

The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

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Quayle looks at health care

VP supports medical reform package

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Vice President Dan Quayle said Tuesday that the Bush administration wants a package of reforms including tax credits, vouchers and discounts to provide better health care for more Americans.



Quayle

"We want to make health insurance available and affordable to everyone," Quayle told a group of physicians and other medical professionals during a visit to Texas Children's Hospital.

Quayle toured the hospital, meeting with patients in the renal dialysis unit and physical and oc-

cupational therapy areas, as he began a daylong tour of Texas and Arizona.

The vice president later was cheered wildly by thousands of Texas A&M University students in College Station. He left the Lone Star state for a brief trip to Phoenix, but planned to return for an appearance Wednesday in Fort Worth.

"We want to use tax credits, vouchers and deductions to make health insurance available to everyone and the deductions would be up to \$3,750 up to an earned income of about \$60,000," Quayle said in Houston. "If you were unemployed, it would be in vouchers, and if you were employed it would be in the form of tax credits or deductions."

He said the GOP plan would affect some 95 million Americans and be focused on cutting costs

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Family leave bill veto stirs debate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Democrats rushed Wednesday to ac-

count President Bush of betraying "family values" by vetoing a family leave bill, while congressional Republicans pressed an alternative plan and defended the president's busy veto pen.

Some Republican sponsors acknowledged there was little chance that Congress, in its waning weeks, would embrace

Bush's alternative to the family leave bill — a tax credit to employers who let workers have unpaid time off in family emergencies.

Still, they used it as a political defense following Bush's veto Tuesday evening of the bill that would have required many employers to give workers up to 12 weeks off in such cases.

"I'm not too optimistic about this," Rep. Fred Grandy, R-Iowa, acknowledged at a news conference where Republicans touted

their alternative. "I do believe, however, in the next Congress we will have a spirited debate."

Bush's veto, while expected, gave Democrats a chance to accuse Republicans of empty rhetoric on family values.

"After talking interminably about family values, he vetoed the family and medical leave bill. That is not leadership," Democratic vice presidential nominee Al Gore said, campaigning in Georgia.

"Seventy-two countries have a family and medical leave act," presidential challenger Bill Clinton said, with Gore on a campaign bus tour. "We're being told by this president we can't. I was taught to believe that America was the we-can country."

It was the second time in three

years that Bush has vetoed a family and medical leave bill. Democrats planned an override vote in the Senate, possibly this week, but the odds were against them in the House.

Bush's action put some Republicans on the spot, since polls show overwhelming public support for the idea of family leave as a minimum labor standard. It comes after Bush sustained his veto of a bill aimed at easing voter registration and while he faces a prospective battle over his promised veto of a popular bill to regulate the cable television industry.

The cable bill passed by veto-proof margins in both the House and Senate. With a vote possible just before the election, it may be the sternest test yet for Bush.

Board to decide WTSU's name

By REAGON CLAMON

Reporter of THE BATTALION

West Texas State University may get a name change this Friday as the Board of Regents meet to decide the question amid some controversy. The new name, West Texas A&M University, will be effective immediately if the Board votes for the change.

Dr. Barry Thompson, President of WTSU, and the prime motivator in the move to change the name, commissioned a poll of the Panhandle area in June and the results were less than heartening.

According to the poll, conducted by the Public Policy Resources Laboratory here at Texas A&M, only 21 percent of the 482 respondents were in favor of the name change. Forty-six percent felt either name was acceptable. One-third of WTSU alumni surveyed favored the change while one-third felt either name was okay. Opposition to the change is expected and understandable, Dana Olmstead the director of communication services at WTSU, said. The West Texas university has changed names five times since its establishment, and there has always been some controversy, Olmstead said.

"I think you just get to know a university, especially one that you've attended and care a lot about, by a certain name," she

said. "When that changes, it's just hard to accept."

Olmstead said when West Texas State University changed its name from West Texas State College in 1963, there was a similar reaction.

"According to some of the research, there was a period of difficulty," Olmstead said. "A lot of people didn't like it. West Texas State College was their home."

There has been some apprehension from Texas A&M alumni in the past over universities changing their names to A&M, said Penny Beaumont, vice chancellor for communications for the Texas A&M University System.

"The Board of Regents has told institutions that the name 'Texas A&M at' is not an alternative," Beaumont said. "I think there might be some who feel that there should only be one Texas A&M University. There is a Texas A&M at Galveston, but it reports directly to the president of Texas A&M University; and I think there are some former students that think the only Texas A&M University should be in College Station."

The objective for changing the name, Beaumont said, was to bring WTSU closer to its parent university.

"Those people who support the name change very much want something that reflects the linkage with the Texas A&M University System," she said.



DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

Annie Godwin, a senior nutritional science major from Houston, finishes a lap at the

Wofford Cain Pool. Godwin prefers to run, but she swims about once a week to stay in shape.

