

America calls deficit woes top priority

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans far and away say reducing the budget deficit should be George Bush's top priority as president, and most favor a tax crackdown and defense cuts to accomplish it, a Media General-Associated Press survey has found.

Respondents to the national poll firmly opposed most new or higher taxes to address the deficit, and most also opposed cuts in domestic programs such as welfare or a freeze in Social Security benefits.

Strong majorities, however, did support higher federal taxes on cigarettes and alcohol, and a narrow majority, 52 percent, favored reductions in defense spending to cut the deficit.

The survey also found overwhelming support for an Internal Revenue Service crackdown to collect taxes, an approach urged by Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis in the presidential campaign but ridiculed by Bush.

The 1,084 adults polled were asked: "What do you think should be George Bush's No. 1 priority once he takes office?" Thirty-four percent said the deficit, an unusually high rate of agreement in an open-ended question.

No other category drew a response rate in the double digits. Seven percent cited other economic matters, 5 percent said poverty or homelessness, 5 percent said defense and the rest were scattered over a range of issues.

Only 3 percent said drugs, an issue that ranked far higher in importance in pre-election polls during the summer but then faded in the fall as concern about the deficit rose.

On drugs, the poll found support

for drug testing of all federal workers, for military drug patrols at the nation's borders and for a crackdown on drug users.

The survey also found broad support for aggressive measures to address the trade deficit, including higher import taxes and quotas. It found some support for restrictions on foreign investments in the United States, but not if that investment creates jobs.

The poll, conducted Nov. 10 to 20, had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Although the budget deficit was the leading issue, signals were mixed on how to address it. Two-thirds favored higher corporate taxes, for example, but a third of that group said they would change their minds if corporations responded to tax hikes by raising prices.

Opposition to most other taxes was stronger: Eight in 10 opposed higher personal income taxes, three-quarters opposed higher gasoline taxes, three-quarters opposed taxing the Social Security benefits of higher-income Americans, and 64 percent opposed a national sales tax.

More than seven in 10, however, approved of higher cigarette and alcoholic beverage taxes. Even more popular was an IRS crackdown "to make sure people and companies pay their full taxes," with 87 percent approval.

On the expenditures side, eight in 10 opposed a freeze in Social Security cost-of-living increases, seven in 10 opposed welfare cuts, seven in 10 opposed cutting the Medicare benefits of higher-income Americans and six in 10 opposed cuts in farm support.

Senate poised for change with pick of majority leader

WASHINGTON (AP) — Majority Democrats gained only a single Senate seat in this month's elections, but the chamber is likely to undergo a personality change with the choosing of a new majority leader this week.

The current majority leader, Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., is stepping down to assume the chairmanship of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, taking with him his unparalleled parliamentary expertise and a courtly style.

Running to replace him in one of the toughest elections they will ever face are Sens. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., and George Mitchell, D-Maine. The election takes place Tuesday.

While they can't match Byrd's knowledge of the rules, the candidates have appealed to fellow Democrats with promises to keep the ungainly institution on schedule and to make other reforms.

And Democrats hope that, unlike the somewhat stiff Byrd, the new majority leader will have a popular appeal that emanates to the nation beyond Capitol Hill as Congress does battle over the budget with a new Republican president.

A&M student reports attack in dormitory

A Texas A&M student reported that she was sexually assaulted in her room in Fowler Hall by an acquaintance on Nov. 22.

A spokesman for the University Police Department said Sunday that a warrant has been issued for the attacker's arrest. The police spokesman said the suspect is not an A&M student.

The assault occurred between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m., the student reported.

