ampionship nbark on ar

f to Sacra oodson. Ar atic than th Ironically e

Among the items addressed in the are possession limits, restriction of harvest of oysters to specific time ods, closed areas, licenses, pena

stocking and habitat restoration, mai The Legislature in 1985 gave the

of the Oyster Fishery Managemer and an economic impact analysis wa quired before existing regulations ble damage, said Richard Morrison of

group had objected to the plan becamembers did not feel there was eno chance for industry input and review

If the advisory committee works and Parks and Wildlife Department.

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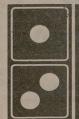
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DALLAS (AP) — Southwest National Bank of Houston was closed Thursday and its insured deposits will be transferred to Spring (Texas) National Bank, federal regulators

Southwest National Bank, with total assets of about \$16.9 million, was closed by Judith A. Walter, senior deputy comptroller of the currency, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was named receiver, read in a statement by Caryl Aus-

trian, an FDIC spokeswoman in Washington. "The failed bank's Southwest Freeway branch will not reopen," the statement said. "Insured depositors will have access to their funds at the former main office of the failed bank

Checks drawn on the failed bank's accounts up to the insurance limit on Thursday were to be honored, the statement

The closing brings to 176 the number of failed banks in the nation this year, with 102 of those in Texas.

"The board of directors of the FDIC decided to arrange an insured deposit transfer because of an inability to determine the value of the assets," the statement said. The FDIC said that at the time the bank closed, its dependence of totaled about \$16.5 million in 1,600 deposit accounts, its ing about \$400,000 in 21 accounts exceeding the federal surance limit of \$100,000.

Uninsured depositors and non-deposit creditors will proportionately with the FDIC in proceeds related from liquidation of the failed bank's assets, the statement said.

Insured depositors in the failed bank can autor tinue to conduct their banking transactions with the account bank, the statement said, but should visit the acquiring discuss the continuation of their banking relationship.

Administration of the transferred insured deposits funded by an equivalent cash payment from the FDK

The acquiring bank is paying the FDIC \$27,630 for right to receive the transferred deposits, will initially pure. \$2.7 million of the failed bank's assets and will have the tion to purchase loans and other assets.

Bentsen: Negative campaign could hurt Bush presidency

MOUNT PLEASANT (AP) — Lloyd area of Texas near the Louisiana and Ai-Bentsen said Thursday that if Republican George Bush is elected president, his honeymoon with Congress would be "awfully short" because of resentments stemming from Bush's negative cam-

paign tactics.
"I don't see how. "I don't see how . . . a president has any kind of a mandate if he wins by the amount of negative advertising used by Bush", the Democratic vice presidential candidate told reporters on a campaign bus tour of East Texas.

The Texas senator said he does not want a difficult relationship with any new Republican administration, but that the "concentration on negative advertising, that doesn't become a mandate to the American people. "That makes it more difficult," Bent-

sen said. "You don't have any so-called

honeymoon. It would be an awfully short one, if you had that. Bentsen, who is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said as president Bush might have particular trouble persuading Congress to accept his campaign promise of a reduction in the top-bracket capital gains tax rate from 33 percent to

15 percent. Bentsen said the proposal would bene-fit mostly the wealthy and was regarded as a violation of the agreement behind

the 1986 tax overhaul law. Bentsen was interviewed in the lounge of a luxury bus he used Thursday to stump for middle-class votes in the rural

Officials foresee record turnout in absentee vote

AUSTIN (AP) — Huge numbers of Texans are voting absentee before Friday's deadline, and some officials be-lieve as much as 25 percent of the statewide total might be cast before Elec-tion Day arrives, the secretary of state's

office said Thursday. "It's been phenomenal," said Jim Warren, spokesman for Secretary of State Jack Rains. "We've been meeting with county clerks and talking to them on the phone, and they're reporting unusually large numbers of people voting ab-

Rains earlier this week predicted a record turnout of 5.98 million votes, or 73 percent of those registered, for this elec-

With as many as 100,000 absentee ballots alreay having been cast in some of the largest counties, Warren said, 'Some county clerks believe as much as a quarter of the vote statewide will be cast through the absentee process.

Final absentee ballot totals should be known by Monday, he said. Absentee voting began Oct. 19, and Texans have been casting ballots in a nearly three-week-long "election period" rather than on a single Election

Day, noted Randy Erben, assistant secre-The high absentee participation is being attributed to a 1987 change in voting law that is being used in a major election for the first time. That change eliminated the old requirement that people give an

excuse before voting absentee. Absentee polling places have been set up in shopping malls, community centers and other locations much easier to reach than county courthouses

Another factor is the presence of a Texan on each party's ticket — Republican presidential candidate George Bush and Democratic vice presidential nominee Lloyd Bentsen both call Houston

And, both parties have conducted absentee voting campaigns among their

Mark Sanders, spokesman for Bush's Texas campaign, said that by Thursday night every person who cast a ballot in the Republican primary will have been called, told about absentee voting and given the absentee polling place nearest their homes. "We've never done anything like this before in the state," Sand-

Ed Martin, executive director of the Texas Democratic Party, said a similar drive was conducted by that party. "Every contact, phone calls, all the mailings have reminded people of it," Martin kansas borders.

