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Dukakis' campaign chairman requests energy issue debate

AUSTIN (AP) — The chairman of Michael Dukakis' Texas campaign, charging that the Republican administration has ignored energy industry problems for eight years, Tuesday challenged his counterpart in the George Bush campaign to debate the issue.

Responding, a spokesman for Bush's Texas effort said the challenge would be reviewed and added, "When it comes to energy, Michael Dukakis may as well come from the planet Mars."

Railroad Commissioner John Sharp, Dukakis' Texas chairman, said he wanted to debate his candidate's position with former congressman Tom Loeffler, co-chairman of Bush's campaign.

"For eight years the Republicans have ignored the problem of energy-producing states like Texas, hoping

they will go away. They've let our local economies be destroyed. They've let more than 3,000 rigs shut down. They've let people lose their jobs," Sharp said.

"We owe it to the people of Texas to present our respective candidates' views on energy and bring this issue to the forefront of the campaign in Texas," Sharp added during a campaign stop in Longview.

Reggie Bashur, Bush's deputy Texas campaign manager, said such a meeting would be no contest.

"John Sharp needs to talk to his candidate and ask why he has supported a windfall profits tax, why he has been against the decontrol of natural gas, why he has been in favor of the control of oil prices and why he did not know what a rig count was," Bashur said.

"He (Dukakis) has been until this election year a typical, anti-energy

liberal from the Northeast," Bashur charged.

Sharp, in an open letter to Loeffler, said he thought both campaigns understand the importance of energy issues to Texans.

"I know you agree that developing a national energy policy is a top priority for Texas," Sharp told Loeffler.

"I am confident that Mike Dukakis and Lloyd Bentsen are addressing this issue and are telling Texans about the energy policy they would develop for this country. Since

George Bush refused to address an energy forum in Houston last week, Texans have yet to hear how he stands on this critical issue," Sharp wrote.

But Bashur said Texans are aware of Bush's energy policies.

"George Bush is pro-energy," campaign aide said. "He comes out of the Texas oilfields, where he stated a business in 1948. And everyone knows George Bush will favor a national energy policy that will stabilize oil prices."

EDS claims Perot violated contract

DALLAS (AP) — Electronic Data Systems Tuesday filed suit against former chairman Ross Perot, claiming he is violating an agreement made when he left EDS not to compete in the same markets as his old company.

The suit, filed in a Fairfax, Va., circuit court, seeks an order enforcing a December 1, 1986, agreement in which Perot said he would not compete with EDS for three years, EDS spokesman Bill Wright said.

"We are asking the court to ask Perot to honor this contract," Wright said.

The alleged violations include Perot's proposal earlier this year to automate the U.S. Postal Service. After protests by EDS and other companies, the General Services Administration suspended Perot's postal contract.

Wright said the suit claims Perot with his public statements and marketing activities is showing that he has no intentions of honoring that agreement.

Though he had not seen the suit, Perot said, "It really looks silly."

"All they do is spend a lot of money on legal work," he said.

Perot founded the giant computer services firm in 1962 and sold it to General Motors Corp. in 1984. In December 1986, after a highly publicized conflict between Perot and GM, Perot and three other top EDS executives left the firm when GM

Dallas residents work to preserve city's landmarks

DALLAS (AP) — Few people would deny that the view from Deborah Kops' office on the 29th floor of 2001 Bryan is panoramic.

She can see acres of treetops shading homes in North Dallas and the Park Cities, she can glimpse just enough of the major north-south freeways to choose the best route home at rush hour and she can admire the artistry in some of the city's newest Arts District high-rises without obstruction.

However, it is the closer view of downtown Dallas — looking more directly down to street level or south over the Farmers Market District — that shocks visitors and saddens Kops, a real estate consultant and member of the city's Landmark Commission.

a survey commissioned by the Preservation League in 1980 as potential city landmarks, only 178 remain. In place of the 138 that were demolished are 129 parking areas and three new buildings: Monetta Place, Lincoln Plaza and the Gateway Home Restaurant. Among the structures lost to parking were the Kops Building, the Texas Building, the 712 Commerce Street Building, the Medical Arts Building and the Metropolitan Building.

