

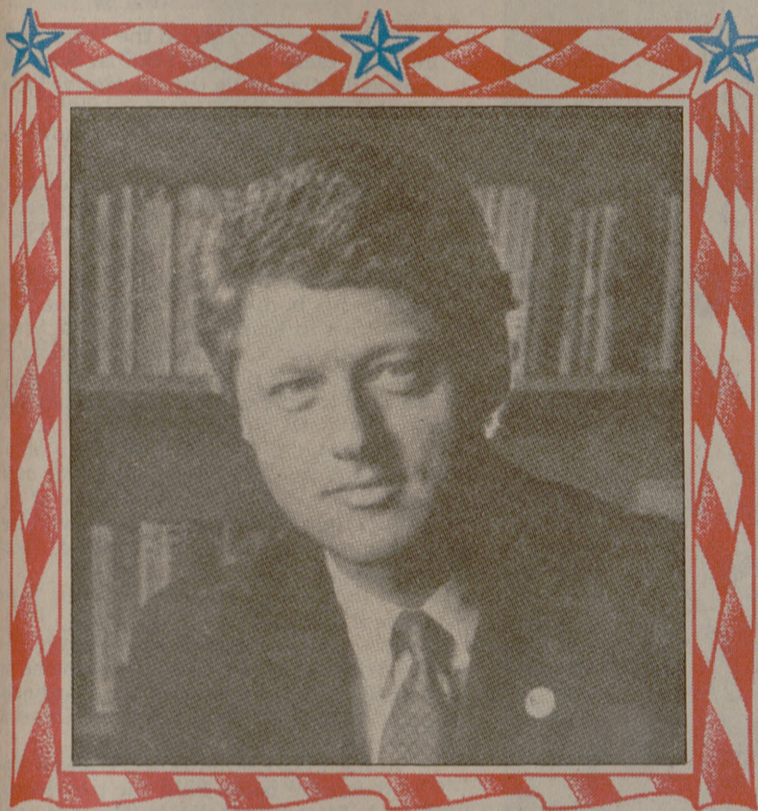
The Battalion

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Clinton wins presidential race



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Clinton was elected the nation's 42nd president on Tuesday in a Democratic landslide that swept George Bush from office and ended 12 years of divided government in Washington. Bush conceded defeat and wished the Arkansas governor well in the White House.

Bush vowed to ensure a "smooth transition of power" to the new president. He said he had telephoned his congratulations to Clinton, and added, "I wish him well in the White House. Regardless of our differences, all Americans share the same purpose," he said.

The president spoke before supporters with First Lady Barbara Bush at his side. He thanked Vice President Dan Quayle and James A. Baker III, his closest confidante in three decades of politics.

Bush looked ahead to his retirement to the grandparent business, and said to his wife, simply, "It's over."

Independent Ross Perot said "the people have spoken," and offered his congratulations to Clinton.

Clinton, who campaigned as a "different kind of Democrat" and pledged to rebuild the economy, ran strongly in all regions of the country. He won customary Democratic battlegrounds, captured key battlegrounds in Illinois and Missouri and put Vermont and Kentucky in the Democratic column for the first time in many years.

Clinton will become the nation's third-youngest president when he takes office on Jan. 20. He savored his triumph in Little Rock, where thousands of supporters gathered to cheer him.

Perot, the man who electrified the campaign and ran a respectable third, had conceded earlier. The television networks declared Clinton the winner about 10 minutes before the polls closed in the far west.

The Associated Press tally showed Clinton had won 323 electoral votes and led for 57 more — far more than the 270 needed to win the election. Bush had 58 electoral votes, a far cry from the 426 he compiled in 1988.

Clinton said he felt "wonderful" as he wrapped up a campaign in which he cast himself as the candidate of new economic opportunity and appealed for voters find the "courage to change."

Aggie Democrats cheer campaign victory

By REAGON CLAMON

Reporter of THE BATTALION

The Plaza Club, high atop the New First City bank in Bryan, shook with the cheers of Democrats attending an election party last night, as results came in declaring Democrat after Democrat the winner in local and national elections.

The crowd was by far the most excited when CBS News declared Bill Clinton the winner of the presidential election. Supporters jumped for joy yelling "Al Gore 2000."

Mike Brannon, a junior economics major and member of Aggie Democrats, was part of the celebratory crowd.