Two other buses and a few cars and pickup trucks chased the candidate's vehicle through Longview, Daingerfield, Mount Pleasant, Paris and Sulphur Springs. East Texas is rich in pro-Reagan Democrats that party nominee Michael Dukakis must win in his bid for the state's 29 electoral votes in Tuesday's 'I'm fighting for middle-income

America and I'm standing up for middleincome America," Bentsen told several hundred supporters in Longview.

"When I'm vice president of the
United States, and Michael Dukakis is
president of the United States, we'll

meet with the press on a regular basis,' 'And there's something else we'll do We'll meet with the folks, we'll meet with middle-income America," he said.

Mike McCurry, Bentsen's press se tary, said the Democratic campaignis leasing a new TV advertisement weekend which features Bensa widely publicized "You're no Jack nedy" barb at Quayle during them.

Helping Bentsen draw crowds

Morris and Hollywood actor Rob Low

the route were country music

"That's the kind of accountabi

want from your elected representa he said, stressing the Democrats'

sibility to voters and the media.

By contrast, his GOP countern Dan Quayle, is kept under control "a parrot in a gilded cage," Bentsensi

The spot ends with the words: "P dent Quayle?" he said. Among Bentsen's frequent s Thursday was a visit to a Dainger cafe for coffee and doughnuts.

October debate

State support for Bush may boost GOP ballot

AUSTIN (AP) — The state Republican Party chairman predicted Thursday that George Bush's strength among Texans would boost GOP candidates down the ballot and said Democratic charges of voter intimidation are "a standard dirty

in the Texas House and predicted that a major philosophical realignment of Texas voters could occur. 'This is going to be a watershed year in Texas politics, the time the Repubilcan Party really comes into its own from

the courthouse to the White House," For the first time, he said, there are sharp differences between "conserva- tom of their bag every election and tive" Bush and "liberal" Democrat Michael Dukakis that show up in positions

taken by each presidential hopeful. 'This year, with the difference of position on the important issues to Texans like taxes, gun control, on aid to the freedom fighters (in Nicaragua), strong na tional defense, tough on crime, all those things . . . We now have a very sharp

"We think that's going to be reflected up and down the ballot," Meyer said.

To help that effort, the state party will spend \$125,000 on a radio advertisement from now until Tuesday's election that features President Reagan urging Texans to vote Republican. Consultant Karl attempts to intimidate or threaten Rove said Texas is one of four or five ers," said Mattox, a Democrat. states where Reagan has made such ads. Three Spanish-language television ads aimed at Hispanic voters also will begin airing Friday, Meyer said.

Meyer said he expects to add to party's 56 seats in the Texas Houreaching between 61 and 66 for the !9 "We've got good candidates, m better candidates than we've everhad fore," he said. If the GOP doesn't

House seats this year, he said, "V have missed a great opportunity." As Tuesday's election approaches, GOP boss Fred Meyer also said he expects the party to pick up five to 10 seats have accused Republicans of tryingt timidate minority voters, particular the Rio Grande Valley, to keep

from voting.

Meyer denied GOP involvement said he wasn't surprised by the ac

"Democrats reach down into the two things: they charge racisin charge voter intimidation. standard dirty trick. It happens election, particularly it's happenin year, I think, because they're pretty

In other political developments Thu

 Attorney General Jim Mattox he would have assistants in several on alert Election Day to answer any questions over election laws at poplaces around the state.

the utmost integrity. There must be said Mattox, a Democrat. Mattox said his assistant atte general would be on duty in Austin, las, El Paso, Houston, McAllen,

shall and San Antonio.

Wildlife commission OKs oyster management plan

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Parks practices so that it will be there for and Wildlife Commission approved an oyster management plan Thursday that officials said is a step toward protecting the oyster from depletion and making the oyster industry more profitable.

Before approving the plan, commis-

sioners addressed concerns expressed by

some seafood industry members and

added a provision for an advisory committee. The committee, which will include industry representatives, will help develop specific regulations implementing the plan's guidelines. With practical input from fishermen combined with scientific data, the commission wants to find a way to benefit

commercial oystering "but at the same

time protect the resource from overhar-

vesting, from pollution" and other possi-

Clear Lake City, commission vice chair-"It's twofold, I think - to try to guarantee that the oyster fisherman is going to have a resource to look to for income, but at the same time protect and propagate that resource through management

Morrison said.

nance and enhancement. mission the authority to regular oyster fishery in Texas bays. Prepar

Thomas Hults of Kemah, presiden the Texas Oyster Association, said

way it is meant to, Hults said, it wo resolve such objections and lead to proved relations between the indus

ring the off The Rocke

AG BO

'We want to ensure that this im tant election is conducted fairly and

Anoth