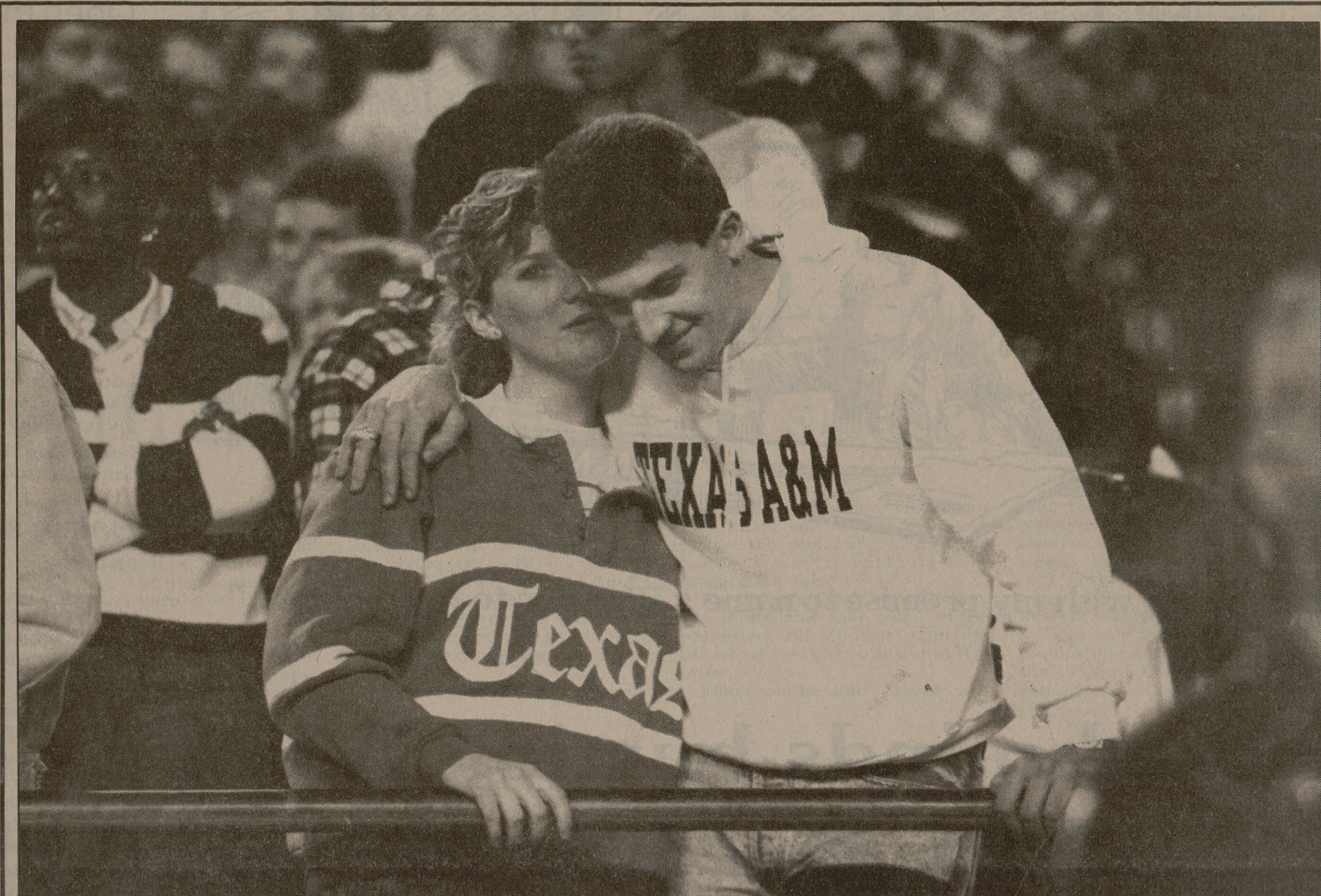
The 19-year-old student told police that the acquaintance drove to College Station from Dallas and that she was supposed to return to Dallas with him.

Inouye, 64, is the oldest of the three and the most senior in the Senate, having first been elected in 1962.

"My experience, my seniority, should be in my favor," Inouye said in appearance with his two rivals Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

While he won praise for his eloquence and incisiveness during the 1973 Watergate hearings, Inouye's reputation was seen by some to be tarnished when the Iran-Contra hearings he helped direct turned into a televised platform for White House aide Oliver North. He also ran into criticism for inserting in a spending bill \$8 million in federal aid for a schools for North African Jews living in France.

Johnston is perhaps most like Byrd in his command of the legislative labyrinth, but he is also the



Family Feud

Texas A&M student Steven Koons hugs his girlfriend, Renee D'Arcy, a University of Texas student during the A&M-UT game on Thursday.

