

# The Battalion



**WEATHER**

FORECAST for FRIDAY:  
Continued partly cloudy with noticeably higher temperatures, especially at night.

HIGH:73

LOW:52

## Dole proposes 6-month trial period for Tower

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole, struggling to stave off rejection of John Tower's nomination as defense secretary, proposed Wednesday night an extraordinary six-month trial confirmation period so senators could judge whether Tower lived up to his no-drinking pledge.

Senate Democratic Leader George Mitchell expressed "immediate serious concerns" over the proposal, but promised to consider it overnight.

Dole made his dramatic bid to salvage the nomination at the end of the fifth day of a draining Senate debate, and after conceding it would "take a miracle to win confirmation."

Under Dole's proposal, Tower would be confirmed, but would submit a letter of resignation to President Bush dated Oct. 1, 1989. If Tower's performance were satisfactory, there "probably" would be no need to reconfirm him, Dole said. Otherwise, "he probably wouldn't be the nominee."

Dole said he offered his proposal after discussing it with Tower. It came as the Senate neared a climax in its bitter struggle over the nomination.

Lloyd Bentsen of Texas became the third Democrat to endorse Tower's confirmation, but his speech was bracketed by declarations of opposition from Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut and Charles Robb of Virginia — Democrats who had been lobbied hard by the Bush administration as potential pro-Tower votes.

An Associated Press survey found 51 Democrats and Republican Sen. Larry Pressler of South Dakota either solidly opposed or leaning against confirmation with 41 Republicans and three Democrats either supporting or leaning in favor of the nomination.

Democrats hold a 55-45 edge in the Senate.

Dole made his extraordinary proposal to deal with Senate concerns over Tower's history of drinking. "I think we ought to give him a second chance that many of us have had," said Dole, who was seriously wounded during World War II but has risen to a position of power and prominence in the Senate.

"It gives this Senate a second opportunity," Dole said. "It addresses the concerns raised by the chairman and the majority leader and by others at the same time it gives President Bush his choice for secretary of defense."

Earlier, Dole suggested Tower be permitted to come to the Senate and answer the allegations against him, but did not immediately press the issue when Mitchell objected.

There was little doubt that Dole's maneuverings were his final bid to save the nomination. Earlier, he conceded it would "take a miracle" to do so, and Johnston's speech seemed to deflate Republican hopes.

"In the nuclear age we can't afford to take a chance on the man who holds the future in his hands," Johnston said on the Senate floor.

The Louisiana Democrat said he was troubled by Tower's drinking habits and

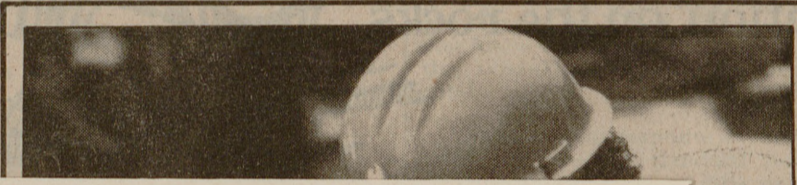
that alcohol altered the former senator's judgment. "There seems to be a personality change that occurs in Senator Tower," Johnston said.

Earlier, Bentsen became the third Democrat to support the embattled nomination, saying, "I hope that when I get the next chance to talk with John Tower about the tough job of keeping this country strong, it will be while he's in his new office at the Pentagon."

Tower said, "I'm both honored to have his prestigious support, and grateful for his humane understanding of what my family has endured."

Despite Bentsen's decision, Mitchell repeated his claim the Senate will reject the nomination, and he led a chorus of Democrats who called for a quick vote.

## Witness says North pleases gained money for Contras



## State senator bids to take Gramm's seat

AUSTIN (AP) — Democratic state Sen. Hugh Parmer launched his bid for the U.S. Senate on Wednesday, charging that incumbent Republican Phil Gramm talks one way in Texas while he votes a different way in Washington.

