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Wright's son declines bid for former Speaker's seat

FORT WORTH (AP) —The son of former House Speaker Jim Wright said Thursday he will not

seek election to the Congressional seat that his father gave up amid a House ethics investigation.

Citing "personal, financial and geographical" reasons, James C. Wright III said he will not be a candidate in the Aug. 12 special election didate in the Aug. 12 special election to fill Wright's seat.

"It just wouldn't be right," the younger Wright said from Santa Fe, N.M., where he is an administrator in the state personnel department. "I am looking for a way to come back to Texas and I think I will, and I think I will someday run for public office, but it just wouldn't be right to

do it this way."

Meanwhile, the man considered the Republicans' strongest candidate, television personality and physician Bob Lanier, announced he would be a candidate in the race.

Lanier became the fourth candidate in the special election to replace the elder Wright, who was Texas' 12th Congressional District representative for nearly 35 years.

Lanier appears in his syndicated Housecall program, which has aired locally since 1985. Lanier also has received an enthu-

am looking for a way to come back to Texas and I think I will, and I think I will someday run for public office, but it just wouldn't be right to do it this way,"

> - Jim Wright III, son of former Speaker

siastic endorsement from Republican Sen. Phil Gramm.

The deadline for filing to enter the race is Wednesday.

Lanier's entry into the race follows by a day an announcement by former Democrat Jim Hunter, who twice lost races for Tarrant County "I have lived the American Dream sheriff, that he is becoming a Repub-

Democrat Pete Geren, a former aide to Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, and Re publican Laraine Bethke entered the race earlier, and several other candidates are believed to still be consid-

ering running.
The 12th Congressional District, which includes all of Fort Worth and parts of Tarrant County, traditionally has been a Democratic strong-

But Hunter joins a growing number of Tarrant County Democrats who have either switched to the GOP or are seriously considering such a

"I was raised a conservative Democrat and have always been conservative in my views," Hunter said. "I think the majority of conservative voters in Tarrant County are Repub-

GOP officials said last week that at least three Democratic judges plan to announce their intentions to switch parties at a July 14 news conference to be attended by Gov. Bill

WHAT'S UP

CHINESE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: will meet at 1:30 p.m. the LRD of the Evans Library to view a movie in Mandarin a the video "Tiananmen". For more information, contact Chuan Tsung-Kai at 846-1927.

Sunday

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Opinio

BRAZOS VALLEY ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP: have Mr. Mike Hoelscher, attorney at law, speak on "How to Know When? Need a Lawyer" at 3 p.m. in Room 160 of the Medical Sciences Building on A&M campus. For more information, contact Jane Donaldson at 1-800-392-55 or Pat Stirling at 693-1680.

Monday

STUDENTS FOR THE EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE: with meet at 7 p.m. For more information contact Steve Robbins at 847-2207.

MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 507 AB Rude for a discussion on the fundamentals of Islam. For more information, contain Brad Neal at 846-1404.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDon no later than three business days before the desired run date. We only the name and phone number of the contact if you ask us to do so. What's U a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. It have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3315.

Man takes wife hostage one day after release from psychiatric ward

DALLAS (AP) - One day after being released from a psychiatric ward, a man armed with a knife held a woman hostage in a car Thursday in front of a Salvation Army facility where the woman had been staying,

A man identified as the woman's common-law husband gave up after about two hours when police allowed him to talk to and see his mother, Dallas Police Capt. Dwight Walker

Police set up a command post near the Carr P. Collins Social Service Center in west Dallas to negotiate with the man, spokesman Vicki Hawkins said. Tactical officers also were at the scene, and police barri-caded the street in front of the social

Police said the woman had been at the social service center's family violence wing for about eight days.

Salvation Army Maj. Frank Gordon said the man was released Wednesday from Parkland's psychiatric ward Wednesday.

Police said the woman said she was walking toward the center but ran inside after she saw her husband coming toward her with a knife. She told officers he followed her into the building, forced her out of the front entrance, commandeered a car and made her get inside.

A motorist was told to drive away, police said, but the motorist jumped out of the car and took his keys with

Walker said the man generally kept his arm around the woman's neck and the knife pointed at her neck and side.

Police allowed the man to talk to his mother on a phone after he said he would release the woman if he could talk to his mother. The man then told police he wanted to see his

Clements: Another special session might be necessary in fall

ents hinted Thursday that changes to the state workers' compensation system may be the reason, along with a number of other issues, for a fall special legislative session.

Lawmakers are currently in special session after having failed to reach a compromise on the method of compensating workers who are injured in on-the-job accidents.

Clements met with Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Gib Le-wis briefly during the Senate session to discuss a second possible special

Clements said Hobby told him he was "reasonably optimistic that we'll have a (workers' comp) bill reported out at this time next week.

But Clements also said, "I'm not sure if the workers' comp thing is going to get settled. We'll just have to wait and see."

The Senate is expected to consider an amended workers' comp bill Friday that the House approved Wednesday.

If a majority of the Senate adopts the measure, then it goes to Clements for his consideration.

But Kent Caperton, one of the Senate leaders on the controversial votes to pass the House version.

would go to a House-Senate conference committee. Speaker Lewis, D-Fort Worth, has said if a conference committee is needed, lawmakers would not have enough time to resolve their differences during the special session that expires July 19.

The major dispute between the enough to rile the ranchers and oth-House and Senate is over jury trial review of disputed workers' compensation claims.

The House, backed by business, has been trying to eliminate jury review of workers' comp disputes, claiming litigation costs have driven up the price of employer-paid workers' comp insurance.

