

Monday, April 3, 1989

## Wright denounces story in hometown newspaper House speaker denies breaking 100 violations

FORT WORTH (AP) — House Speaker Jim Wright denounced a newspaper's story that quoted a source close to the House ethics inquiry of Wright as saying the probe turned up an estimated 100 potential congressional rules violations.

"It is absolutely absurd to suggest that I have broken House rules on 100 occasions," Wright said Saturday in a letter to the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, which quoted the unnamed source in an article Friday.

"I feel very strongly, and my attorney agrees with my conclusion, that I have not violated any such rules at any time," Wright, D-Fort Worth, said. "If I have ever even technically violated any such rule, it would have been unintentional."

Wright has served the Fort Worth district in Congress since 1955 and became Speaker in 1987.

The *Star-Telegram's* source said a report written by special counsel Richard Phelan, a Chicago attorney, refers to the potential violations and that the investigating committee has decided to release the report this week. Phelan submitted the report to the committee in February and its contents have been kept secret.

A spokesman for Wright, Mark Johnson, said Friday the committee's report matters more than Phelan's.

"Phelan made a presentation and the Speaker's lawyer made a presentation," Johnson said. "Now we are on the eve of a decision. That's what matters."

Wright said in his letter to the newspaper that he has not enriched himself financially from congressional service.

"What I have gained for my efforts is a good reputation, and I damn well resent any sniveling coward who tries to take that away from me and my family

by planting anonymous stories based on innuendoes in my local newspaper," Wright said.

House Republican Whip Newt Gingrich said Sunday that pending ethics allegations against Speaker Jim Wright mean "we're going to have a long and difficult spring," and renewed his prediction that Wright will be out as speaker by June.

But House Majority Leader Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash., appearing with Gingrich on NBC's "Meet the Press," said he is confident the Texas Democrat will be cleared of any wrongdoing.

And he charged that Gingrich brought the allegations against Wright in a politically motivated effort to "vilify" the Democratic party leadership.

Gingrich said: "I think the evidence is already in public record, pretty clear, that we're going to have a long and difficult spring. The evidence is going to be overwhelming. I frankly think Mr. Foley is going to be speaker by June."

The Georgia Republican said the ethics committee already has spent \$1.6 million investigating Wright, and he called on the panel — whose membership is evenly split between Democrats and Republicans — to make public a 460-page report prepared by its special counsel, Richard Phelan.

"I think that it's vital that we establish, as a Congress, our commitment to publish that report and to release those documents so the country can judge whether or not the man second in line to be president, the speaker of the House, should be in that position," Gingrich said.

Foley, who as majority leader ranks just behind Wright in the House's Democratic leadership, declared, "I am confident he's (Wright) going to be cleared of violating any House rules and he will remain the speaker of the House."

## Gramm misrepresents Texans in Washington, opponent says

By Sharon Maberry

STAFF WRITER

State Sen. Hugh Parmer, D-Fort Worth, is running for the U.S. Senate against incumbent Sen. Phil Gramm because Gramm "doesn't reflect Texas values," Parmer told Bryan-College Station press members Friday.

"People need to understand the differences between the way Phil Gramm talks in Texas and the way he votes in Washington," Parmer said.

"In Washington, he voted against funding of the FBI, drug enforcement appropriations, additional funds for the border patrol, Meals on Wheels for shut-in elderly and job retraining funds for displaced oil workers, although in Texas, he said he supported these issues."

Parmer said he is in favor of increased funding for those programs.

"I realize that Gramm has a large constituency in the Bryan-College Station area," he said, "but I'd be willing to bet that if I stopped 10 Bryan-College Station people at random and asked if we should spend more on these programs, 10 out of 10 would say 'yes.'"

As an example of Gramm's voting record, Parmer cited an emergency supplemental appropriation for continued nutrition aid for 20,000 pregnant women and babies in Texas that was passed three years ago in Washington by a vote of 71 to eight. Gramm was among the eight senators voting against the appropriations, Parmer said.

"It's difficult to understand that kind of political stinging," Parmer said. "Gramm has misunderstood Texas toughness. We're tough on

criminals. We're not tough on babies or poor pregnant women or old folks.

"During the next 19 to 20 months, I'm going to show the people of Texas that the real Phil Gramm is one who doesn't reflect Texas values and that one who does reflect Texas values is Hugh Parmer."

Parmer said his political record is strong in the area of law. He said he supports the death penalty for serial murderers and video-tape testimony by victims of child abuse so they wouldn't have to appear in court.

