# The Battalion

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# New regents comment on position, future of Texas A&M

"I have a

well will be an

be trusted."

-John H. Lindsey

## **By STEPHANIE PATTILLO**

#### The Battalion

The new members of the Texas A&M Board of Regents are from different cities and have different ackgrounds but have one belief in common - the needs of students should come first.

M. Guadalupe Lopez Rangel of Corpus Christi, T. Michael O'Connor of Victoria and John H. Lindsey of Houston were appointed by Gov. Ann Richards two weeks ago to serve on the Board until Feb. 1999.

Rangel, an English instructor who has taken a leave of absence rom the Corpus Christi State school, is the first Hispanic roman to serve on the A&M Mard of Regents. Rangel, 43, said she is looking

arward to working with the stu-dent body to make the A&M Sysem stronger.

students very much and have counseled and listened to them.' Financial problems students encounter will be another of

Rangel's focuses. Getting through college is more difficult today than it was 20 years

ago because of the poor state of the economy, she said. 'More students today have se-

vere economic problems than in the past," she said. "These problems are put in the classroom when you have older students and students who have to hold down two jobs.

O'Connor, 38, a rancher and the youngest board member to date, said working toward student' enhancement is a priority. "I haven't been gone (from

A&M) all that long," he said. "The class of '77 may seem cen-

Waltrip wins Shootout

"I will work hard as a regent to find solutions to students' prob-lems," she said. "I understand There's been a lot of changes, and I'd like to see more emphasis toward student development.

As an institution grows, often research and development become the important emphasis, O'Connor said.

"I think the University as a system and especially in College Sta-tion has to change with the times, but not lose focus of the tradition and what A&M's all about," he said

With the increasing budget cuts at the state capitol, education must be seen as an investment, not an expense, O'Connor said. "So many times when there's

budgetary problems, they (legisla-tors) look at the expense-related and not the enhancement of edu-

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# About being a regent...

"I think the knowledge of the University as a University and I system and know the players especially in College involved. Knowing Station has to change the other regents with the times, but yet not lose focus of asset to me. I think the tradition and they will feel I am what A&M's all someone who can about."

-T. Michael O'Connor

"I will work hard as a regent to find solutions to students' problems. I understand students very much and have counseled and listened to them."

> -M. Guadalupe Lopez Rangel

## Nursing homes aided by truancy program

### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON - A new program hat offers truant public school students the option of working at local nursing homes has proved successful for both the youths and elderly residents, officials say.

The program was the brainchild of Harris County nursing nome coordinator Barbara Cowart. In January she approached Peace Justice Molly Maness of asadena, who hears truancy cas-

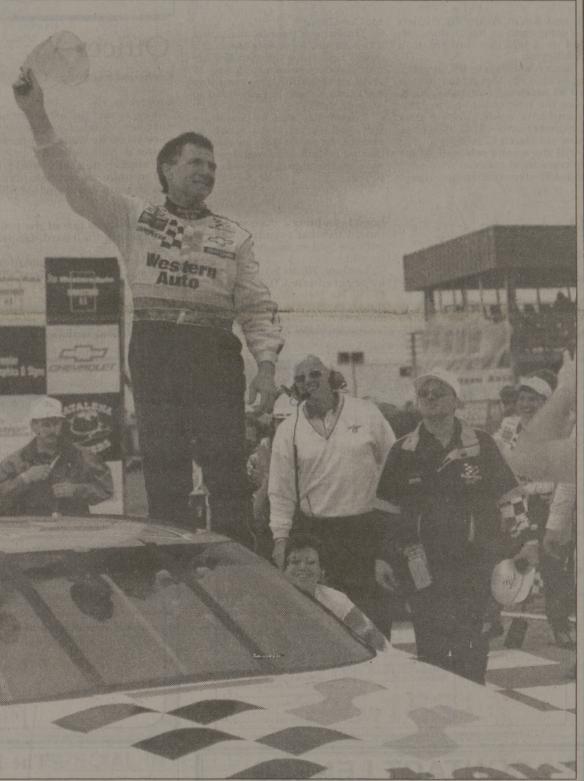
"What was missing in this program was some young faces," Cowart said. "These kids have so much energy. I thought, what if you could put that energy into

Maness agreed, and school-hildren caught violating school attendance laws now are offered he option of after-school-hours community service instead of ines charged to their parents.

"It's the most bizarre thing, Maness said about the notion of closing such a wide generation gap in the name of alternative entencing.

But she added that it works for everyone involved.

"They love it," she said.



# Communist power struggle Yeltsin tries to resist overthrow

#### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW - Russia's standing legislature took the first step Sunday toward impeaching Presi-

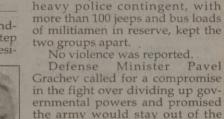
Coming a sin declared

emergency rule in an attempt to sidestep legislative

blocks to his economic reforms, the Supreme Soviet's action appeared to cement a stalemate Yeltsin's chief legal adviser, Sergei Shakhrai, said earlier that the president would not step down if impeached.

