

# Texas A&M The Battalion



## WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
Mostly sunny and mild.  
HIGH: 72 LOW: 58

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College Station, Texas

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## Democratic runoff draws to close Richards, Mattox talk of party unity; both predict their victory

### Associated Press

The Democratic runoff for governor neared a conclusion Monday with state Treasurer Ann Richards and Attorney General Jim Mattox each talking party unity instead of swapping allegations.

And both predicted victory in today's balloting.

"When we win, we will not gloat," Richards told a crowd of supporters in Midland. "We will be healers. The real fight is in November."

Mattox told backers in Dallas that he would consider including Richards in his administration. "I think that there's a place for all of us within this Democratic Party, each of our talents," he said.

The winner of their race will face Republican oilman-rancher Clayton Williams in the general election. Williams won the GOP nomination outright last month, capturing more than 61 percent of the vote.

The bitter Democratic campaign

Run-off elections between State Treasurer Ann Richards and Attorney General Jim Mattox for the Texas Democratic gubernatorial candidate are today as well as runoffs for various local and county races. See list of voting sites on page 6.

— which included charges of drug abuse by each candidate — raged over the last month after Mattox and Richards bested a seven-person primary field.

A pre-election poll published Sunday by the Houston Chronicle and Dallas Morning News gave a slight edge to Richards, although it showed a large number of voters still undecided.

Of 759 Democrats who said they'd vote in the runoff, 44 percent backed Richards and 38 percent Mattox. Sixteen percent said they were undecided. The telephone survey by the University of Houston had a margin of error of four percentage points.

Also on Sunday, Mattox appeared on national television and accused Richards of drug use 10 years ago.

"I'm saying that she used cocaine at the age of 46 and marijuana, and she used other drugs," Mattox told CBS-TV's "Face the Nation." The attorney general said he obtained the information from mutual friends he declined to identify.

Richards underwent treatment for alcoholism in 1980 and said she has not had a "mood-altering chemical" since. She phoned the program to deny she'd ever sought treatment for cocaine use, but declined to appear on the show. On Monday, she added, "Mr. Mattox is telling lies in this campaign."

But much of Monday's campaigning — whirlwind tours of the state by both candidates — lacked much of the nastiness that permeated both campaigns in recent days.

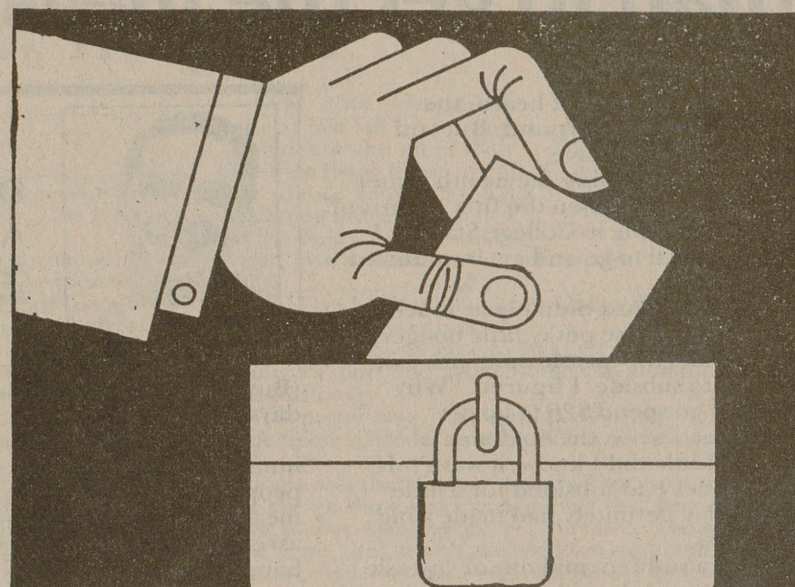
Richards referred to the fight as she called in Midland for improvements in education and bolstering existing Texas businesses.

"It will have been worth going through this mean campaign to solve the problems," she said. "For those of us who care about the problems of Texas, what I have taken (mudslinging) is worth it."

She ripped Gov. Bill Clements, a Republican, saying he had failed to provide leadership to change the current public school finance system, which was declared unconstitutional by a unanimous Texas Supreme Court.

