

The Battalion

Vol. 92 No. 8 (14 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Wednesday, September 9, 1992

Bush asks Congress for \$7.6 billion in aid

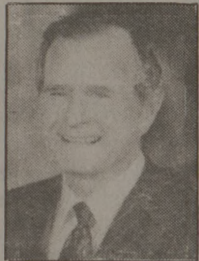
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush asked Congress on Tuesday to provide more than \$7.6 billion to help Florida and Louisiana recover from Hurricane Andrew's devastation. It would be the biggest federal relief package ever for a natural disaster.

"We're going to move it as fast as possible," said Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine.

Pending before the expected October adjournment are major family-leave and tax bills, which both face veto threats from Bush. Congress still has to finish 12 of its 13 annual spending bills; Bush has threatened to reject any that exceed his budget proposals.

On the storm-relief bill, Congress positioned itself to begin



Bush

moving quickly. The chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Jamie Whitten, D-Miss., prepared to introduce his own version of the bill Wednesday and the Senate Appropriations Committee planned to consider its own measure on Thursday. Senate floor debate was possible next week.

It was possible that the congressional bills would contain changes opposed by Bush. One official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said Whitten's bill would probably cost more than

Bush's. Bush momentarily abandoned his campaign-trail attacks against the "gridlock Congress" and predicted that majority Democrats would cooperate on the measure. "We're together on this one," he said.

The most expensive natural disaster in the nation's history, Andrew caused an estimated \$20 billion in damage in Florida and \$1.5 billion in Louisiana.

Fifty-two deaths have been linked to the storm, which also destroyed or damaged 97,000 homes in Florida and 14,000 in Louisiana. About 250,000 people were left homeless; 118,000 Florida homes and businesses are still without electricity.

The president's request for hurricane assistance would provide disaster payments, loans and

social services to farmers, homeowners, renters, businesses and families. It would also help the federal and local governments repair buildings, schools, roads, waterways and sanitation projects.

Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles, a Democrat and former senator, lobbied his one-time colleagues, saying his state would need \$6 billion to \$9 billion. And Sen. L. Bennett Johnston, D-La., said he believed Bush's measure has "some gaps in it we will fill in."

The biggest federal packages for natural disaster aid have provided nearly \$2.9 billion to help victims of the Loma Prieta earthquake in California, and \$1.1 billion in aid for victims of Hurricane Hugo. Both measures were approved in 1990.

Among the measure's major components are:

•\$1.5 billion in Federal Emergency Management Agency grants for individuals, businesses and governments in Florida. Louisiana would get \$150 million in such aid and Guam would get \$100 million.

•Money to back \$1.6 billion in Federal Housing Authority loans, enough to insure 65,000 mortgages and loans for rebuilding of homes and health-care facilities.

•Allowing the Small Business Administration to make up to \$1.2 billion worth of low-interest loans. Individuals could borrow up to \$100,000 apiece for home repairs; businesses could borrow up to \$500,000 for repairs and purchases.

•\$480.6 million to rebuild Homestead Air Force Base in Florida, which the storm demolished. Included in the proposal is \$503.3 million for the Pentagon's costs of coping with the damage caused by Andrew and by Typhoon Omar, which slammed into the Pacific island of Guam just days after Andrew hit Florida.

Mandela seeks to oust National Party leaders

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BISHOP, South Africa — An angry Nelson Mandela called Tuesday for the removal of the black homeland ruler whose troops killed 24 ANC marchers and wounded 196.

The killings Monday sparked a major confrontation between black and white leaders in South Africa and dealt a severe blow to efforts to resume power-sharing talks.

South Africa controls most affairs in the homelands — established under the apartheid system as separate nations for blacks — and the African National Congress and other black groups consider most homelands puppet states of Pretoria.

Religious leaders, including Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, urged the ruler of the Ciskei homeland to hold a referendum on returning the territory to South Africa. They said the ruler, Brig. Gen. Oupa Gqozo (pronounced OO-pah KOR-sah), refused.

Earlier, Tutu and other church leaders went to the field where the killings took place, kneeling and praying between police armored vehicles. Hundreds of ANC members huddled around campfires in an overnight vigil at the site.