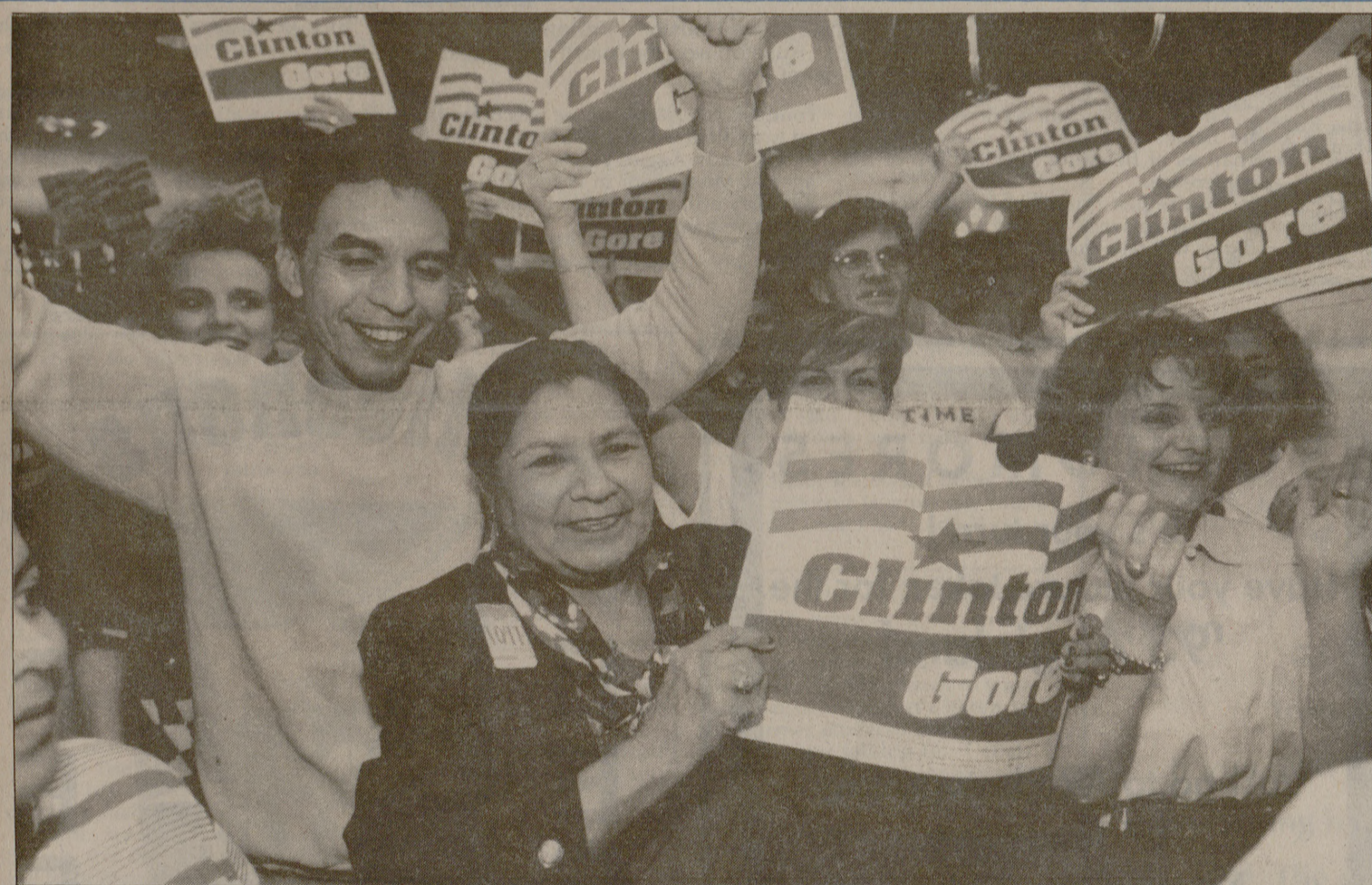
"It's a great feeling," Brannon said. "We stuck with Clinton. We believed him all the way. He'll take this country where it should be."

"There's new hope for America," he said. "It's a great day."

The crowd was more subdued, but still cheered as results came in for local races late into the night.

In the hotly contested race for Brazos County Sheriff, Bobby Riggs stayed neck and neck with incumbent Ronnie Miller all night until Riggs finally pulled out a win.

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RICHARD S. JAMES/The Battalion

Susie Velasco, front, and Richard Gonjori celebrate Bill Clinton's win over President George Bush and Ross Perot. The celebration was held at the Brazos Valley Democratic Party headquarters.

Perot concedes cheerful defeat

Candidate cheers Clinton, vows return

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — A jubilant but losing Ross Perot ended his unorthodox presidential campaign Tuesday night by applauding Bill Clinton's victory but vowing to "remain a force for good for our country."

To the tune of "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "Crazy," Perot took his wife and then a daughter in his arms as supporters chanted support for the independent presidential candidate.

Perot picked up 18 percent of the vote in the three-man race with Clinton and President Bush.

His concession speech before supporters at a swanky suburban hotel was the final event in a self-financed campaign conducted almost entirely through television advertising.

"Are you more dedicated than ever to putting this country back to work?" Perot asked. The crowd shouted its agreement.

"We'll keep on going as long as you want to keep on going," he said.

Perot pledged to work with Clinton to rebuild America. But at the same time, he cautioned, "The fact that we will go anywhere anytime to help this new administration does not mean that we will compromise our integrity and our principles."

To those disappointed by his defeat, Perot said his group, United We Stand, can work to influence 1994 congressional races.

"We will stay together and you will be a force for good for our country and for our children," Perot said. "As long as we are together nationwide, you have an enormous voice in our country."