Parmer has been the state senator for the 12th District, within Tarrant County, since 1983. He also has served as mayor of Fort Worth, state representative, Fort Worth City Council member and Tarrant County Hospital District Board manager.

## Lawmaker drafts 'hate crimes' bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Recent vandalism of synagogues and churches, as well as violent crimes against minorities in Dallas, have prompted a Houston legislator to draft a bill that would increase penalties for so-called "hate crimes."

The legislation, which comes before the Senate Criminal Justice Committee Tuesday, would make certain offenses such as murder, as-

sault and vandalism more serious if they are committed because of the victim's race, ethnicity, sex, age, sexual orientation or religion.

"There has been a dramatic increase in this type of crime in Texas in the last five or six years," Sen. Craig Washington, D-Houston, told the *Dallas Morning News*.

"In some places it has become fashionable to voice group hatred out loud. This is something our society ought to be beyond," Washington said. "Sadly enough, we are not."

Among the organizations supporting the measure are the Dallas Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Congress, Texas Catholic Conference, Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Texas Civil Liberties Union, Texas Women's Political Caucus and Lesbian-Gay Rights Lobby of Texas.

"This is a class of crime and a type of criminal that deserves special attention," Dallas lawyer Michael Stone recently told members of the criminal justice committee.

Stone, vice chairman of the Dallas Anti-Defamation League, said the

league — which monitors the activities of extremist groups — detected no anti-Semitic acts in Texas in the five-year period before 1987.

But in 1987, the league had reports of five such acts in the state, and the number of incidents ballooned to 23 last year.

In the Dallas area in recent months, Temple Shalom, the Jewish Community Center and a Jewish-owned business in Richardson were painted with swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti and windows were shot out. Two synagogues in Waco also were vandalized.

"This represents only the beginning of the problem, and these only are acts against the Jewish community," Stone said.

In addition, the Islamic Association of North Texas mosque in Richardson was vandalized and two Dallas gay men were killed last year by a Mesquite teen-ager.

Washington's bill would elevate a criminal offense one degree if the crime was motivated out of group hatred or bigotry.

## Former KKK leader forms anti-Semitic movement

AUSTIN (AP) — Louis R. Beam Jr., the former Ku Klux Klan leader acquitted last year of conspiracy to overthrow the federal government, said he is forming a new movement aimed at establishing ties with groups in the Middle East.

The New Right movement wants to create a national state "for the White man and an Aryan Republic within the borders of the present occupied country," Beam said, apparently referring to the United States.

Beam discussed the new movement in a recent quarterly journal he has begun publishing called *The Seditious*, and in an interview in Austin

with the *Houston Chronicle*.

"Factored into the new thinking of the New Right will be a new relationship of respect and admiration for other races who have conducted successful campaigns of liberation in their respective countries by throwing out the Zionist Jews," he said. "Syrians, Libyans, Iranians and Palestinians will come to be looked upon in a far more favorable light than previously."

"When the time comes, I'll have plenty to say. It's in the hands of the father, the heavenly father," he said, referring to Yahweh, a favorite


figure in the racist Identity Church.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which monitors extremist groups, calls the Identity Church movement a pseudo-theological hate movement that emerged as a noticeable presence in the late 1970s and early 1980s. It holds that Jews are the children of Satan and that the white race is inherently superior to others.

An impassioned speaker, Beam gained national fame in the 1960s and 1970s when he was a Grand Dragon of the KKK in the Houston area. He moved on to the Aryan Nations, and by 1987, was on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list.

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1.51	3,875	9,000	.53	795	1,500
1.43	5,550	11,500	.52	895	1,700
1.33	2,475	5,000	.52	795	1,500
1.21	1,175	2,400	.51	1,250	2,500
1.18	2,325	4,600	.51	795	1,500
1.17	2,750	5,200	.50	695	1,300
1.11	2,350	4,650	.50	795	1,500
1.03	3,595	8,500	.47	750	1,450
1.06	1,975	4,000	.46	650	1,250
1.03	2,195	4,200	.46	495	900
1.03	3,875	9,000	.30	335	700
1.00	2,750	5,200	.22	185	400
1.00	1,650	3,300	.21	165	300
.95	2,395	4,700	.21	215	450
.93	1,595	3,200	.19	165	300
.92	1,650	3,300	.18	155	290
.91	3,195	6,400	.16	118	250
.90	1,750	3,500	.15	111	240
.89	1,350	2,700	.14	95	200
.88	1,340	2,700			
.85	1,685	3,300			
.84	2,150	4,200			
.83	1,595	3,200			
.81	2,250	4,500			
.76	1,360	2,700			
.72	1,275	2,600			
.70	1,235	2,500			
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