The normally quiet South Africa-Ciskei border was sealed with barbed wire and guarded by

Ciskeian and South African troops. It was reopened after dusk.

The killings on Monday deepened South Africa's political crisis, making it unlikely Mandela's African National Congress will return soon to stalled talks on giving blacks the vote and ending apartheid. ANC leaders said President F.W. de Klerk's government bore direct responsibility for the killings.

The ruling National Party lashed out at the ANC in one of the harshest attacks in recent months, saying the opposition group was trying to seize power.

The National Party called ANC leaders "hard-liners hooked on the Communist shortcut of trying to force the country to its knees and seizing power by force."

The talks collapsed in June after 39 blacks were massacred in Boipatong township. The ANC has accused the white minority government of encouraging fighting between black factions. De Klerk denies that.

ANC leaders in Johannesburg called for the removal of two other homeland rulers who are major foes of the ANC — President Lucas Mangosuthu of Bophuthatswana and Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu. Buthelezi heads the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party.

See S. Africa/Page 12



ROBERT J. REED/The Battalion

Shelly Jones, a sophomore finance major looks at the names posted for Silver Taps Tuesday. The monument is a new addition for displaying the names of those to be honored on the day of the ceremony.

A&M College Republicans welcome Fields

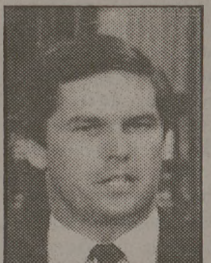
By MELODY DUNNE

Assistant City Editor of THE BATTALION

The College Republicans came out in full force Tuesday evening to welcome Congressman Jack Fields to Texas A&M and organize Republican campaigning in the Bryan-College Station area.

Fields emphasized that Texas A&M students could make the difference between President Bush winning Texas and the election in November.

"Students have to make the difference at the polls," he said. "Eighteen to 20-year-olds make the difference between whether



Fields

"And if George Bush does not win Texas, he will not win the presidency," he said.

In order to make all of this happen, Fields encouraged the College Republicans to get involved and make the sacrifices

Bush wins in '92."

Fields said the presidential election might be extremely close, and the Aggie campaign could determine Bush winning the state of Texas.

"I don't agree with everything the president has done, but I look at the composite," he said.

The College Republicans have distributed over 5,000 voter registration cards around Bryan-College Station since June. Before the election they hope to register over 20,000 voters.

that are necessary for changes to occur.

"One person with courage makes a majority," he said. "One person really can make a difference."

Fields said that when deciding between the candidates voters should look at what each candidate can do for them during the next four years.

"I don't agree with everything the president has done, but I look at the composite," he said.

The College Republicans have distributed over 5,000 voter registration cards around Bryan-College Station since June. Before the election they hope to register over 20,000 voters.

TRADE DEBATE IN SENATE

Lawmakers upset about Bush's use of pact in campaign

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic senators signaled Tuesday to U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills their anger over the Bush administration's use of the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement on the campaign trail.

"What I've seen over the last two weeks isn't responsible — it's pure politics and the administration knows it," Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, told Hills during an appearance before the Senate Finance Committee.

"Politicizing this agreement will not help its prospects in Congress," cautioned Bentsen, who chairs the committee.

Congressional Democrats have been irked by President Bush's repeated free trade-related attacks on Democratic rival Bill Clinton. Bush has stepped up his claims in recent weeks that the Arkansas governor is straddling the fence on the trade pact.

Clinton has said he favors the concept of free trade with Mexico, but wants to make sure environmental and labor standards are addressed before endorsing an agreement.

Bentsen noted that a conclusion to the treaty, which was made public Tuesday, was only reached

Aug. 12. The 2,000-page text underwent revision until recently, he added.

"No responsible person should make a decision that quickly on an agreement of this complexity and this magnitude — and no one should responsibly expect it," Bentsen said.

Montana Democratic Sen. Max Baucus also defended Clinton.

"For President Bush to suggest that Gov. Clinton or any of us in this Congress should endorse a treaty which we have not had the opportunity to review would be the height of irresponsibility," said Baucus, who chairs the international trade subcommittee.