A&M won the game 28-24. The win gave A&M a five game winning streak against UT.

Photo by Scott D. Weaver

Texas Thanksgiving death toll hits 28

Associated Press
The Thanksgiving holiday death toll on Texas highways rose on Sunday to 28, including 5-year-old Houston girl whose mother has since

been charged with involuntary manslaughter in connection with the fatal car accident.

Also included in the Associated Press unofficial tally of traffic deaths since 6 p.m. Wednesday were two Houston teen-agers who died in a crash north of Huntsville during a rainstorm. The count continues through midnight Sunday.

Police said tests showed Kristi Joy Everts of Houston was intoxicated when she tried to turn off Clay Road about 9:30 p.m. Thursday. Her vehicle was struck by a westbound car. Seven hours later, Courtney Allen

Everts, died from injuries suffered in the crash.

Everts was in serious condition at Hermann Hospital late Saturday.

Lasonia Gail Dobbins, 18, and Carmen Denise Washington, 19, both of Houston died in a one-car accident on Interstate 45 about 13 miles north of Huntsville during a Saturday morning rainstorm. Investigators said the car's driver, Wilford Earl Stevens Jr., 29, had lost control of the vehicle while traveling at high rate of speed and was in stable condition at Huntsville Memorial Hospital.

Henry Shephard, 46, of Houston, died after losing control of his van and slamming into a steel post on a Houston street about 9:25 p.m. Friday.

Harvey Lee Ledford, 63, of Galena Park, also died after losing control of his van. His vehicle struck a guardrail about 11 a.m. Friday and he died about three hours later at Sunbelt Regional Medical Center.

Tina Thomas, 23, of Houston, was killed in Pearland about 6:50 p.m. Friday when an auto driven by her husband, Brett Thomas, 25, was struck by another vehicle.

most public in pushing for change.

The 56-year-old senator, in his third term, has been rapidly gaining influence. He is chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and chairman of the Appropriations energy subcommittee. In the last Congress, he often handled difficult bills on the Senate floor for retiring appropriations chairman John Stennis, D-Miss.

Johnston has the support of Southern senators including Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, and Sam Nunn, D-Ga. If that conservative wing of the party is ascendant, Johnston, a moderate, could help move the Democrats' image away from the liberal one that seems to hurt them in national elections.

"Clearly my centrist approach is an advantage," Johnston said on NBC.

Texans may gain 3 House seats

WASHINGTON (AP) — Although they haven't brought out their maps or started drawing the lines for Texas' new congressional districts, reapportionment experts are already mulling the politically touchy work ahead.

Bob Mansker, who helped draw up the congressional districts now in place, says he thinks Texas will gain three, maybe four, seats in Congress after the 1990 census is taken. That would increase the state's House delegation from 27 members to 30 or 31.

While that means the state carves out a bigger share of the 435 seats in the U.S. House, it also means some

of the state's existing congressmen may have to give up a slice of their district and a bit of their power base.

At issue, officials say, is whether a shift in district boundaries will continue to give the incumbent congressman the votes needed for reelection.

The private Population Reference Bureau predicted in August that California's population gains would give it five more seats in Congress, with Texas adding four and Florida three. Because the House is limited to 435 seats, some states will suffer losses. The population bureau predicted New York and Pennsylvania each would lose three seats, with Illi-

nois, Michigan and Ohio losing two each.

Should Texas gain three House seats, Mansker said he believes the new districts would be squeezed into North Texas around Dallas, and the Houston and San Antonio areas. A fourth seat would likely go to South Texas.

If Texas gains four seats, it would be in the unusual position of having as many congressmen as state senators, said Mansker, press secretary to Rep. Martin Frost, a Dallas Democrat.

That could create a situation where some state senators would want their district to match the congressional district.

Rape characteristics, defense tactics vary

By Laurie Tomasini
Reporter

Rape is an act of violence, not an act of passion or sex.

"The rapist is a thief," said Robert E. Wiatt, director of security and University Police. "Stealing from the victim and degrading the victim is the rapist's greatest pleasure."