"What we are seeing taking place in Austin, Texas, is a travesty," she said at the University of Texas at Arlington later in the day. "Instead of helping, we have a governor who has deliberately been a roadblock."

Mattox, meanwhile, told members of Dallas' Progressive Voters League that while he couldn't promise to end drug abuse problems, he said he would strive to clean them up.



Mattox reiterated his call for a state lottery, which he says is the only way to raise needed state revenue without an additional tax increase.

And he said he expects Democrats to work together in the fall.

"I'm a Democrat and I'm going to support the entire Democratic ticket

top to bottom," Mattox said. "Win or lose, I'll walk across the field and shake hands. That's the kind of individual I am."

The governor's nomination isn't the only statewide race being decided today.

## Balloons wreak environmental havoc

### Air releases end in litters, animal deaths

By DEAN SUELTFENFUSS  
Of The Battalion Staff

Colorful, festive helium balloons conjure up images of children's parties, circuses or perhaps a day spent at the county fair.

But for some people, they conjure up images of a different kind.

According to the book "Fifty Simple Things You Can Do To Save the Earth," many balloons that have been released into the air land on the ocean's surface and are eaten by whales and sea turtles, which mistake the balloons for jellyfish.

The balloons then get stuck in the animals' digestive tracts, resulting in death.

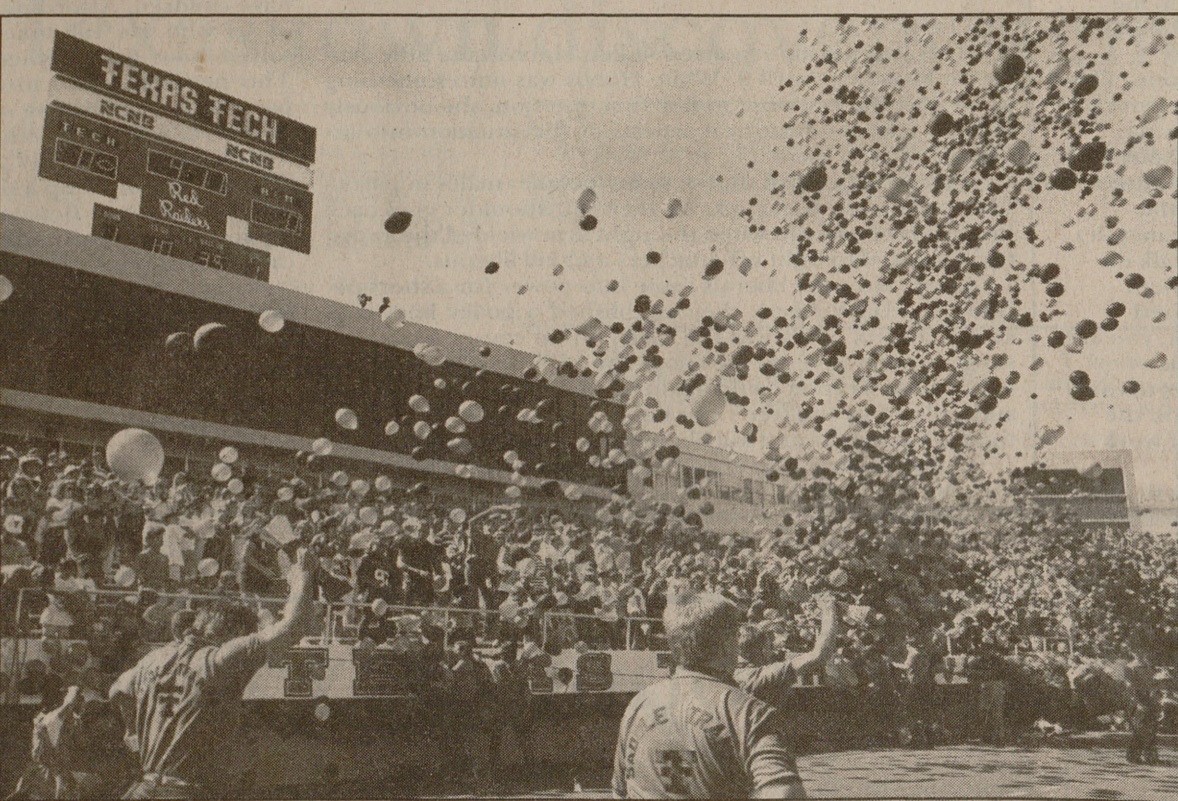
Balloons that are released into the atmosphere can be harmful in other ways, too.