Nearly all the bulldozed buildings were victims of owners trying to reduce their property-tax bills or speculators who believe a paved lot is more lucrative and attractive to real estate shoppers than an old, vacant building, city planners say.

The crazy quilt of blacktopped parking lots punctuated occasionally by 40- to 60-story corporate monoliths, a few blocks of smaller office buildings and parking garages dramatically illustrates a point that the Landmark Commission and other preservationists are trying to make to the City Council: Dallas is losing its older buildings at a frightening rate, and if something isn't done soon to stop random destruction there won't be anything left to save.

"The old buildings gave the city interest and flavor; that's gone now, and all that's left is pavement," said Bob Canavan, chairman of the Landmark Commission.

According to statistics the Landmark Commission recently presented to the City Council, parking lots are rapidly replacing older buildings and overtaking construction in downtown Dallas.

Of the 316 buildings identified in

Develop ordinances regulating the amount of surface parking in downtown and making it more difficult for property owners to obtain permits for new parking lots.

Establish a policy for increasing the rate of city landmark designations regardless of whether the property owner wants the designation. Since the landmark program began 16 years ago, only 31 buildings have been designated, and the City Council has refused to grant landmark status over a property owner's objections. Many property owners have opposed landmark designation because they fear it will prevent them from demolishing a building when in fact it only imposes a 15-day stay on the issuance of a demolition permit to give preservationists a chance to negotiate alternatives, Canavan said.

Improve tax incentives for owners of older buildings so they will be inclined to renovate them or let them stand while the property is for sale.

Create disincentives — such as a penalty fee equal to the approximate value of the historic structure — that would discourage the destruction of buildings with landmark designation. The reasoning is that a property owner should reimburse the public — represented by the city — for the historic resource it is being deprived of by demolition, Canavan said.

Quayle rallies students, slams Dukakis at University of Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Republican vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle rallied students at the University of Houston Monday when he suggested Cougars football coach Jack Pardee team up with Michael Dukakis to show him a strong defense.

Quayle, making his first campaign swing in his running mate's home state, told the 1,500 students gathered at an outdoor rally that George Bush and he would "run a campaign like Carl Lewis."

"We're going to jump like Elvin Hayes and Akeem (Olajuwon). And we're going to play defense just like the fighting Cougars," Quayle said to cheering students at the "Election '88 Showcase."

During his speech, Quayle strayed from his speech to respond to several students holding Dukakis-Bentsen signs that were shouting and trying to drown him out.

"You listen to these people shout down here," Quayle said. "If I had to support Michael Dukakis, I'd have to shout, too. They shout because they have no ideas; we have new ideas."

Quayle brought the students to their feet when he arrived and held up his hand in a Cougar print sign. In his introduction of Quayle, Gov. Bill Clements held up the wrong sign and had to get help from a nearby student.

The students cheered even louder when Clements said, "I'm not going to take much of your time."

Quayle planned to travel to El Paso on Tuesday night.

Despite Quayle's response at UH, one student was disappointed there were no new issues or ideas from the speech.

"He didn't say anything he hasn't said," said Lee Nguyen, a 19-year-old psychology major, who's looking forward to voting in his first presidential election.

"I haven't made up my mind on who to vote for; both people have good things to say."

Quayle suggested that Dukakis be referred as "Mr. Tax Increase, Mr. Polluter, Mr. Weak on National Defense, but let me tell you something. There is something the American people will not refer to the governor of Massachusetts and that is Mr. President."

"I read that the University of Houston has the second toughest defense in the country. I think we ought to get the governor of Massachusetts together with Jack Pardee so he can learn what a strong defense is all about."

Lewis, who was honored with a gold medal at the Seoul Olympics in the 100-meter run, Hayes and the Houston Rockets' Olajuwon all are former students of the school.

The Indiana senator said Dukakis uses the same kind of offense used by the Cougars football team — veer offense.

"Only his problem is that he always veers to the far left," he said as several students stood behind him holding red, white and blue balloons and "Bush-Quayle" signs.

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