

Democrats claim Texas once again 'up for grabs'

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Democratic officials spent the past several weeks watching in dismay as GOP presidential nominee George Bush pounded Michael Dukakis on gun control, crime and the Pledge of Allegiance.

But now, reveling in vice presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen's debate performance and citing a backlash against Bush's campaign, Democrats say the Lone Star state once again is up for grabs.

But the Bush camp says that boast is wishful thinking born out of desperation. Republicans say the Dukakis-Bentsen ticket is running aground in Texas, forcing a major decision on the Democrats: whether to go full bore in Texas or scale back and concentrate on California.

"They're making decisions about taking some of the money that they were going to spend in Texas and putting it in other states," Bush campaign spokesman Mark Sanders said late last week.

Democratic national party chairman Paul Kirk even concedes that Dukakis' state campaign suffered a "rope-a-dope" phase and was too timid in combating Bush's charges. But other Democrats say they have no intention of reducing efforts in Texas.

"That's the kind of rumor that comes from Republican campaign managers who must have been snorting something (Panama strongman Manuel) Noriega sent them," Ed Martin, executive director of the Texas Democratic Party said. Dukakis campaigned in the state

Thursday while Texans were blitzed with new campaign commercials rebutting a GOP attack on his crime stance. Bush says Dukakis is soft on crime, citing a Massachusetts prison furlough program that initially made first-degree murderers eligible for weekend passes.

The new Dukakis ads reverse the attack. They say a prison inmate who in 1981 raped and murdered a woman was staying at a Houston halfway house that Bush — then a Houston congressman — helped start and then touted in 1982 during White House ceremonies honoring volunteer organizations.

Some Texas Democrats say the new hard-hitting ads come none too soon after an otherwise dismal campaign effort. "I think they've done a rotten job of

it," state Democratic chairman Bob Slagle said.

"I think the Dukakis people have done a very poor job of rebutting the Pledge of Allegiance business and the 'soft-on-crime' business. I've never seen people in a campaign, where they were paid to give advice, dissipate a 17-point lead before. I think they were asleep at the switch in answering some of this stuff."

The new ads also criticize Texas Republican Gov. Bill Clements for trying to ease prison crowding by releasing dangerous inmates early.

Democratic campaign officials charge that Republicans planted the rumor of a Texas retreat by Dukakis forces because Bush is in trouble in the state he calls home. Dukakis state campaign manager

Tom Cosgrove cited Bush's Thursday visit to an energy forum in Midland.

"We're forcing the vice president to spend money in Texas," Cosgrove said.

The day after the vice presidential debate, Dukakis and Bentsen — Texas' senior senator — headed a rally in Lone Star, a small East Texas town troubled by the layoffs of thousands of steel workers.

After the rally, Dukakis was asked about speculation that he would scale back his state campaign if new campaign ads did not produce higher poll ratings.

"We're going to win in Texas," Dukakis said. "That's why we're here."

Both parties have said Texas, with its 29 electoral votes, is a must-win state. Since the debate, Bentsen has cam-

aigned primarily in Texas. On Friday he said during a Dallas speech, "The race is going to be close; it's going to be down to the wire. If we can put Texas that Democratic column, and I'm convinced we will, then we're going to win this election."

Cosgrove asserted Dukakis has been picking up momentum in Texas since before the first presidential debate Sept. 25. At that time, polls placed the Massachusetts governor four to 11 points behind Bush.

"People want to see issues debated about their economic future," Cosgrove said. He summed up Bush's campaign strategy, "He thinks we ought to have an endum on gun control, abortion and Pledge of Allegiance."

INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

sponsored by



McDonald's

Breakfast Every Morning • 5 locations • Drive Thru

Post Oak Mall • Hwy 21
Manor East Mall • University Dr.
Texas Ave. at S.W. Parkway

FOOTNOTES

- 16" Softball playoff schedules are posted across from racquetball court #2. Play begins Wed., Oct. 12.
- Preseason Volleyball Tournament brackets will be posted Wed., Oct. 12 at 3:00 PM.
- Qualifying scores for the Golf Doubles tournament will be posted at 12:00 Wed., Oct. 12.
- Flag Football petitions due Wed., Oct. 12.
- Corps Captain's Meeting: 7:00 PM in 167 Read Wed., Oct. 12.
- Field Goal Kicking Contest Wed. Oct. 12, at 7:00 PM at Kyle Field.
- Captain's Meeting for volleyball Thur., Oct. 13, at 5:00 PM in 701 Rudder.
- Preseason Volleyball Tournament begins Thur., Oct. 13, at 6:00 PM
- Flag Football playoffs will be posted Mon., Oct. 17, at 10:00 AM. Play begins Wed., Oct. 19.

SPORTS CLUB ACTION

- The Lacrosse Team will be in Austin this weekend.
- Men's Rugby will be playing UT Saturday, October 15, at 1:00 PM.
- Women's Soccer will be playing Saturday, October 15, on the Drill Field at 10:00 AM.
- Men's Soccer will be in action against Baylor Saturday, October 15.