As for his own role, Perot told supporters: "I'm available to you any time, any place, anywhere."

He was joined by his running mate, Adm. James Stockdale, who declared, "We're overdue to be a three-party country. Let's think of this as an historic night where history has changed."

The crowd of well-dressed supporters, who had danced to country rock and Dixieland jazz, shouted "'96, '96, '96, '96."

Returning later to the podium, Perot held up a bumper sticker that read: "Perot in '96."

"If by 1996, every place I go, the only thing I can find is America-made cars to put on that bumper, well they've cleaned out the barn, right?"

Unorthodox to the last, Perot's campaign told only a few photographers he was going to the polls — after saying previously that he had voted by absentee ballot.

"I thought the vote was supposed to be private, but I guess nothing is anymore," Perot said after casting his ballot at the Walnut Hills Recreation Center earlier in the day.

Showing may alter course of Independents

BY GINA HOWARD

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Ross Perot was not able to prove the pre-election pollsters wrong, but his third place showing gave Perot supporters in the Brazos Valley hope for the future of the United States.

Jim Raatz, Bryan-College Station coordinator of the Perot campaign, said even though Perot did not pull through a win, he did change the status of independent candidates not only on the national level, but on the state and local level.

"I am convinced we (Perot and his supporters) have changed the way this town thinks about politics," said Raatz. "I am very proud about what we have done."

Raatz said even though Perot

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Election concerns College Republicans

By ROBIN GOODPASTER

Reporter of THE BATTALION

When Gov. Bill Clinton captured Ohio's 21 electoral votes last night, pushing him beyond the 270 votes he needed to capture the presidency, there were only quiet murmurs among members of Texas A&M's College Republicans.

Kory Brown, a member of the College Republicans, said that he doesn't think that Clinton will do what he's promised.

"He never carried out the things he said he'd do in Arkansas," Brown said. "He won't carry them out now."

"I am definitely against his economic proposals — like taxes," Brown said.

Earlier when Bush was shown to be leading

in Texas the popular vote, there were whoops and cheers from everyone in the bar where the student Republicans watched the election returns Tuesday night.

David Love, a fourth year finance major, said he supported Bush because of his stance on moral issues in contrast to Clinton who does not have one.

"I think Clinton's effect on the country will definitely be negative," Love said. "He may get a lot done, but not the right things."

Brandi Smith, the vice president of public relations for the College Republicans, said that she supports Bush because he's a lot like her.

"He believes in a lot of the same things that I do," Smith said. "The Republican candidates have true platforms, and the change that everyone has been talking about the Republicans have been trying to implement for years."

As for Clinton's effect, Smith said, "You have to consider that Clinton cannot keep his word."

"I'm scared," Smith said. "The higher taxes, the spending programs — to me — that is scary," Smith said.

Clinton will have a negative effect on the United States, said Timothy Ehlen, a senior economics major. Ehlen said he believes Clinton's economic policies are bad.

Ehlen said the Social Security Act that Clinton will try to pass and the taxes that will be imposed are bad ideas.

"The whole idea of penalizing someone who did well is bad. People who have fulfilled the American dream will be penalized, while those who don't do well will benefit," Ehlen

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Student leaders bridge gaps

By JULI PHILLIPS

Reporter of THE BATTALION

An election returns party was the stage for the gathering of student leaders from different sides of the political spectrum to get together and share ideas, Greg Brown, chairman of the MSC Political Forum said.

"This is a good opportunity for student leaders from different sides of the political spectrum to get together and share ideas," Greg Brown, chairman of the MSC Political Forum said. "It's important to get Student

Government and the MSC leaders together like this since these two groups have always had difficulty working together."

Student Government member, Tracey McAllister agreed with Brown in his assessment of the importance of cooperation between the two groups.

"This type of effort is important because it brings the different leaders with their different ideas together," McAllister said. "A lot of times the Student Government and the MSC think of themselves as completely different entities, but it is important that we get these leaders together."

McAllister is a freshman senator and a fish aide for Student Government.

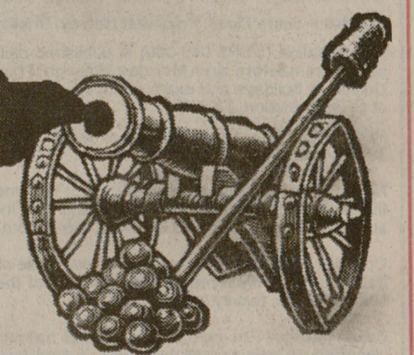
The election party invitation list included all MSC council members, chairs, committee members and advisors as well as Student Government executive members, chairs, committee members, senators and advisors.

Very few Student Government members attended the event.

The election returns party was sponsored by Political Forum which is an MSC student organization that gives political players a stage from which to speak to the Texas A&M community.

Election 1992 Results

- Complete list of election results
- Williamson defeats Guerrero
- Local Republican reactions
- Highs and lows of the election
- Expectations for end of gridlock



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