



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The super collider ranks as one of Congress' most controversial projects

Its future may be even more complicated now that the giant atom smasher and a sister science project, Space Station Freedom, have been sucked into the vortex of Texas politics.

Just two days after Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison trounced Democrat Bob Krueger at the polls, opponents were citing her message of spending cuts over tax increases as consistent with their campaign to kill both high-dol-

'I think that Sen.-elect Hutchison is right," said Rep. Jim Slattery, D-Kan., a leading collider opponent. "We need to cut some of this unnecessary spending.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, heretofore a collider and space station supporter, hinted Sunday that Hutchison's victory could endanger them. The New York Democrat, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, said the nation "can't afford" the super collider. "It's a great idea for the next century," he said on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley."

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Secretary Bruce Babbitt and feder-

al judges from Boston and Nashville, Tenn., are President

Clinton's finalists for the upcom-

ing vacancy on the Supreme Court, administration officials

The White House denied ram-pant speculation that Clinton had

settled on Babbitt, saying the pres-

ident will not make his pick be-

fore the end of the week. "Stay tuned," Clinton said. "I

have not made a decision yet, but

said Clinton's short list consists of

A senior administration official

said Monday

I'm working on it.'

WASHINGTON - Interior

'And a space station never was a great idea in the first place," Moynihan added.

A Moynihan spokesman didn't immediate-

respond Monday when asked whether the senator will vote against both projects later

"I think that Sen.-elect Hutchison is right...we need to cut some of this unnecessary spending."

-Rep. Jim Slattery, D-Kan

Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, called Moynihan's comments "typically partisan bravado." He also sought to minimize the impact of Hutchison's victory on the future of both projects. "Nobody cares enough about anybody else to have it sway their vote on these big is-sues," he said Monday. "I think that's all overstated.'

"It would have been a problem no matter what happened in the election," Gramm said, noting that the House voted last year to kill the collider. The Senate later reversed the action

The collider, now pegged at \$10 billion, ap pears to be in greater peril because it is more closely linked to Texas in the minds of lawmakers - a belief Hutchison already is working to counter.

"This is very important for the whole world. It's not just a Texas project," she said Monday on the Fox "Morning News."

For Ślattery, the bottom line is spending -not geography. And, he added, "As far as I'm concerned, the election in Texas has strength ened the hand of the group in the Congress that has been trying to kill the super collider." "I sure hope she'll vote with us," he said.

That's something Hutchison is unlikely to do, since she voiced support for both projects

during the campaign. As the senator-elect made the round of net-work news shows Monday morning, she was repeatedly asked whether Democrats in the White House and on Capitol Hill would seek to kill either project in retaliation for her victory.

"No, I don't think so," Hutchison said on NBC's "Today" show. "I think everyone in Washington, members of Congress as well as the president, understands elections. And l don't think there's going to be petty partisan politics."

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the two moderate judges, Stephen Breyer of Boston and Gilbert Merritt of Nashville, and Babbitt, an **HIGHLY IMPORTANT**

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old friend.

"It's not down to Babbitt," the official said. "It's down to Babbitt, Merritt and Breyer.

Clinton announces Supreme Court finalists

this month.

The official and several other aides to Clinton cautioned that the president's decision-making process is fluid and he could deviate from the short list.

Assumptions that Babbitt had the inside track were fueled by talk at the Interior Department, where some aides said they expected their boss would get the nod. Bonnie Cohen, assistant Interior secretary for policy, management and budget, said Babbitt, "is a very serious contender," but that she had no knowledge of an offer being made to him.

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers suggested that aides who said Babbitt was all but in were, "speaking from their heart, which is understandable."

Officials said Breyer remains a strong candidate. Merritt was in Washington on

Monday but did not speak with Clinton. Officials said Merritt was

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at the Robert F. Kennedy memorial and reception Sunday. Clinton has known Merritt since both worked on George McGovern's 1972 presidential campaign.

Clinton could still turn to federal judges Ruth Bader Ginsburg of Washington or Stephanie Seymour of Tulsa, Okla., to replace retiring Justice Byron White. Other possibilities include federal judges Jon O. Newman of Connecticut and Jose Cabranes of Connecticut.

"There is more than one candi-date at play here," Myers said.

Some lawmakers and administration officials were concerned with Babbitt's lack of experience on the bench

Environmentalists were upset at the thought of losing an advocate at the Interior.

Merritt, 57, is chief justice of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. His 1,000 opinions include one striking down a requirement by the city of Youngstown, Ohio, that abortion clinics be outfitted with costly medical equipment.

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Court

But no such agreement existed between the two lawyers over the graduation-prayers case from Texas, one that rekindled a national debate.

The high court's action "makes it clear that students do have the right to include prayer at their graduation ceremonies," Sekulow said

But the ACLU's Shapiro said, "You can't read too much into the denial of (review). We remain absolutely convinced that such prayers already have been banned by the Supreme Court."

Awareness

Continued from Page 1

on campus, but Eta Sigma Gamma members are hoping to present the program to many more women in the future.

"The more women we can reach, the better," Kelly said.

Although the risk of breast cancer to college-age women is relatively low, it increases significantly with age, Dr. Brian Colwell, assistant professor of health education said.

"Women are not considered to be in a high-risk group until they reach their late 20's and early 30's," he said. "What is important right now is awareness. Women need to realize that it can happen to them, and take the appropriate action to protect themselves, and that includes not only self examinations, but yearly clin-ical check-ups as well," Colwell said.



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