Parmer, a two-term senator and former Fort Worth mayor, said Gramm is out of touch with Texas families and their values.

"He talks like an East Texas farmer in Lufkin but votes like a Wall Street banker in Washington," Parmer said of Gramm.

"In Texas, he says he wants to be tough on crime. In Washington, he voted against the appropriations for drug enforcement and even the FBI . . . In Texas, he says he wouldn't hurt senior citizens. In Washington, he voted against funding for Meals on Wheels for shut-in elderly."

Parmer, 49, became the first Democrat in the 1990 Senate race.

Many party officials had expected Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower to take on Gramm, but Hightower decided in January to seek re-election to a third term and concentrate on populist political organizing efforts.

Gramm reportedly has said he can raise \$20 million for a re-election bid. Parmer said he wasn't worried about the size of the Republican's war chest, although he admitted it would be a tough fight.

"Sure, I expect it to be difficult," he said. "One of the good things about American democracy is that we don't auction off seats in the U.S. Senate . . . If you could just buy a seat for \$20 million, then I won't have it. But I don't believe that."

"What I need is an adequate amount of money to get across a message. And the message is: Phil Gramm does not represent the values that Texans believe in, and I do. I'll have enough money to get that message across. And when I get it across, I believe I'll win."

Parmer, who never has run a statewide race, downplayed early public opinion polls that show Gramm running strongly.

SPRING BREAK 1989 ■ Dollars And Sense

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### DOLLARS AND SENSE

**ECONOMICS**

**University insurance**  
A special page focuses on self-insurance, fraternity liability and more.

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**COMMUNITY**

**The Gathering Place**  
Three students volunteer their time to help feed the needy.

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**Spartan Card**  
Two students create a discount card for their campus.

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**Spacing out**  
Students in a space club construct an educational satellite.

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## Children latch on to Phone Friend for help

By Kim Dutra  
USF Oracle  
U. of South Florida

When 7-year-old Justin came home and found his dog dead on his porch, he panicked. To him, it was one of the worst emergencies of his life. He was home alone. His parents were at work. He didn't know what to do.

He called Phone Friend, a telephone service designed specifically for latchkey children and manned by U. of South Florida (USF) students, was immediately able to calm him down.

Although Justin was too young to fully understand the finality of death, his phone friend was able to help ease him and connect him with his parents.

Justin, whose real name was not used in accordance with the service's confidentiality policy, is one of more than 50,000 latchkey children in Hillsborough County, Fla.

The program, affectionately called a "warmline" by its operators instead of a hotline, began in 1984. More than 30 volunteers, mostly USF students, handle 500 to 800 calls per month.

"Most of the callers are elementary age, up to about 12 years old," said Marie McDonald, an assistant director of the program. "They are kids who usually come home from school and are bored or lonely, or who need help with their homework. Some have just had a really good day and want to tell a friend about it. Sometimes it can be really heartwarming."



U. of South Florida's Amy Nathanson works the "warmline" for Phone Friend.

Volunteers must go through an intensive month-long training period so they

**"It really enriches your life, gives you a very refreshing view of the world through kids' eyes."**

— BILL INCATASCIATO

soothed him while another contacted his parents. In other instances, such as suicides, operators are trained to keep the child talking until a specialist can pick up the line.

Phone Friend operates daily from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is funded by

donations and grants. The program costs about \$36,000 each year.

USF student Kristie Kehoe got involved with Phone Friend about three years ago. "I've grown very attached to it. I think it is one of the most worthwhile projects I've ever helped out with," she said.

"It gives an insight into how other people live," said Bill Incatasciato, a USF student and Phone Friend volunteer. "At first I was apprehensive. It was kind of scary talking to a bunch of 6- and 7-year-olds. You have to change the way you think. But then it gets very exciting. It really enriches your life, gives you a very refreshing view of the world through kids' eyes."