They can be sucked into airplane engines and cause damage to the planes. They also can simply fall to earth, becoming yet another form of litter. Metallic balloons are dangerous because they can become tangled in power lines, causing power outages and creating danger for people in the area.

As more people become aware of dangers involved in releasing balloons, some organizations have taken stances regarding this issue.

For instance, in an effort to make more people aware of the dangers of balloon releases, Kappa Kappa Gamma has requested that all of its chapters refrain from activities involving the release of balloons.

Susie Woelfel, president of A&M's Epsilon Rho chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, said many people do not think about the dangers to wildlife and the environment that can be caused by releasing balloons.



Battalion File Photo by F. Joe

Balloons are released before the start of the Stadium in Lubbock. Research links balloons to 1989 A&M-Texas Tech football game at Jones animal deaths and power outages.

Mary Albert, public relations chair for Texas Environmental Action Coalition, said balloon releases will become less common as more people become aware of potential hazards involved.

She also said many people are unaware of the problems caused by balloon releases.

"I think in the general population, people don't think about it, or maybe they don't take it seriously," Albert said. "In other words they say, 'Oh, it's just a couple of balloons. Well, if each of those balloons is mistaken for food ... it's going to add up.'"

Albert said balloon releases are probably not as common in Bryan-College Station as they are in other areas. In February, universities all across Texas released balloons to publicize an anti-drunk driving event.

Albert said TEAC members did nothing to prevent the balloon release because they did not know about it.

"If something like that was to happen again and we knew about it in advance, we would certainly try to get the word out not to release those (balloons)," Albert said. "In fact, I didn't even know that happened."

Although some communities and universities have banned the release of balloons, representatives of Bryan, College Station and Texas A&M said they know of no local restrictions regarding their release.

Peggy Calliham, public relations and marketing manager for College Station, said it is important to realize that balloons can be hazardous not only to the environment, but also to humans.

She said the city of College Station has made an effort to warn children of the hazards of handling metallic balloons near power lines.

## NASA readies shuttle for telescope mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA said there was only a 40 percent chance that weather would delay today's launch of the space shuttle Discovery on its mission to place a telescope in orbit to look toward the edge of the universe.

Launch of the 35th shuttle mission from Kennedy Space Center was set for 8:47 a.m. EDT (7:47 a.m. CDT). There was a chance that low clouds could push that time back.

Once in orbit, the Hubble Space Telescope, 43 feet long, 14 feet in diameter and weighing 24,250 pounds, will be lifted out of Discovery's cargo bay with the ship's mechanical arm, given an exacting checkout, and will be dropped overboard Wednesday afternoon if all goes well.

The telescope, being launched seven years late because of the 1986 Challenger accident and technical problems, represents an investment of more than \$2 billion — \$1.5 billion for the telescope itself and \$600 million for spare parts, astronaut training and ground support. It will cost \$200 million a year to operate and maintain.

The flight is deemed so important that all five of the crew are veterans of previous flights. Commander Loren J. Shriver and pilot Charles F. Bolden each have flown once before. Mission specialists Bruce McCandless II and Kathryn D. Sullivan not only have flown before, but also have space-walking experience. They'll be ready to make space walks to rectify any problems with the telescope. And mission specialist Steven A. Hawley, whose job it is to operate the mechanical arm that lifts the telescope out, has two missions under his belt.

The telescope's 94-inch mirror, according to experts, is the most flawless ever made. It was designed to capture and magnify light from nearly the farthest reaches of the universe — light created billions of years ago when stars and solar systems were in their earliest stages of formation.

"Hubble has no rivals," Lennard Fisk, NASA's chief scientist, said.

"Never before have we had a telescope or observatory with this capability, and it will not be surpassed until we begin to establish observatories on the moon some day."

