

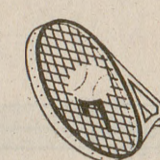


March 25, 1992
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FORECAST

Mostly cloudy
Highs in 70s
Lows in 40s

OPINION
Always strive to be the best at what you do because someone has to be
-Battalion columnist Michael Quinn Sullivan
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LIFESTYLES
OSCAR PREVIEW:
Silence of the Lambs, JFK and Beauty and the Beast could all come out winners

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COACH'S DREAM:
Mark Weaver leads charge of A&M men's tennis team

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The Battalion

Vol. 91 No. 117 College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" 12 Pages Thursday, March 26, 1992

Organization strives to place limits on Texas officials' terms

By Alysia Woods
The Battalion

A Texas group is pushing to get the issue of term limitations on the agenda for the Texas Legislature's next special legislative session to be held in May. Armed with a recent poll that shows most Texas lawmakers favor term limitations, Texans for Term Limitations would like to see state officials limited to eight years in office. Mark Sanders, spokesman for the non-profit organization, said the group was set up by Rob Mosbacher in January 1991 following his loss to Bob Bullock in the

state lieutenant governor's race in 1990. "We've collected signatures to put pressure on the legislature," Sanders said. "Two hundred thousand people have joined our organization." However, not everyone thinks limiting elected officials' terms is necessary. Dr. Gary Halter, a political science professor at Texas A&M, disagrees with proposed term limits. "I don't think term limits are a good idea as far as legally imposing them," Halter said. "There is something to be said for expertise." Halter said kicking a lawmaker out of office on an arbitrary basis is unfair. According to Sanders and a recent poll

conducted by the organization, candidates in 107 state representative races and 22 senate races believe the public should be given the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment limiting terms. Rep. Steve Ogden from District 14 was among the state officials who favored term limits in the poll. In addition, Sanders said in a recent poll conducted by CBS Inc. 70 percent of Texas voters want term limits. Halter said the issue is usually pushed by the "out" party at the time in an effort to rid the legislature of various lawmakers. "If you're a politician, it's just a way to keep your name in the news media," Hal-

ter said. "It's just one of those trendy things that's been with us before." Sanders said the recent issue of congressmen bouncing checks in Washington has further inspired Texans for Term Limitations. "There is a tremendous level of frustration with voters right now," he said. "We want term limits as an issue in future races." Texans for Term Limitations are now focusing their efforts on an upcoming special legislative session. Sanders said the organization has requested that Gov. Ann Richards propose the issue. "She's the only one who can choose what will be debated by lawmakers dur-

ing the session," he said. "We'd like to have the issue ready for the November elections." Sanders said Texans for Term Limitations is part of a national movement, although each state organization is independent from the others. Twenty other states are affiliated with the organization, he said. Sanders, however, is optimistic that Gov. Richards will support Texans for Term Limitations in May. "She said she was in favor for it (term limits) in her campaign for governor," he said. "Given the level of frustration voters feel, it would be in the best interest for politicians to get on board or get out of

Funding for clinic runs out

Planned Parenthood depletes Title 20 aid

By Reagon Clamon
The Battalion

The cost of Norplant, a newly available method of birth control, and an increase in awareness has drained the federal and state funds of Planned Parenthood of Brazos County. Planned Parenthood ran out of their federal and state aid around the first week of March and will be forced to charge its Title 20 clients \$40 for examinations and \$7 per pack of oral contraceptives, instead of \$20-25 for an exam and four packs of pills. Residents of Brazos County who qualify for Title 20 funding from Planned Parenthood will be paying a lot more for birth control and examinations starting April 1. Title 20 funding is a block fund from the federal government that is matched at the state level and allocated by Texas Department of Health to various health agencies in the state.

Zita D'souza, clinic director of Planned Parenthood of Brazos County, said the clinic received about the same funding this year as any, but community awareness of their services greatly increased. "There has been a higher rate of teenage pregnancies, so we've been putting a lot of emphasis on going out to the schools and talking to various groups and organizations, encouraging people to come and be screened and if they're sexually active, to use protection," D'souza said. "We've done too good a job of recruiting." D'souza said Norplant, a newly available method of birth control which is surgically implanted, has eaten up most of the funding. "The Norplant takes \$500 that would otherwise be spent on ex-

work together to make it succeed. "The economic problems that the reunification has brought with it are certainly enormous," Wolff said. "But they can be solved." Wolff thinks the reason Germany will be able to overcome these problems is that the reunification, although it was surprising, was handled well by everyone. "The management of the reunification was done in a professional manner," Wolff said. "The breakdown was inevitable. What is unexplained is why the Soviet Union didn't interfere." Both economic and socialization problems are facing the new Germany. Among other actions, taxes have been raised to help pay for the rebuilding of eastern Germany. Wolff said many citizens in western Germany do not like having to sacrifice their resources to help rebuild the eastern part of the country.

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RICHARD BUCKNOR/The Battalion

Land, ho!

Hannah Pedersen, right, a senior from Houston, and Dollie Criste, a senior from Ballinger, take a break from recruiting new members for the Texas A&M Sailing Club outside the MSC Tuesday.