## Graduate student writes his way to riches, wins \$50,000

By Matt Hilk  
The Daily Pennsylvanian  
U. of Pennsylvania

While trying to create an understanding of a business concept for others, Murray Low ended up creating a considerable amount of wealth for himself.

Low, a graduate student, won first place in the first nationwide Stakeholder Essay Competition, sponsored by National Cash Register (NCR). The company chose the 35-year-old Low's essay, *Stakeholder Concerns and the*

*Prospect for Prosperity*, from a pool of 2,500 compositions penned by undergraduates and graduates across the United States.

The topic, "Creating Value for Stakeholders in Corporation and/or Not-For-Profit Organizations," produced essays ranging from management philosophies to financial analyses to business ethics. NCR awarded more than \$300,000 in cash prizes and equipment to the 102 winners.

Ron Gilbert of the U. of Iowa took

second place. Nine national and 91 state winners were selected. In all, the U. of Pennsylvania produced more state and national winners than any other school.

Entrants were judged on analyses of their topic, originality and writing skills. NCR also awarded computer equipment to the U. of Pennsylvania's Sol-Snyder Entrepreneurial Center.

The finalists' entries were judged by a panel of 28 top business executives and professors. NCR awarded the runner-up \$15,000 in cash and \$35,000 in computer equipment. Semifinalists and finalists received \$1,000 cash.

After seeing an advertisement for the contest in *The Wall Street Journal*, Low wrote in his essay that the United States is in danger of losing its position as the world's leading economic power. Prior to reading about the contest, Low said he had studied several books on the concept of "stakeholders."

The term "stakeholder," according to one NCR official, expands the concept of shareholder to include every individual or group that has a "stake" in how the corporation fares — customers, employees, stockholders, suppliers and community residents in the area where the corporation is held.

"If you compare the U.S. to some of

### STAKEHOLDER ESSAY COMPETITION WINNERS

**FIRST PLACE**  
Murray Low, U. of Pennsylvania

**SECOND PLACE**  
Ron Gilbert, U. of Iowa

**NATIONAL WINNERS**  
Scot Barenblat, U. of Texas, Austin  
Mark Christel, U. of Wisconsin, Eau Claire  
Scott Evans, Colorado State U.  
Kalyanaram Gurumurthy, Mass. Institute of Technology  
Gregory Heyworth, Columbia U., NY  
Yen Chi-Huang, Stanford U., CA  
Darnell Hunt, Georgetown U., DC  
James Mahon Jr., U. of California, Berkeley  
Amy Montgomery, U. of Michigan

### Simon says charge

By Janice Simon  
Cameron Collegian  
Cameron U., OK

Consider me armed and dangerous.

Two weeks ago, I received my first credit card.

A thrill surged through my body as I looked at the piece of molded plastic in my hand.

One thought went through my mind — "Now I can charge!"

When the cashier asks if it will be cash or charge, I can say, "charge," instead of my usual "it'll be a check" or "don't mind me, I'm just shopping."

Since my card belongs to a department store only, my choices are somewhat limited. They are even more restricted since the store is usually for people who have more cash lining their pockets than I do.

When writing a check I can whip out my driver's license and my credit card. I don't have to mumble, "I'm sorry, I don't have a credit card, just a library card."

But being the bargain shopper that I am, I knew I would find something to charge, and I did.

I charged a \$4 pair of pantyhose. They were special. They were black hose.

I got my card right before Christmas. I know that's the reason I got my card. It's a scheme to get you to charge your brains out so you will be poor throughout the entire new year.

But it's a scheme I'll gladly be a part of.

Now the important thing to remember about credit cards is that you do have to pay for the lovely items you charged.

It may hurt a little but it's a fact of credit card life. It's the price you pay to become a part of a cashless society.

I have noticed people respect you more when you have a credit card. I guess they figure that someone somewhere trusts you to spend money you don't actually have.

Cashiers who look disdainfully at you relax. Now you're a bum with a credit card instead of a bum without one.

It's such a vicious world.

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