HELP WANTED

The Intramural-Recreational Sports Office is looking for people interested in becoming a **Flickerball Official**. Excellent working conditions; training program and flexible hours. (experience not necessary) The orientation meeting is Monday, October 10, at 6:00 PM in 164 Read Bldg. For more information, stop by the IM-Rec Sports Office, 159 Read or phone 845-7826.

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Entries are being accepted for the Third Annual T-shirt Design Contest. This contest is held to determine an All-University T-shirt design for the 1989-90 school year. All entries must be received no later than 5:30 PM, Tue, Mar 21. All entries must be 12" by 12", black ink on white paper and should include the words "Intramural Champion 89-90" or "All-University Champion 89-90". It is also recommended that "Texas A&M" or the block ATM be included in the design. Entries will be judged by a panel of students, faculty and staff with the entry best depicting Intramural-Recreational Sports All-University Champions being declared the winner. The winner will be notified April 17 and will receive \$50.00

GOLF DRIVING RANGE HOURS

The Driving Range located at the Intramural Sports Center is now open for operation Mon-Thu, 3 PM - 8 PM; Fri, 12 PM - 6 PM; Sat, 10 AM - 6 PM; and Sun, 12 noon - 6 PM. Individuals with student ID or TAMU Recreational ID may purchase a large bucket of balls for \$3.00 and a small bucket of balls for \$1.50. Without an ID individuals may purchase a large bucket of balls for \$4.00 and a small bucket for \$2.00. Club rental is also available. For more information, contact the IM-Rec Sports Office, 159 Read, or call 845-7826.

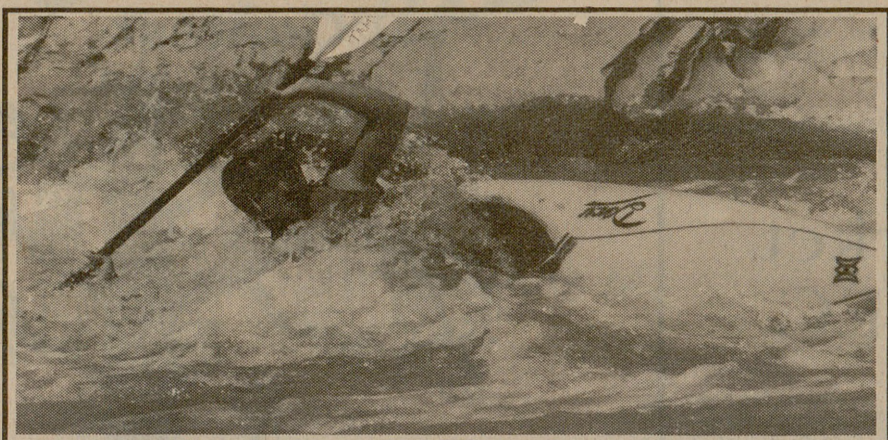
TAMU-OUTDOORS

KAYAKING WORKSHOP

Take the weekend off and learn the fundamentals of kayaking in a two day class offered by TAMU Outdoors on October 29 and 30. The first day will be an introduction to kayak strokes, rescue, and the eskimo roll. The second day will be spent on the San Marcos River learning how to paddle the boat and get a feel for White Water. Registration begins October 10 - 24 but sign up early because class size is limited. The cost for the class is \$40.00 (\$45.00 non A&M).

KAYAK ROLL INSTRUCTIONAL CLINICS

Learn the mechanics of the eskimo roll! Experienced guides will be on hand to instruct and assist you in sessions at the Outdoor Pool. The \$ 8 . 0 0 (\$ 1 0 . 0 0



non A&M) fee covers instruction, kayak rental and pool time. Limited to 10 participants. For more information, contact Patsy Greiner at 845-7826. **DATE Oct. 11, 6:15-8:30 PM REGISTRATION: Sept. 26-Oct. 10. DATE: Oct. 20, 6:15-8:30 PM. REGISTRATION Oct. 3 - 17.**

CANOE DAY TRIP

Your choice, Saturday, October 29, or Sunday, October 30, but you have to take the day off and join TAMU Outdoors for a one day canoe trip on the San Marcos River. Entries open October 10, and close October 24 but get there early, because space is limited. The \$15 (\$20 for non A&M) fee for the adventure includes rental of canoes, shuttle costs, instruction, and experienced guides. This trip is designed for both beginning and intermediate canoeists and is limited to 14 participants. Sign-up in the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office, 159 Read. For more information, call Patsy at 845-7826.

ROCK CLIMBING WORKSHOP

Join us at The Rock for an introduction to the thrills of Rock Climbing. Experienced guides will teach a variety of climbing techniques and safety systems. Spend the weekend testing your skills. The \$30 (\$35 non A&M) fee for this adventure includes rental of group camping equipment, climbing

equipment, camping permits and experienced instruction. The trip is offered to beginning and intermediate climbers and is limited to 10 participants. Sign-up in the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office, 159 Read. For more information, please call Patsy at 845-7826.