Hills' recent appearances in Texas and other states on behalf of the Bush-Quayle campaign also have been viewed with disfavor.

None of the committee Republicans defended Bush by name. Only Sen. John Danforth addressed the Democrats' ire.

"It should be debated in connection with an election year," said Danforth, R-Mo., citing the treaty's impact both nationally and in the world economy.

"I have absolutely no qualms on that score at all."

Baucus also contended that American negotiators rushed conclusion of the pact to coincide with the Republican National Convention, which began five days after a deal was announced.

But Hills rejected that claim. "There was no rush

See Trade/Page 12

Gore answers questions in El Paso

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EL PASO — Students in a barrio school told Al Gore Tuesday that drugs and gangs were their big concerns and asked him his views on U.S. immigration policy and what he'll do about welfare recipients who lose benefits when they get jobs.

Gore, running mate to presidential candidate Bill Clinton, toured Roosevelt School in downtown El Paso and endured a blazing sun to address a crowd of about 1,000, including several schoolchildren brought in from area schools.

The Tennessee senator encouraged the children to get involved in politics.

"You can make a tremendous difference in the campaign, even if you are not old enough to vote," he said.

He also told the school, which has an all Hispanic student body and some children of recent immigrants, that immigration policies should be compas-



Gore

sionate and leave families in tact.

"We should place that in a much higher priority in looking at the immigration policies and enforcement," he said.

The tiny elementary school had been decorated in red, white and blue paper chains, and its hallways were plastered with campaign slogans and letters to Gore written by students. One girl, Lupita Rodriguez, had said she hoped to meet Gore someday.

Gore obliged and brought her up to the stage, but Lupita was too shy to answer any of his questions.

Ruben Ontiveros showed Gore a computer language skills game in which he won points for unscrambling words.

See Gore/Page 12

Dallas judge vies for seat on Texas Supreme Court

By GARY P. CARROLL

City Editor of THE BATTALION

For Republican Judge Craig Enoch, integrity, fairness and a solid commitment to judicial restraint comprise the cornerstone of his bid for a seat on the Texas Supreme Court.

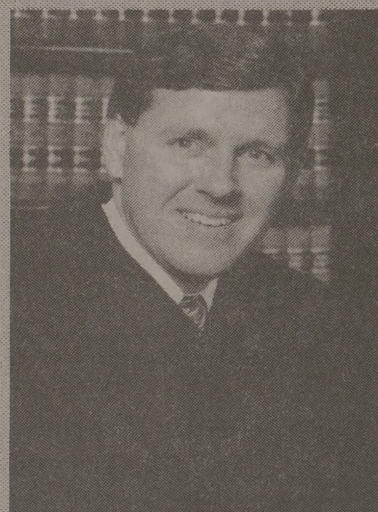
Enoch will be battling Democrat Oscar Mauzy for his seat on the court this November.

Currently, Enoch serves in Dallas as the Chief Justice of the Fifth District Court of Appeals. He began in Dallas as a judge nearly eleven years ago.

Enoch said he wants to restore judicial restraint to the court while removing Mauzy, one of the court's leading judicial activists.

"People will realize that some judges try to make laws — and Oscar Mauzy is one of those judges," Enoch said.

Our judicial system is set up to balance the executive and legislative branches of our government and to do so the judge



Enoch

must be free from political ideology while ruling on cases, he said.

"A good judge is not necessarily a judge without prejudice and bias," Enoch said. "A good

judge is one who is able to set them aside."

"And a bad judge is not necessarily a judge with prejudice and bias," he said. "A bad judge doesn't know when to set these

"I believe I fit the people's definition of what a judge is. I'm a referee, an umpire..."

—Judge Craig Enoch

beliefs aside and decide a case based on its merits.

Enoch said a true judge won't let people know how they would vote.

"It's like saying 'vote for me and I'll rule this way on a case' — and that's not right," Enoch said.

You give me the case and I can tell you how he (Mauzy) would rule, Enoch said.

"Some judges wield the pow-

See Enoch/Page 12