

# The Battalion

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Friday, January 22, 1993

## Bullock comment provokes uproar

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock said Thursday that a state senator could get any legislation passed if she "cut her skirt off about six inches" and "put on some high heels."

Bullock's remark about Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, sparked an uproar from a women's rights group and the state Republican Party.

But Zaffirini, who was present when Bullock made the comment before more than 100 people at a Texas Chamber of Commerce



Bullock

Services Committee.

"I know hatred when I see it. I know bigotry. I know chauvinism. This was not any of those," Zaffirini said.

meeting, said it was just a joke and that she was not offended.

And she noted that Bullock, also a Democrat, has appointed her chairwoman of the Senate Health and Human

Bullock's spokeswoman Sydney Rubin said, "One can question the lieutenant governor's choice of words, but you can't question his support for women or women's issues."

Some did. "It's absolutely outrageous that someone who claims to be a friend to women's causes still doesn't quite get it," said Hannah Riddering, co-chair of the Austin chapter of the National Organization for Women.

"We encourage him to attend a few of our meetings. After all, they're quick to call us when they're campaigning. Perhaps it's

time they call for a little consciousness raising," she said.

She asked how Bullock would feel if someone in his position said

**"I know bigotry. I know chauvinism. This was not (one) of those."**

—Sen. Judith Zaffirini  
D-Laredo

the same thing about any woman in his family.

Karen Hughes, executive director of the Texas Republican Party,

called Bullock's remark about Zaffirini "blatantly sexist."

"To imply that someone was elected or is able to be effective because of the length of her skirt and height of her heels . . . he should apologize," Hughes said.

If Bullock believes what he said then "he has no place in a position of public trust," she added.

Hughes said that perhaps Zaffirini said she was not offended because she has to work with Bullock, who is president of the Senate.

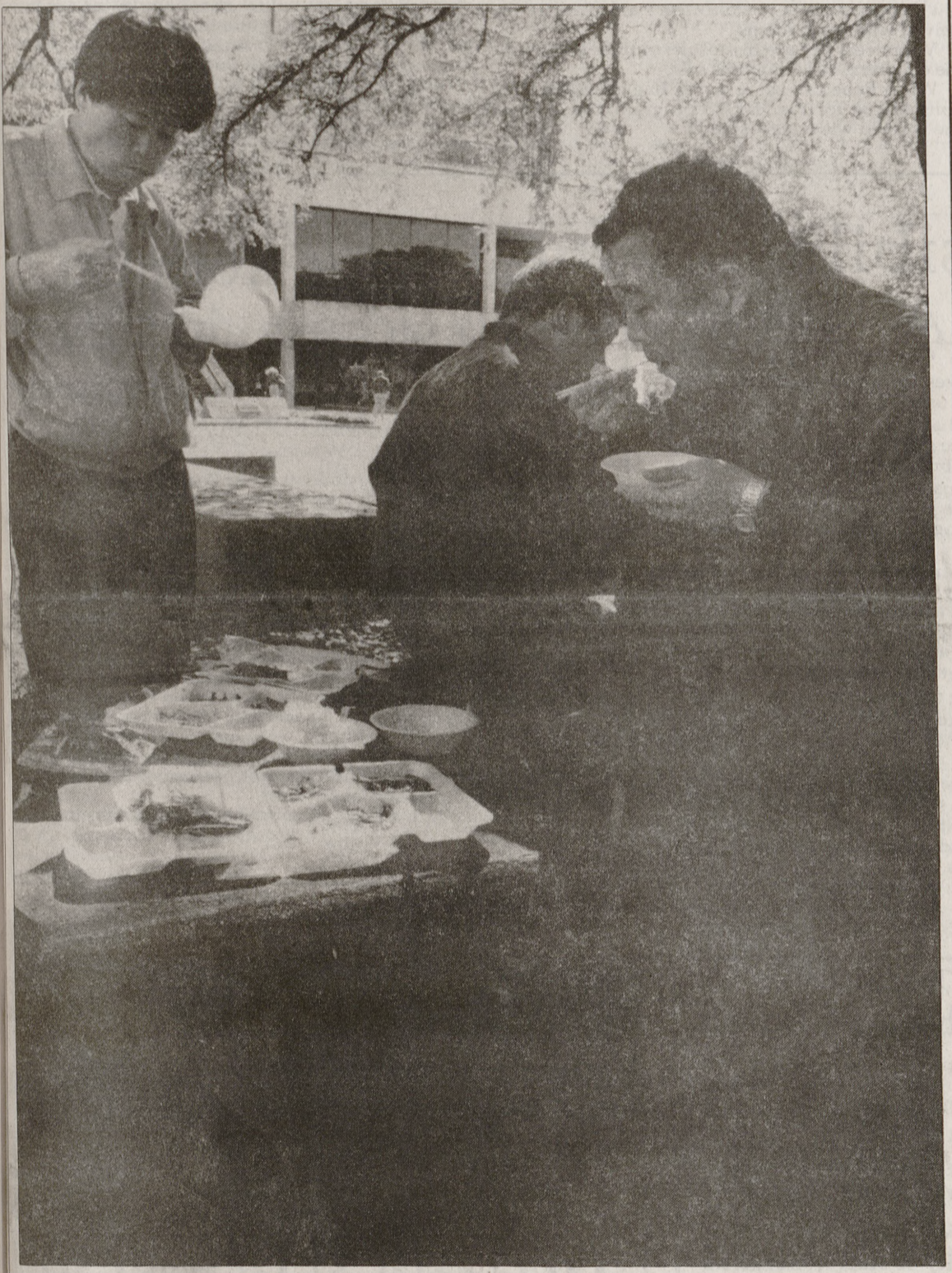
She also said Bullock has started a habit of making controversial statements.

