

The Battalion

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Cisneros heads A&M students respond to election appointee lists

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SAN ANTONIO — Former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros led the list of Texas names floating around Wednesday as possible appointees in President-elect Bill Clinton's administration.

"Henry Cisneros — that seems to be everybody's top name," said Dallas attorney, novelist and Clinton campaign fundraiser Paul Coggins. "I've always thought in many senses Henry would rather be in an appointive position rather than an elective one."

Coggins said Cisneros has been mentioned most as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or Transportation.

Another Clinton campaign official in Texas, media director Craig Sutherland, said he has heard Cisneros mentioned possibly as Secretary of Education as well as HUD.

"He's got a strong background working in urban areas. That includes education and housing and urban development," Sutherland said.

Cisneros, who now runs a private asset management company in San Antonio, resigned his seat on the Federal Reserve Bank Board in Dallas earlier this year to become a senior adviser to the Clinton campaign.

Cisneros was in Little Rock, Ark., Wednesday and not immediately available for comment, his office said. He has said he did not get involved in the campaign to secure an administration position,

but would not rule out accepting an appointment.

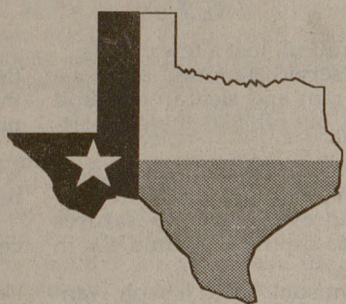
Campaign officials point out that their speculation is just that — speculation. In the next several weeks the Clinton administration will start to take shape.

"I don't think there's anybody out there that's any surprise," Sutherland said. "Your Henry Cisneros, your Garry Mauro, I'm sure are going to be under consideration."

Mauro, Texas Land Commissioner, headed Clinton's campaign in Texas and is also often mentioned as a possible Clinton appointee. He also was en route from Little Rock Wednesday and not immediately available for comment.

Meanwhile, Coggins said that in the final days of the campaign he was asked to prepare a resume for the new administration.

"If there's a position that seems like a good fit, I'd be interested," Coggins said, adding that he would consider posts in the Justice Department or the Office of General Counsel.



ANAS BEN-MUSA/The Battalion

By JULIE CHELKOWSKI

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Now that the 1992 presidential election is over, some Texas A&M students expressed their views on the outcome and their concerns for the future of the country.

Some students said they were relieved that the race was over, but disappointed with the result.

Henry Hewes, a freshman general studies major, said the American people were fooled.

"I think we're in trouble," he said. "I think the American people have been fooled by Bill Clinton. He (Clinton) is not going to be able to fix it (economy) anyway. I think he's blowin' a lot of smoke — I don't trust him. I don't think he knows anything about the White House."

But Jeff Pollard, a junior from Orange, said the United States is ready for a change and electing Clinton is "a step in the right direction."

He said it was time for a change in leadership and Clinton offers a fresh start. Pollard also said having a Democratic president, as well as a Democratic congress will help get things accomplished.

"A lot of people thought that there was a good balance with a Republican president and Democratic congress," he said. "Now, there will probably be more cooperation."

Still, other students said they were unsure of what was in the future as Clinton leads the way.

Albert Castro, a senior from Houston, said he is afraid of people testing Clinton's weak-

nesses, such as foreign affairs.

"I don't think he's a good role model (for foreign affairs)," he said. "I wouldn't be surprised if something was to happen in the Middle East just to see how Clinton would respond."

Maura Cutshall, a senior English major, said the key to a successful presidency is for America to stick together and it's Clinton's responsibility to see that it is accomplished. "It (the race) was very combative," she said. "I hope they stick together. The whole election was dividing. Now he's (Clinton) going to have to try to pull some pieces together."

"I think there's going to be an effort to try to pull it all together, but I don't think it's going to happen completely. That's just the way American politics goes, especially after the rhetoric of this campaign. He's going to have to make a sincere effort to get anything accomplished."

Some students said George Bush's loss can be attributed to the way he organized his campaign.

"I think a lot of it had to do with how he (Bush) ran his campaign," Maura Cutshall, a senior English major, said. "He ran a very negative campaign, I don't think people took to that very well."

Mark Neitzey, a senior from Kingwood, said Bush was hurt by not following on the same campaign path as Clinton did until it was too late.

"He didn't start going on talk shows until the end," he said. "He kind of jumped on the bandwagon. He should have started beating Clinton at his own game, but he just waited

too long."

Texas billionaire Ross Perot, presented an unusual challenge this election year compared to past presidential races, collecting 19 percent of the popular vote — more than any other independent candidate in history.

Many students said they were pleased with Perot's presence and thought he kept Clinton and Bush on track.