Above the atmosphere, which distorts visible light and blocks out ultraviolet, X-rays and gamma rays, the telescope will be able to see objects 50 times dimmer than those that can be observed from the ground.

With this new tool, astronomers will see these celestial objects as they were billions of years ago. That should help determine whether the

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— Lennard Fisk,  
NASA's chief scientist

Big Bang that created the universe was 10 billion years ago, 20 billion years ago or somewhere in between, as scientists believe.

Mostly, scientists stress, they expect to get answers to questions they haven't asked.

"We have to be consciously expecting that we may be surprised," said William Jeffreys of the University of Texas, leader of the astrometry team, and one of 1,200 scientists who will work with results from the Hubble's observations.

In the 15-year life expected of the telescope, scientists hope also to find planets around other stars.

Engineers will spend about five months calibrating the instrument once it is in orbit, but the first photographs are expected within two weeks of launch.

## Senators object to Corps integration committee

By CHRIS VAUGHN  
Of The Battalion Staff

A resolution asking the president to appoint a committee to oversee the full integration of women into the Corps of Cadets was sent back to committee again Monday during the Texas A&M Faculty Senate meeting.

The resolution was sent back to the Committee on the Status of Women for the second time because many senators expressed concerns that the resolution was too negative and that the Corps didn't need a committee to oversee the integration of women.

Dr. Patricia Alexander, chairwoman of the committee, said she was disappointed in the vote.

"Of course, we're disappointed, but it's just a temporary setback," Alexander, an associate professor of education, said.

The resolution, which also was sent back to the committee after the March meeting, states that A&M President William H. Mobley will appoint a committee to evaluate and oversee the integration of women in the Corps.

Alexander said during the

## Proposed revision for parking citations voted down

By CHRIS VAUGHN  
Of The Battalion Staff

A proposed revision in the Texas A&M Rules and Regulations eliminating parking citation appeal boards and giving the director of the Parking, Transit and Traffic Services the final say was voted down by the Faculty Senate Monday.

The proposed revision, which was voted down vociferously, would have eliminated appeals panels which hear complaints by students, faculty and staff about parking citations.

The revisions relating to parking services also stated, "The decision of the Director or the designee is final," which troubled some faculty members.

"That sentence makes me simply uneasy," Dr. Larry Wilding, a soil and crop sciences

professor, said.

During the discussion, William Kibler, associate director of Student Affairs, said Parking, Transit and Traffic Services was attempting to do away with the appeals panels in its move toward a completely administrative process.

The Faculty Senate, however, did pass a revision from Parking and Transit that will make parking permits mandatory for bicycles beginning in the fall. The price for the bicycle permits was not announced.

The Senate also failed to approve a revision in the section outlining student rights during disciplinary review.

Students currently have the right to remain silent during meetings with University officials concerning disciplinary action, but the revised section would have stated, "However, an adverse inference may be drawn from a student's refusal to speak."

lengthy debate about the resolution that the Corps currently discriminates against women by not offering them the same opportunities as men.

She said the Corps discriminates by permitting women to join only

seven out of the 39 Corps units. There are currently women in five Corps units, two of which are Aggie Band units.

She also questioned why A&M does not have fully integrated units

when the armed forces and the service academies do.

"It's difficult to believe A&M could not achieve what the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, West Point, Air Force Academy or the Na-

val Academy could achieve," Alexander said.

Alexander said the Corps has been trying to integrate its units since the early 1970s and that without the resolution, progress would

continue to be slow.

But Corps Commandant Gen. Thomas Darling said the Corps is moving toward integration and a committee is not needed.

"We're making good progress now," Darling said. "I'm not at odds with the committee's wishes, but I don't think I need a committee to evaluate it."

Brennan Reilly, the A&M Student Senate liaison to the Faculty Senate, said the Student Senate does not believe it is in the student's best interests for the Faculty Senate to oversee Corps problems.

The Corps instituted a pilot program this spring to study the effects of companies containing men and women.

Darling said he wants to eliminate the all-female units by the fall, but he didn't go so far as to say when full integration would occur.

"This is something significantly different than anything else," he said. "We need to work at it cautiously. We can't use a sledgehammer approach."

Alexander said the Committee on

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