But the Senate, supported by labor and trial lawyers who represent injured workers, says jury trials are a fundamental right and are needed to offset what could be an unfair

disputes concerning death benefits, severe injuries, and whether the injury was incurred during the course of employment.

Caperton, D-Bryan, described the proposed limitations on jury trials as "an absolute farce." He said that few of those cases are actually ever con-

Texas official battles Congress over extra Cooper Lake funds

Congress authorized Cooper Lake, the northeast Texas

reservoir is once again mired in controversy.

At issue are plans by Rep. Jim Chapman to raise federal spending for two lakeside parks from \$12 million to \$22 million, creating what he calls the "premier lake"

The Bush administration, however, considers Chapman's plan "one of the most egregious examples of vio-lation of cost-sharing" under a law requiring local sponsors to help pay for such projects, said Ed Dickey, deputy for policy and evaluation in the Army's office of

assistant secretary for civil works.

"We thought we closed this out with the deal that was struck a couple of years ago," Dickey said Thursday, referring to a 1987 agreement Sen. Phil Gramm helped

reach with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Under that plan, the federal government would spend \$12 million to build the parks, to be managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

'My position is that ain't good enough," Chapman, a Sulphur Springs Democrat, said. "That is not what the federal government promised.

When Congress authorized Cooper Lake in 1955, it agreed to build and maintain seven parks. Environmentalists' lawsuits, however, tied up construction of the lake for nearly 20 years.

In the intervening years, the deficit mounted and Congress passed cost-sharing legislation for recreation facilities and other "separable" elements of Army Corps

With Cooper Lake now coming in under budget, Chapman argued the savings should be used for recreation facilities at the parks and vowed the money won't be used to "dredge some harbor in Boston.

'If we're able to save money, the least we can do is put it back and do what Congress originally authorized. If we're able to save \$10 million through efficiencies, we ought to be able to use the \$10 million to enhance project," Chapman said.

Chapman, a member of the House Appropri Committee, inserted his plan in an \$18.5 billion e and water appropriations bill for fiscal 1990. Recepassed by the House and sent to the Senate, the bil cludes \$31 million for Cooper Lake construction.

The \$130 million lake, scheduled to be completed and filled by 1993, would provide drinking water the senate of the

some 1.4 million Northeast and North Central Texa Gramm, a member of the Senate Appropria Committee, said Thursday he is analyzing Chapt

"I don't want to lose the support of the Army (or of Engineers or the White House on the proof Gramm said. "So while I'm clearly going to try to do erything I can to enhance the park and see that we full benefits from it, I want to be sure I've looked and the state of this case." sides of this question. I don't want to do anything

jeopardize the progress we have made."

Chapman's proposal provoked an emotional out on the House floor during debate on the approprious bill by Rep. Silvio O. Conte of Massachusetts, ranking Republican of the Appropriations Committee "This sets a bad precedent," Conte said. "It is a fur damental departure from the cost-sharing principle that this body worked so hard to enact. How greety They have the super colliderance.

Texas going to get? They have the super collider sup conductor — \$200 million — and now they want million more for picnic areas, benches, tents, walked This is crazy.

Conte, however, could not persuade the House of quire cost-sharing for the parks.

Chapman said he is "hopeful that we can calm for the parks."

and waters" and get the project through the Senate.
"I'm fearful that it may not be without a bit of struggle, if OMB (the Office of Management and B get) and the Republican leadership are going to politics with our project," Chapman said this week

Wolves' possible return riles ranchers otes to pass the House version. If rejected by the Senate, the bill who fear predators will stray from park

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) — Howling wolves haven't been heard in Yellowstone National Park for decades, but even talk about them is

gram to educate students across the country about the role of the wolf in the wild has raised fears by some that it could lead to the predator's return to Yellowstone's 2.2 million

"Wolves are fascinating animals and when you talk to people about them, you never get a ho-hum reaction," said Joe Zarki, a ranger in Yellowstone's Naturalist Division. "They always have a strong reaction

one way or another. The House version would allow in the come with quite a bit of jury trial review of workers' compensational baggage," he said. "We are trying to put some information in the hands of teachers and students: what (wolves) do, what their behavior is and what sort of role they have in the ecology. It is not designed to sell a particular point of view, it is supposed to give them information so they can make up their minds on their own.

Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., is son and the rest of the Wyom among those who see the wolf congressional delegation long awareness program as a way to drum up support for the wolf's return to

Wolves are fascinating animals and when you talk to people about them, you never get a ho-hum reaction.

> - Joe Zarki, park ranger

Yellowstone.

HOOKED ON.

"There is no other purpose for it but to promote reintroduction, Simpson said. "There are guys in there who are so (heated) up and so obsessed they can't even see.

Turn-of-the-century eradication efforts by ranchers drove wolves from Yellowstone, and in recent years there has been a drive to return the animals to the park. Simpopposed the plan, which has thes port of Yellowstone officials.

Those who want to return

wolves say they would prevent game herds from growing took and overgrazing. Simpson and of foes fear the wolves would s from Yellowstone and prey on l stock on surrounding ranches. Rep. Wayne Owens, D-Utah

sponsored legislation that we force the Park Service to study returning the wolves to the would affect the environment. Wyoming delegation is trying to rail that effort, too.

Owens brought a 13-month female wolf to the lawn outside to Capitol in Washington last month dramatize his campaign.

The wolf awareness program being financed by donations for the Natural History Association, s eral large corporations and one identified donor. It is meant to me with the park's "Expeditive Yellowstone" program that prepare students for visits to the park.



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