"I think it made the other two candidates work harder," Pollard said. "They couldn't take for granted that they had the undivided attention of the American people."

Cutshall agreed and said that Perot's idealism added something to the campaign that Americans wanted to see.

"I didn't object to him being in there — he put the election on a pathway where the candidates started sticking to the issues more," she said. "He represented a part of American society that I think will become a growing force now. I think he grabbed a lot of people who are going to stay with it (Perot's idealism) — I think it may become a growing force."

Neitzey, who thought votes cast for Perot took away from Bush, also said that Perot served as a positive influence in the campaign.

"I think he might have hurt Bush, but he brought a lot of issues out," he said. "It was almost like he wasn't going to win, but he was just doing it for his country so everyone would be more aware."

But some people, such as Castro, objected to the competition Perot offered because he offset the results.

"I don't like the fact that there were three in the race," Castro said. "I think had Perot stayed out of the race, I don't think Clinton would have been elected president. I don't think people really wanted Clinton in there, they mainly wanted change."

World reacts to U.S. presidential results

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

They stopped doing deals on the Manila exchange. They quit arguing at a political congress in Zaire and listened to bulletins from America. In the new Ukraine, they tuned in to see how an old democracy works. The world's millions watched the United States remake its political face overnight and pinned a lot of hope Wednesday on a youthful U.S. president-elect.

"Youth is progress," concluded Ukraine's prime minister, Leonid Kuchma.

Bill Clinton, 46, could have gotten a morning-after preview of the kind of global headaches that await him: While worn-out Democrats slept late in Little Rock, U.S. envoys were taking steps in Geneva to slap punitive tariffs on European farm goods. In Asia, where traders on the Philippine exchange put down their order sheets to watch U.S. returns on television, stocks rose. In Europe, stock indexes held steady and the dollar's value was mixed.

"The revitalization of the American economy is important not only for the United States alone but also for Japan and for the whole world," said Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Watanabe cautioned at a political rally Tuesday that the Democrats would "apply the brakes to Japan's selling products cheaply." A vital America "will have an importance far beyond the country's own border," said Denmark's Conservative prime minister, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's congratulatory message struck a more down-to-earth tone, reminding Clinton of major tasks ahead: "Our hopes for a more peaceful world and for the carrying out of human rights, democracy and a market economy everywhere in Europe still have not been fulfilled."

Perot aides study possible third party

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Some of Ross Perot's campaign aides said Wednesday that the 19 million Americans who voted for him could form a third political party if President-elect Clinton fails to revive the economy and cut the deficit.



Perot

"The basis for a third party is there if the group wishes to pursue that as an ultimate end. I think it's worth a lot of consideration," said Orson Swindle, executive director of Perot's volunteer organization, United We Stand, America.

But experts on third parties and even some Perot associates said that the success of Clinton's presidency would determine whether United We Stand will be a potent political force.

And Perot's own future role remained unclear.

The organization will remain active to promote the Texas billionaire's proposals for deficit

reduction and economic revival, Swindle said.

The group might even form a political action committee to contribute to congressional candidates, aides said, even though Perot constantly denounced these committees during the campaign as the tool of special interests.

But neither Swindle nor other aides could specify how Perot would work to keep his issues before the American public or whether he would consider running again in 1996.

"We've got so many bridges to cross before we get there," Swindle told the campaign's final briefing for reporters. Still, "Ross Perot has got a great following. Somebody believes in him enough to invest in a few bumper stickers."

Perot held up one of the stickers, which read: "Perot in '96," during his election night party at a North Dallas hotel.

But Perot, who made no public appearance Wednesday, was typically ambiguous about his political future.

"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?"

Nevertheless, comparing his

candidacy to a grain of sand around which an oyster forms a pearl, he told supporters, "We will continue to work together to make pearls if necessary in the future, fair enough?"

Swindle said he expected Perot, who spent more than \$60 million of his own money on the campaign, to finance United We Stand until it became self-supporting.

But experts were less confident of the organization's future.

"Basically third parties tend to evaporate to the extent their issues are appropriated by the major parties," said Walter Dean Burnham, a government professor at the University of Texas. "Third parties are a sign that... there is a real problem. If that problem can be removed, ... then the forces that hold... (the party) together tend to evaporate."

Alan Brinkley, a Columbia University historian who has studied third parties, said, "I don't think you can build a political movement around deficit reduction" because "that's what everybody wants to do."

But Swindle and Clay Mulford, Perot's son-in-law and campaign general counsel, were skeptical that Clinton would

succeed.

"I am a little bit pessimistic that the deficit will be improved," Mulford said, predicting Clinton would increase government spending to stimulate the economy — a traditional strategy of Democratic presidents.