Last week, Bullock said efforts by Rob Mosbacher to establish term limits was like "a flea trying to crawl up the back end of an elephant with rape on his mind."

Mosbacher ran against Bullock in the 1990 lieutenant governor's race.

Concerning the comment about Zaffirini, Rubin defended Bullock, saying that many men his age make similar comments in jest. Bullock is 63.

"As long as he's there supporting women's issues, promoting women into positions of power, then, you know, I would give him a little latitude," Rubin said.



JEN LOCKARD/The Battalion

Dr. Seo Young Chul (standing) and Dr. Ahn Piyung Sun, both members of a visiting group of veterinarians, eat food from their native Korea outside Hart Hall Thursday afternoon. The

seven-member group is visiting A&M as part of FSIS training and will learn how to better inspect meats for their government.

## Abortion foes to march

Protest marks 20th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade decision

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Abortion foes will assemble near the White House on Friday for their annual march on the Supreme Court. For the first time in 12 years, rather than being emboldened by a president's words, they will be set back by his deeds.

President Clinton will mark the day by revoking his predecessors' restrictions on abortion counseling at federally supported clinics.

Both Presidents Reagan and Bush annually delivered messages of support for the anti-abortion marchers.

"It's a real insult, a real slap in the face of Americans who hold pro-life views," said Nancy Myers, communications director of the National Right to Life Committee. "He's going to be signing a death warrant for unborn children."

"Hopefully the country in the next four years won't go down so far that we can't pull it back up," added Bob Jewitt, a spokesman for Operation Rescue which stages blockades at abortion clinics nationwide.

"This year we've turned the corner," declared Kate Michelman, president of the National Abortion Rights Action League. "Last year, we were battle fatigued. We were losing ground steadily day in and day out."

House Speaker Thomas Foley, D-Wash., said "The most important victory in the last 20 years (since the court's Roe vs. Wade decision) is the election of Bill

Clinton."

Clinton's choice to run the Department of Health and Social Services, Donna Shalala, attended NARAL's champagne brunch Thursday just hours before she was confirmed by the Senate.

"I'm here because I'm a friend," she explained.

Reagan and Bush repeatedly

vetoes legislation aimed at easing restrictions on federal funding for abortions and used executive orders to block fetal tissue research, abortions in military hospitals and funding for overseas population control programs.

