State and Local

Miller wins in Republican primary for Brazos County sheriff position

By Deborah L. West Staff Writer

Ron Miller celebrated his win in the Republican primary for Brazos County sheriff at the Aggieland Inn on Tuesday night.

No Democrat will oppose Miller in the November election.

With 40 Brazos County precincts out of 41 reporting, Miller, sheriff since 1985, won 6,679 votes to Choya Walling's 3,386 votes.

Miller said he has increased man-power while in office by rearranging duty shifts, creating new policy books for employees and helping open the county jail.

Miller said his goals for his second term include opening a new mini-mum security jail and expanding the officer reserve program.

Miller, 41, has worked in law enforcement for 20 years. He said he has worked as a patrolman, a narcotics officer and an investigator.
Walling, the defeated candidate,

is a sergeant in charge of community relations in the Bryan police force. He has 11 years of law enforcement experience.

Walling, Texas A&M Class of '74, said he has learned many things about political campaigning since he filed to run on Jan. 4.

"Don't run against a Republican incumbent and don't fight opinion leaders," he said. "I ran as a Republican because their law enforcement platform was in line with my think-

Walling said he had hoped for more support from the A&M com-munity, because "Aggies vote for

Aggies."
Chris Kling, a lawyer in Bryan-College Station, said Walling did not try to get the support of local Republican party leaders.

Walling said he "went the hard

route" in campaigning. "I am a law enforcement officer,



Newly elected Brazos County Sherriff Ron Miller receives a congratulatory hug from a long-time supporter, Fay Davis. Miller won against Choya Walling in the Republican primary election Tuesday. No Democrat will oppose Miller in the

not a politician," he said. "I didn't know how to play political games."

Walling said he has accomplished more for the sheriff's department in the last 60 days than Miller has accomplished in the three years he has

"Everything Miller has campaigned on, except for the opening of the jail, has taken place since I filed in January," he said.

Kling said that after the 1984 election, Democratic candidate Howard Hill contested the results in a twoyear battle that went all the way to the Texas Supreme Court.

The controversy centered around whether some of the voters at the MSC polling location were registered illegally

Voters without registration cards had signed affidavits saying they were registered.

Officials of GSU expect rate hike of \$93.2 million

of preliminary rulings by the Texas Public Utility Commission, officials of financially-strapped Gulf States Utilities Co. say they expect a \$93.2 million rate increase.

But the Beaumont-based company's annual revenues would increase by only about \$23 million, because Gulf States owes its customers \$30 million for fuel over-

tomers \$50 million for fuel over-charges and the company already has put into place a \$39.9 million temporary rate hike.

The \$30 million in fuel over-charges will be refunded to cus-tomers through credits on bills during the next 12 months.

The resulting \$23.4 million net rate increase would cost the typ-cial residential customer "a little more than \$1 per month," said Bill Jefferson, Gulf State's vice

president of regulatory affairs.

The utility commission has scheduled further hearings in the longest-running rate case in its history. Gulf States estimated the

impact of the commmission's pre-liminary rulings in a filing Mon-

Jefferson said that the \$23 million net increase in revenues for Gulf States would not eliminate the company's need to borrow money to keep operating past

May.

The utility had sought an \$144 million rate increase in Texas, and three hearing examiners who presided over the controversial case recommened an \$86.7 million rate increase. That increase was the first in a series of four annual rate increases totaling nearly \$300 million.

In its preliminary findings in the case, the PUC has voted 2-1 to prohibit Gulf States from billing customers for half of its investment in the \$3 billion River Bend nuclear power plant, near St. Francisville, La. Under a tentative schedule outlined by the commission, a final decision in the case could be reached by March 21.

Police search for suspects in 2-state shooting spree

FARMERSVILLE (AP) — Police their east Collin County home Monused helicopters Tuesday to track day night.
two men suspected of a two-state "They had been struck in the shooting spree that left three dead, including two North Texas residents who were shot in the face and beaten about the head with a tool, officials

Police said they were also searching for leads on a possible fourth vic-

They had been struck in the head several times with a tire iron or tire tool and wooden club," Sgt. Anthony Hancock of the Collin County sheriff's office said. The men also had been shot in the face, authorities

Hancock identified the Texas vicm. tims as Cecil Floyd Morrison, 85, Sheriff's officers said they found and his son, Cecil Leonard Morrison, 85, the bodies of a man and his son in son, 62.

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