IM GAMEPLAN

ENTRIES OPEN: OCT 3

ENTRIES CLOSE: OCT 11

FIELD GOAL KICKING Entry Fee: FREE!! Contest Held: Wednesday, October 12, at 7 PM, Kyle Field. Format: Participants will attempt a kick at every distance beginning at the 20 yard line for men and 5 yard line for women and increasing at intervals of five yards. Divisions: Men's and Women's. Awards: Will be given in both Men's and Women's Divisions for longest field goal and total yardage. (Longest field goal winner is not eligible for total yardage award.) Equipment: Official balls will be furnished by the IM-REC Sports Department. You must furnish your own kicking tee. No tee may elevate the ball's lowest point more than two inches above the ground.

PRESEASON VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT Entry Fee: \$5.00 per team. Divisions: Men's A, B, C, Co-Rec A and B and Women's open. Play Begins: Thursday, October 15. Location: Read Bldg. Awards: No awards will be given. Eligibility: Restricted player per team, must play Class A.

VOLLEYBALL Entry Fee: \$25.00 per team. Begins: Monday, October 17. Rules: USVBA Rules with Intramural exceptions. Copies are available at the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office, 159 Read Building. Divisions: Corps, Fish, Men's & Women's Independent and Residence Hall, Fraternity, and Rec. Classes: A, B, C or D. Competition: Robo league play in Classes A, B, C and D with teams qualifying for a single elimination play tournament.

ATTENTION

Due to a scheduling conflict, the dates for the **Track and Field Meet** have been changed. Please check to see that you have the correct dates. There are plenty of revised flyers at the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office in 159 Read Building, or call 845-7826.

TRACK & FIELD Divisions: Corp, Fish, Men's Residence Hall, Men's Independent, Women's Residence Hall, Women's Independent. Track Events: 100 M Dash, 110 M Low Hurdles, 400 M Relay, 400 M Dash, 1600 M Run, 200 M Dash, 800 M Dash, 1600 M Relay, and Masters Mile. Field Events: High Jump, Shot Put, Long Jump and Shot Put: (Men, 12LB.; Women, 8LB.)

RUNNING EVENTS Corps & Fish Preliminaries Sunday, October 23, 2:00 PM. DIVISIONALS: Corp, Fish, Men's Residence Hall, Men's Independent, Women's Residence Hall, Women's Independent: Sunday, October 30, 2:00 PM. ALL UNIVERSITY FINALS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 5:00 PM

FIELD EVENTS DIVISIONALS Corps & Fish: Sunday, October 23, noon. DIVISIONALS: Men's Residence Hall, Men's Independent, Women's Residence Hall, Women's Independent: Sunday, October 23, noon. ALL UNIVERSITY FINALS: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 5:00 PM.

THANKS TO GENERAL MOTORS: General Motors is sponsoring the CoRec Class B tournaments in the Intramural Program. All Class B CoRec Champions will receive a General Motors T-shirt. We are appreciative of General Motors support of the Intramural-Recreational Sports Program.



ENTRIES OPEN: OCT 10

ENTRIES CLOSE: OCT 18

PICKLEBALL SINGLES Entry Fee: FREE!! Play Begins: Tuesday, October 25. Eligibility: All TAMU students, faculty, and staff may enter if they meet the eligibility requirements in the Intramural-Recreational Sports Calendar/Handbook. Competition: Class A - Highly skilled, single elimination, T-Shirt Award to All-University Champion. Class B - Moderately skilled, single elimination, certificate award to All-University Champion. Class C - Novice, single elimination, certificate award to All-University Champion. Schedules: Will be posted after 1PM, Friday, October 21. Check the bulletin boards outside the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office to see when you play you will be assigned an opponent, a day, a time and a court. Equipment: Will be furnished. Instruction/Practice Times: Will be scheduled prior to the tournament. Check the IM-Rec Sports Office for times.

Flickerball Entry Fee: \$20.00 per team. Location: Penberthy Intramural Complex. Available at the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office, Room 159 Read Building. Team Meeting: Schedules will be available at this time on Thursday, October 20, at 5:00 PM in 164 Read Bldg. Divisions: Men's and Women's Residence Hall, Men's and Women's Independent, and Rec. Classes: A, B, and C. Awards: Class A - T-Shirt, Class B - Certificate, Class C - Certificate. Eligibility: All TAMU students, faculty, staff and their spouses with recreation ID and Intramural Validation. Eligible to participate if they meet the eligibility requirements in the Intramural-Recreational Sports Calendar/Handbook.

UP COMING EVENTS

CROSS COUNTRY RUN PUNT, PASS & KICK INTERMEDIATE ROCK CLIMBING TRIP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: McDonald's Intramural Highlights is sponsored in the Battalion by McDonald's Restaurant at University Drive, Manor East Mall, Hwy 21, Texas Ave. at SW Parkway and Post Oak Mall. Stories are by Steve Harding, graphics are by Paul Irwin and photos are by Mark Figgart and Paul Cowan.