Yeltsin

Outside the parliament building, known as the "White House," thousands of placardwaving protesters took to the



in the fight over dividing up governmental powers and promised the army would stay out of the dispute. But he warned that "tempers are running high" in some units, especially in the Moscow Military District

streets to jeer or cheer Yeltsin. A

"Any attempt to split the army forces could lead to bloodshed," Grachev said at the emergency session of the legislature, which is dominated by Communists elected before the Soviet Union collapsed.

Yeltsin's chief rival, parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, and other political opponents accused the president of usurping power and leading the nation toward civil war.

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# More cult releases

Boris dent Yeltsin and possibly putting his top aides on trial for usurping power. day after Yelt-

knows why. The one-time truant, whose real name was withheld because she is a minor, said it's more than a matter of good deeds and new friendships

Truants and nursing home residents have more in common than some people think, she said after completing 14 hours worth of nursing home duty.

"I'm a good listener, and that's what these people need is a listener and a person who will talk to hem," Josephine said.

She said her peers also need someone to talk to.

"They need to say, like, 'Can we sit down and discuss all his?" she said.

Some nursing homes in Pasadena, Deer Park and La Porte are participating in the program, which started Jan. 19. Since then, 18 truants have signed up.

They do chores ranging from reading to residents and helping

Darrel Waltrip waves to cheering race fans after winning the ARCA-NASCAR Winston West sponsored Chevrolet Lumina, finished a full lap ahead of second place finisher Ken Schrader.

## FBI sees freeing of 7 members as sign of improving negotiations with Koresh

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WACO - At least seven more Branch Davidian cult members left the group's armed compound Sunday, a quickening tempo of releases that the FBI said is a positive sign.

"The quicker it picks up, the better the situation is, and we're getting more and more out," said FBI agent Richard Swensen as word spread that two more women left the compound about 11 a.m. Sunday

Rita Riddle, 35, and Gladys Ottman, 67, were whisked away in a red car to McLennan County Jail. One of the women acknowledged a row of news reporters with a slight smile as the car sped by. They refused to comment to

reporters upon arrival at the jail. About 2:30 p.m., James Lawten, 70; Sheila Martin, 46; and Ofelia Santoyo, 62, left the com-pound, said FBI special agent Sharon Smith. As with previous releases, they were escorted by federal agents and a state trooper's car and also were taken to the jail

Earlier, about 12:30 a.m., Vic-torine Hollingsworth, 59, and Annetta Richards, 64, left the comound, Swensen said. Ms Hollingsworth was taken to Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center for an examination because of an existing heart condition, Swensen

'I think they (cult members)

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# Houston officer shot twice while at desk job

### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON - A police officer hot twice in the head while orking a desk job for a sick colague remained in critical condion Sunday, authorities said.

Dan Vaughan, 36, a 10-year reteran with the Houston Police epartment, was shot in the forenead and jaw with a .380-caliber pistol Saturday by a man who opened fire at the South Central Police Substation.

The man walked into the substation, calmly asked to see a supervisor and then shot Vaughan with a gun he had pulled from a backpack. He fled the station, but

was arrested a few minutes later. Charges against the 22-yearold suspect were pending, police said.

"I don't think (Vaughan) ever had a chance to reach for his gun. He was holding some paper-work," said Sgt. J.E. Zitzmann.

Vaughan underwent surgery Saturday at Ben Taub Hospital, where he remained in critical condition Sunday. The shooting occurred shortly before noon.

Houston Police Department spokesman John Leggio said the gunman had asked to see a lieutenant, and one of the two female officers in the front office called a

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Shootout at the Texas World Speedway Sunday.

# Inside

## **SPORTS**

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**OPINION** Pro/Con: Should 10

minute AIDS testing standard be implemented as procedure?

Whitley retells 'Quack Shack' woes, recovery

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# **Perot returns to television**

## Businessman seeks national support of UWSA's agenda

### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Ross Perot returned to prime-time TV Sunday, urging Americans to vote for deficit reduction and government reform — and to join the expand-ing rolls of his national political organization.

Billionaire Perot distributed more than 30 million ballots in advance of the 30-minute "national referendum" he paid to air on NBC. Leaders of his United We Stand America group organized events nationwide to help fill the mails with a positive response.

Given those efforts, the survey's unscientific nature and the tone of Perot's questions, no one

should be surprised if the public gives Perot's agenda a resound-

ing, "Yes!" Even as they criticized the format, the political parties and analysts were watching closely, still fascinated by the man who sent the 1992 race into so many confounding turns.

The Perot people are still holding as a group," said Presi-dent Clinton's pollster, Stanley Greenberg, although he said a majority support Clinton's economic program.

Worried that Perot might attack Clinton's initiative, the Democratic National Committee sent a memo to leading Democrats last week urging them to respond quickly to any criticisms.

But, as has been his trademark since the election, Perot aimed most of his barbs at Congress.

"Watch Congress: they talk about savings but what they want to do is spend," Perot said in a transcript of the program released by his office. "They treat money like it falls out of the sky. But it comes from hard-working peo-

With his trademark charts and folksy twang, Perot promoted the staples of his agenda: campaign finance and lobbying reform; a balanced budget amendment; and cuts in staffs, salaries and perks in Congress and at the White House. Perot's format was denounced

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