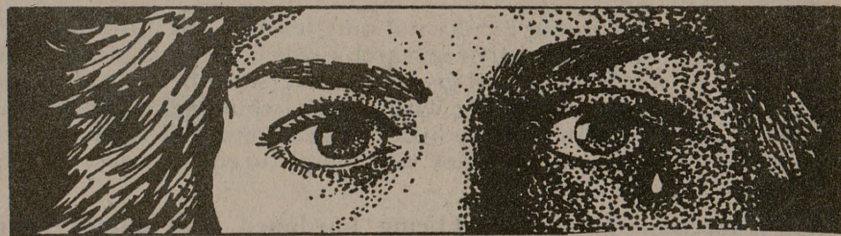


Illustration by Carol Wells

Jo Hudson of the department of Student Activities, explained the reasons for this lack of communication.

"Women communicate more literally than men," she said. "When a man says 'I'll call you,' he may just be saying, 'Goodbye, see you later.' When a woman says 'I'll call you,' she means that she will telephone you sometime in the near future."

The discussion cleared the air about stereotypes. "The truth is that women aren't impressed by the macho-man stud image," one female said. "What's wrong with a little sincerity and genuineness once in awhile?" she asked. The women in the group agreed on the fact that this particular stereotype had gone too far.

The men dealt with the stereotype that women have about them: sex is all they think about. "That generalization is so unfair," one male student said. "Men are just as interested in finding a meaningful relationship as

women are. Not all men are looking for a commitment, granted, but then again, neither are all women."

"The typical Spring Break on the beach includes a lot of drinking, partying, and dancing," Goodman said. The combination of these factors may lead to a situation where sex is involved, he said.

"Current statistics indicate that over 30 percent of college students are carriers of some kind of sexually transmitted disease," Dr. Mark Montgomery, a gynecologist in the College Station area, said. "Responsible sex means not only birth control, but also protection from these diseases," he said.

The groups broke up into a discussion on whose responsibility it was to initiate the conversation of sexual protection and reached the conclusion that both partners are responsible for making sure that the experience is a pleasurable but safe one.

Oxygen chamber aids in healing

By Tom Eikel
Reporter

A new treatment facility that uses pure oxygen in a pressurized chamber is operating in the basement of the A.P. Beutel Health Center.

Dr. Bill Fife, the facility's director, said the new multiplace hyperbaric oxygen chamber can be used to accelerate and enhance the healing process of patients.

"The only things left to be done are mostly clean-up," Fife said, "We could start treating right now, but we'll probably wait and have an open house during spring break."

Fife said he wants to wait for Dr. Claude B. Goswick, who is responsible for the medical part of the program, to return. Health Center Director Goswick is recovering from quadruple bypass surgery.

Hyperbaric medicine is a growing field, and Texas A&M is now one of no more than four universities in the United States that has this type of equipment, Fife said.

The hyperbaric chamber will be used in the treatment and research of various diseases and conditions.

During treatment, the chamber is pressurized with air and the patients are fed pure oxygen through a helmet-like breathing device which is tightened around the patient's neck, Fife said.

Len Aaron, who designed and built the chamber, said administering the oxygen this way instead of filling the entire chamber with oxygen is necessary to prevent the possibility of a fire.

"With a chamber this size full of pure oxygen you'd have a good size

fire hazard, primarily from static electricity," he said.

There are two types of hyperbaric chambers; monoplace and multiplace. A monoplace chamber is usually an acrylic tube about 6 feet long and 25 inches in diameter with a door at one end. The patient lies prone in the tube, which is then pressurized with pure oxygen. Texas A&M already has several of these chambers, under Fife's direction.

A&M's new chamber is multiplace, which basically means it is able to accommodate more than one patient at a time.

"There must be about 200 or 300 chambers total in the U.S., and of those, maybe less than 50 or 60 are

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