"We are fearful that when he does that he will not build up an economic base, and the country will just increase consumption and that will simply increase the debt," Mulford said.

Swindle added, "One of my greatest fears is that the philosophy of the Democratic Party will overburden Gov. Clinton so that he cannot do some of the things that he is talking about."

I hope he is sincere in saying he wants to spur on entrepreneurship and the private sector."

But Hays Kirby, a close associate of Perot, acknowledged that the movement would dissipate if Clinton cut the deficit.

"I don't see a basis where United We Stand lives if American politics become credible," Kirby said. "What does it appeal to?"

"We never intended to establish a third party. There was never a plan to establish a third party."

Polls draw record number of Texans

Percentage turnout for presidential election largest in state since 1968

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A sour economy and a third-party candidate sent Texans to the polls in record numbers Tuesday, making the percentage turnout for this year's presidential election the highest in the state since 1968, preliminary records show.

"Texas has been hurt by this triple-dip recession, and a lot of jobs, particularly in the defense industry, have been threatened or lost," said University of North Texas political scientist Frank Feigert, who specializes in voting behavior.

"There were a number of salient issues, specifically the economy. (Voters) wanted to send a message."

On Tuesday, 71.9 percent of registered voters — 6,069,986 of 8,440,143 registered voters — cast ballots, according to preliminary numbers from the secretary of state's office in Austin.

In 1968, some 75.6 percent of Texas registered voters cast ballots in the battle between Republican Richard Nixon, Democrat Hubert Humphrey and third-party candidate George Wallace.

That compares with 66.2 percent of registered Texans casting ballots in 1988 and 68.3 percent in 1984.

Political analysts aren't rejoicing yet over the new numbers.

"We have to put those numbers in perspective. The percentage of unregistered voters is

still appallingly high," Feigert said.

Texas billionaire Ross Perot generally has been credited with drawing into the political process large numbers of people who had either "dropped out" of politics or had never

"Texas has been hurt by this triple dip recession, and a lot of jobs, particularly in the defense industry, have been threatened or lost."

—University of North Texas political scientist Frank Feigert

registered to vote at all.

"He definitely made an impact here in Tarrant County," said county election administrator Robert Parton. "A lot of people got excited who would have otherwise ignored the entire election."

Harris County Clerk Anita Rodeheaver offered a different explanation.

"Two of the presidential candidates were from Texas, and the other was a neighbor," she said. "People like to vote for one of their own." Texas' "no excuses" early voting process

also allowed more than 2 million Texans to avoid long lines on election day.

Preliminary reports from the secretary of state's office show four of Texas' five largest counties topped the 70 percent margin, while only two, Travis and Tarrant had accomplished that in 1984 and 1988.

Economically hard-hit Tarrant led the pack with a turnout of 78.94 percent, followed by Travis, home of the University of Texas, at 78.25 percent, Dallas at 75.02 and Bexar at 71.01.

Harris County trailed the large counties with a turnout of about 68.56 percent, early figures show.

It's still too early to determine minority voter turnout.

However, the Southwest Voter Research Institute in San Antonio, which tracks Hispanic voting, is projecting 60 percent turnout among registered Hispanic voters in Texas.

That compares with 53 percent participation in 1988, said Andrew Hernandez of the institute.

About 56 percent of registered black voters in Dallas County cast ballots Tuesday, according to projections by the staff of newly elected U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson.

That compares with 50-52 percent participation in 1988, the staff said.

Both groups credited aggressive voter registration efforts to the increased participation.

United Way gets society donation

By CHERYL HELLER

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University's Order of Omega, a national honor society representing the University's various Greek organizations, presented \$5,000 to the Brazos County United Way Plus campaign in a ceremony last Friday.

Representatives of the various sororities and fraternities and Student Body President Steve Beller presented the check jointly to Texas A&M University President Dr. William H. Mobley, and Brazos County campaign chairman, and Dr. J. Malon Sutherland, associate vice president for student affairs and campus United Way campaign chairman.

The money for the campaign contribution was collected during Greek Week, when all of the University's Greek-letter organizations raised money through donations and fundraisers, said Order of Omega President Ken Monk.

Monk said that the donation was made possible through the joint efforts of all Greeks on campus, and that Order of Omega hopes to contribute more to the campaign in the future.

To date, Texas A&M's Greek groups have raised more than half of the student body's \$10,000 goal in the 1992 United Way Plus campaign. Sixty-six percent of the University's \$110,000 goal has been raised, bringing the University's total contributions to \$75,606.22.

The University's United Way Plus campaign includes donations for United Way as well as the American Cancer Society, the Brazos Valley Children's Foundation, the American Heart Association, the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, the American Diabetes Association, Junction Five-0-Five, Elder Aid and the Health for All Clinic.