Germany faces troubles of unity

By Tanya Sasser
The Battalion

The reunified Germany faces many problems ahead, but none that cannot be overcome, a professor said Wednesday night at Texas A&M. Dr. Jürgen Wolff, a sociology professor at A&M's German partner university in Bochum, Germany, thinks even though the situation in the reunified nation has not been ideal, Germans will

work together to make it succeed. "The economic problems that the reunification has brought with it are certainly enormous," Wolff said. "But they can be solved." Wolff thinks the reason Germany will be able to overcome these problems is that the reunification, although it was surprising, was handled well by everyone. "The management of the reunification was done in a professional manner," Wolff said. "The breakdown was inevitable. What is unexplained is why the Soviet Union didn't interfere." Both economic and socialization problems are facing the new Germany. Among other actions, taxes have been raised to help pay for the rebuilding of eastern Germany. Wolff said many citizens in western Germany do not like having to sacrifice their resources to help rebuild the eastern part of the country.

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Gadhafi harbors terrorists

U.N. Security Council plans vote on punishing sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - The Security Council, angered over Libya's about-face on its pledge to turn over suspects in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, will vote Friday on adopting punishing sanctions against Libya, diplomats said Wednesday.

The diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the 15-member Security Council was united in its dismay and passage of the sanctions resolution was assured.

The Security Council's president said the council would vote on the measure Friday.

The draft resolution, sponsored by the United States, Britain and France, would sever air links with Libya, impose a weapons embargo and require expulsion of most Libyan diplomats.

Action on the draft resolution was suspended Monday when Libya's U.N. envoy announced that the two suspects in the Pan Am bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988 would be turned over to the Arab League.

The understanding was that they then would be turned over to either the United States or Britain, probably via U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt.

Libya's statement, described as a "final" decision by Tripoli's U.N. envoy, never was put in writing, despite requests from Boutros-Ghali and Security Council President Diego Arria, the Venezuelan ambassador.

On Wednesday, Libya's leader, Col. Moammar Gadhafi, backed away from the offer, telling a visiting delegation from the Arab League that only the International Court of Justice could make him surrender the suspects, according to an Arab diplomat familiar with the talks.

The court in the Hague, Netherlands, was to begin hearing Libya's request for a ruling on Thursday. Libya argues that under international law the men cannot be extradited and must be tried in Libya.

"This is very typical behavior for Gadhafi," said Mary Jane Deeb, a Libya expert at American University in Washington. "This was a trial balloon. They say something, see what the reaction is, then decide if it's to their advantage or not."



Gadhafi

Governor to decide fate of two state institutions

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Ann Richards will announce Thursday her decision on whether to close Travis State School in Austin and Mexia State School, two of 13 state institutions for the mentally retarded, a spokesman said. A special task force recommended earlier this month that the two schools be shut down and that the state increase its emphasis on community programs. Richards, who has until Thursday to decide on the proposal, plans a 5:30 p.m. news conference to announce her decision, said spokesman Chuck McDonald. Closing two institutions is a condition of settling a long-running federal lawsuit against Texas' system of caring for the mentally retarded. But more than 3,000 Mexia State School supporters rallied at the Capitol Tuesday in hopes of

convincing Richards to keep the institution open. Travis State School defenders also have said that the school should not be closed. McDonald had said that an announcement would be made Wednesday, but later said it would be delayed. "The governor is agonizing over the decision," McDonald said. "We want to make absolutely certain that every possibility is explored. That's what she's instructed her staff to do again today." He said that Richards was talking to her staff and legal counsel, and that she also met Wednesday with Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin, a Travis State School supporter. Richards, who is on an economic development push, returned Tuesday from California.

NOTICE
Voter's Guide available March 31

The Texas A&M Voter's Guide will be distributed March 31. It includes a listing of candidates for student government positions. Individuals running for **Student Body President, Yell Leader, Class Presidents, Off-Campus Aggie President and RHA President** may submit a written campaign platform for publication. Student Body President and Yell Leaders need to set up times for pictures. Additional information can be obtained in room 013 Reed McDonald or call 845-3316.

Professor attacks Darwinism

Scientists created evolution to support theories, author says

By Jayme Blaschke
The Battalion

A law professor attacked Darwin's theory of evolution before a largely skeptical audience of more than 100 students and faculty at Texas A&M Wednesday night.

Phillip E. Johnson, author of "Darwin on Trial," fielded questions while attacking the foundations of Darwinist theory for nearly two hours. Johnson claimed evolution is essentially a dogmatic belief created by scientists to supplant all other beliefs.

"Things look like they were created for a purpose because they were - not through random chance like the Darwinists claim," Johnson said. "There had to be a pre-existing unevolving intelligence responsible for creation." "Darwinism is effective atheism," he said. Johnson said the biggest problem with the theory of evolution is that the conditions scientists set up to verify theories automatically discount everything that is not evolution. Because science only accepts as fact that which can be verified scientifically, it sets up conditions which exclude explanations supernatural in origin. "Science is dogmatic, because it states everything that exists can be discovered by science," he said. "If it can't be discovered, then it doesn't exist." Evolution is presented by the

scientific community as a fact, he said. If someone questions the evidence, Darwinists demand an alternative explanation. When that explanation does not agree with evolution, it is discounted. Darwinism is, in fact, the answer to a highly complex series of questions designed to result in the Darwinian answer, he said. The purpose of the scientific method is not to investigate the possible origins of creation, but to deny the existence of a creator. "When Darwinists go into the field to test their theories, they aren't so much as testing them as illustrating them," Johnson said. "The findings support the theories because that's what is looked for." "To an outsider, evidence supporting Darwinism is woefully inadequate," he said. "Apparently it doesn't take much to convince a Darwinist."



Johnson