Free trade to readjust work force Job loss expected

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hispanics in California and South Texas will reap some of the benefits of free trade with Mexico and Canada but also stand to be disproportionately hurt as the American work force adjusts to shifting trade patterns, a Latino think tank said Wednesday.

The conclusions were drawn from two studies conducted for the Southwest Voter Research Institute, a non-profit Hispanic group based in San Antonio, Texas.

The proposed North American Free Trade Agreement "is not as good as it's being made out to be in terms of jobs and it's not as bad as it's being made out to be," said Andrew Hernandez, the institute's president.

The Texas study, conducted by researchers at the University of Texas at San Antonio, projects that over five years the trade pact would result in a net gain of 1,617 jobs for Hispanics in the 37-county South Texas area.

The South Texas gains would come in electronics, transportation, communications, public utilities and the service sectors, said Avelardo Valdez, one of the study's authors.

South Texas job losses will be experienced in agriculture, trade and the apparel and textile sectors, Valdez said.

Valdez' study finds that Hispanics will have less access than Anglos to new jobs created by increased trade with Mexico, with on average 1.23 jobs going to an Anglo for every job created for a Latino.

"Disproportionately, Mexican-Americans will lose more jobs than non Mexican-Americans," Valdez said.

BATTLE FOR THE BENCH

Incumbent faces re-election

By MELODY DUNNE

Assistant City Editor for THE BATTALION

After two terms on the bench, Democrat John Delaney is facing his first contested election for judge of Brazos County's 272nd District Court.

Bryan attorney John Hawtrey is running as a Republican against Delaney in the November election. Delaney said he hopes voters will look at his record instead of his political party.

About one-third of the voters on the A&M campus voted straight-ticket in the last election. Delaney said straight-ticket voters show poor judgment.

"I think all of them are making a mistake," Delaney said. "They could crush some of us. A vote is just too precious to waste or to cast in the blind."

The best way to decide on a candidate is to look at their past record, Delaney said.

"Hopefully voters are informed on all the races," he said.

"I'm confident if they study the record, they will choose the right person."

Delaney said he enjoys his job — especially helping people escape the stress linked to court cases.

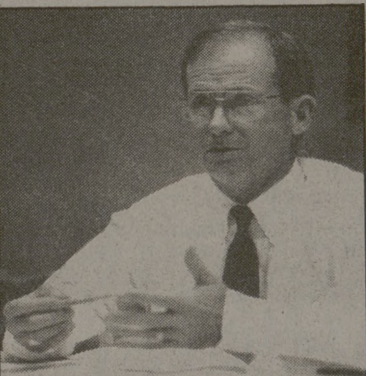
"Unresolved conflicts create recurring pain," he

said. "The faster the case is over, the faster the people can get on with their lives."

During his eight years on the bench, Delaney said he introduced a computer-assisted case management system and telephone hearings, innovations that reduced the civil case backlog by more than half.

"Lawyers from Houston, Austin, Dallas and other places can opt for a telephone hearing to save time and money," he said.

Delaney has also used a tape recorder in place of a court reporter, which he said saves Brazos County about \$31,000 a year, speeds up appeals and reduces the risk of trial reversals due to incomplete trial records.



Judge John Delaney of the 272nd District Court

Lawyer seeks seat in court

By TANYA SASSER

Staff writer of THE BATTALION

Republican lawyer John Hawtrey will oppose two-term Democratic incumbent John Delaney for Bryan's 272nd District Court bench position in November.

Hawtrey is running for judge because he feels he has something to offer the people of Brazos County.

Hawtrey has tried cases in about one-third of the state's counties and in all of the state's federal districts, he said.

He has had the experience of appearing before the United States Supreme Court.

Hawtrey said although he is staring out at a disadvantage by running against an incumbent, he is more qualified based on the variety of experience he possesses.

"I think I am much more qualified based on trial experience," Hawtrey said. "To have a wide variety of lawyers appear before you is not the same as appearing before a wide variety of judges."

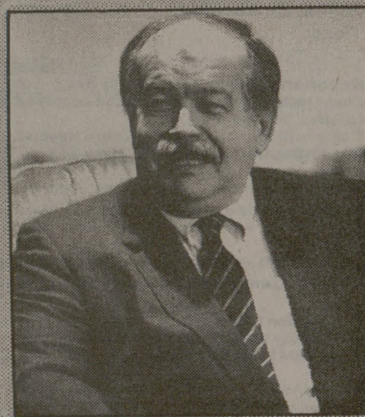
Hawtrey has his own ideas about the role of a judge. He favors tradition in the courtroom. He likes to "play by the rules" and opposes dras-

tic change.

"I decided to run against Judge Delaney because I didn't agree with his judicial philosophy," he said. "He's what we judges call a judicial activist. He tries to do innovative procedures that I don't much care for."

As judge, Hawtrey sees his job as the administration of rules that already exist, not to change them.

"Those of us who administer the system shouldn't experiment with it," he said. "We shouldn't be making our own rules. We should be the first ones to follow the rules."



John Hawtrey, candidate for judge of the 272nd District Court