Clinton is expected to sweep

See Abortion/Page 4

## Aggies for Life to sponsor rally

By CYNTHIA TREVIZO

The Battalion

Aggies for Life (AFL) is sponsoring a Rally for Life today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Rudder Fountain to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

"We want to express our concern for the abortion issue and how we can actively promote the alternatives (to abortion)," said Ron Hamada, AFL education director.

The rally will spotlight several guest speakers who will speak about various topics relating to the right to life movement.

Aggies for Life promotes abortion alternatives through various forms of literature and involvement in major projects. It is an action-oriented organization that supports local crisis pregnancy centers, primarily the Brazos Valley Crisis Pregnancy Service, Hamada said.

"We go beyond lecturing and speaking; we do all sorts of things for (expectant) mothers," he said.

Lisa Hudson, former vice president of Pro-Choice Aggies said

See Rally/Page 4

## Chinese students ring in New Year

By KEVIN LINDSTROM

The Battalion

The Year of the Rooster begins Saturday as the Chinese Student Association celebrates its 30th anniversary this Chinese New Year.

The Chinese New Year is celebrated as a time of family gatherings. Traditionally, the Chinese work year-round, and the New Year's celebration is the holiday

many Chinese and Taiwanese take the most seriously.

Tim Chang, a graduate student in statistics, said the distance from family in China and Taiwan makes the holiday special for some A&M students.

"It is meaningful to have this bond and to get together," Chang said. "This way we can remember where we came from, and who we are."

The Year of the Rooster is one

year in the 12-year cycle which also contains the rat, ox, tiger, hare, dragon, serpent, horse, sheep, monkey, dog and pig.

According to Chinese legend, these 12 animals were the only ones that showed up when the supreme being called for all of the animals.

Each animal was honored as a symbol during the 12-year cycle.

See New Year/Page 4

## State deficit projections shrink

By JULI PHILLIPS

The Battalion

"Safer than sorry" seems to describe the Texas State Legislature's method of calculating budget shortfalls.

Earlier in the school year, the expected state deficit for the 1993 budget was \$5 billion, and state-funded higher education institutions were told by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to make preparations for a possible 10 percent cut in funding.

Although the universities and colleges are still readying themselves for a 10 percent cut, the latest deficit projections have fallen

36 percent to around \$3.2 billion.

An expenditure-forecasting process used by the legislature, called "current services budgeting," seems to be the culprit in the \$2.8 billion drop in expectations.

Using the current services budgeting system, the money used over the last year of operation, not the average of the expenses over the three years covered by the budget, is multiplied by the expected inflation rate of 5 percent.

That inflated figure is almost always larger than the actual expenses, so as the actual expenses roll into the state budgeting office, the deficit projections decrease.

"This is a bad way to calculate the deficit, because it is always so inflated," State Rep. Steve Ogden said. "It tends to send up unnecessary flags."

Ogden gave an example of possible Railroad Commission fund-

ing. He explained that the average expenses of the commission over the budget period may be lower than the projected expenses, using the commission's current services budget.

Money would then be allocated, looking at the actual expenses, but the press would seize on the inflated figure and say that the commission's funding is being cut, Ogden said.

Ogden predicts Texas A&M and other Texas public universities will face more belt tightening, which has become almost common-place over the past seven years.

Money will have to be raised by the systems and schools to make up the funding shortfalls, Ogden said.

"No one will debate that higher education funding has been cut," he said. "Money, as a percentage

See Funding/Page 4



Ogden

## A&M: more students, less funding

By JULI PHILLIPS

The Battalion

Less bang for the same bucks.

The Texas A&M University System may receive the same amount of state funding from the new state budget, currently being deliberated in the Texas Legislature, but the funding will not cover increasing inflation and student enrollment, College Station State Rep. Steve Ogden said Thursday.

## Inside...

A&M-TCU basketball preview

Page 5

New view on abortion?

Page 7

Baird withdraws nomination

Page 8