Linda Castoria, director of the Brazos County Rape Crisis Center, said sexual assault does not occur because of sexual desire.

"It does not matter what a victim looks like or what she wears," she said. "If a person crosses the rapist's path, she will be his victim."

"A lot of rapists cannot describe their victim. She was not a woman to them, just a victim."

A sexual assault prevention manual from the College Station Police Department describes three types of rapists.

"Power" rapists are most common, according to the manual. Seventy-five percent of sexual assaults occur because the rapist wants to demonstrate power over the victim. The rapist's intent is not to harm the victim — beyond the assault itself — but he will use any force or threats he needs to get his way.

The rapist may believe he is inadequate and is looking for power he thinks he lacks.

The rapist usually plans the "power" assault in advance.

Wiatt said the "power" rapist fantasizes about the assault and how he thinks the victim will enjoy it before he actually commits the crime.

"Angry" rapists are the second most common, according to the manual, accounting for about 24 percent of all sexual assaults.

The "angry" rapist is likely to use violent and profane language as well as physical violence. The assaults usually are unplanned.

Wiatt said this rapist hates females.

"The rapist holds females responsible for failure and rejection," he said. "He retaliates by taking sex, hurting and terrorizing the victim."

"Sadistic" rapists are uncommon, according to the manual. About 1 percent of sexual assaults are sadistic rapes.

The sadistic rapist gets pleasure from the victim's physical and mental suffering. The rapist's intent is to hurt and destroy the victim.

The rapist intentionally injures his victim, especially in the genital area.

Wiatt said that sadistic assaults

usually are planned. The victim may be kidnapped or killed.

The sadistic rapist is most feared, he said.

The type and motivation of the rapist is the most important factor to consider when deciding a course of action or defense against a sexual assault, Wiatt said.

Although there is no single definite defense against rape, he said, three critical variables must be considered before any action is taken in self-defense.

First, the location and environment where the attack occurs must be considered.

Different actions should be taken in different environments, Wiatt said.

"Blowing a whistle might scare the attacker away in the Skaggs parking lot at 3 in the afternoon," he said. "But a whistle will not do any good on a deserted road at 3 a.m."

Second, the personality of the victim must be considered.

Popping the attacker's eye out with a finger is a simple and effective defense, but not many people could bring themselves to do it, he said.

The rape prevention manual pointed out that injuring an attacker in such severe ways should not be at-

tempted unless it can be followed through.

Third, the personality of the rapist is critical to defense.

The same action that might deter one type of rapist might cause another type of rapist to kill his victim, Wiatt said.

Castoria said the situation must be weighed when determining a defense.

According to the prevention manual, there is no foolproof method of defense.

Each defensive technique has pros and cons, and every rapist and every situation is different, so judgments on which actions should be taken must be made accordingly.

The manual describes two types of defense: active resistance and passive resistance.

Active resistance is screaming or fighting back.

A scream can surprise or frighten an attacker. Screaming "Fire" is effective if people are around to hear, because they will look and pay attention, which might scare the rapist away.

Struggling and fighting back may make the rapist give up or give the victim a chance to escape.

The victim must be willing to hurt the attacker, and all kicks or blows

must be forceful and aimed at vulnerable areas. A hard kick on the groin, a poke in the eye or a hard hit against the front of the throat can disable an attacker.

Weapons can be useful, according to the manual. However, weapons are not always accessible, and they often are used against the victim instead of the attacker.

Passive resistance involves staying calm. The aim is to psychologically outsmart the attacker.

Passive self-defense is based on the idea that rapists are violent and dangerous and that they will counter any active resistance with violence.

Talking to the rapist is a good approach, according to the manual.

"Try the mother or daughter approach, appealing to the rapist's sympathy."

It also suggests that victims:

- Tell the rapist they have a contagious disease.
- Tell the rapist they are pregnant or just had an abortion.
- Build up the rapist's self-confidence by saying something like, "You can get any girl you want, why do this?"
- Tell the rapist their husband or boyfriend will be back shortly.

See Rape/Page 5