

House votes down funding for super collider

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House reiterated its overwhelming opposition to the super collider Tuesday, dealing a devastating blow to the giant atom smasher's chances for survival.

On a 264-159 vote, House members for a second time this year rejected the Clinton administration's request for \$640

million for the massive science project under construction in Texas.

The action returns to House and Senate negotiators the \$22 billion energy and water conference report that includes the contested funds. Negotiators will have to reconcile the House's potent anti-collider stance and the Senate's earlier endorsement of the project.

Backers suggested the fight isn't over and held out the hope that Congress

might approve a smaller amount of money.

"I don't think you can say that it's over until it's over," said the only Texan on the conference committee, Rep. Jim Chapman, D-Sulphur Springs.

"The Senate as strongly supports it as the House opposes it," Chapman said. "The administration supports it."

Rep. Jim Slattery, who led the opposition forces, said it's too early to declare

victory. "We're going to have to slug this thing out," the Kansas Democrat said.

Added a fellow opponent, New York Republican Sherwood Boehlert: "We're just not going to let down our guard."

The House vote sets up a potential showdown in conference with Senate backers, led by Louisiana Democrat Bennett Johnston, who has been adamant in his support for a program that means billions of dollars and thousands of jobs

for Texas and Louisiana.

Tuesday's vote underlined the House's resolve to kill a program branded by many as too costly in an era of huge budget deficits. When the House first debated collider funding in June, it voted 280-150 to pull the plug on the massive science project.

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9-year-old Reveille V to retire from A&M Corps

By Jennifer Smith

THE BATTALION

Company E-2 of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets will lose a resident soon when Reveille V retires.

E-2 is the 75 man unit responsible for caring for A&M's mascot.

Greg Riels, commander of E-2 and a senior yell leader, said Reveille V is nine years old, and the A&M mascot must be replaced about every 10 years.

"She (Reveille V) doesn't have any health problems right now," Riels said. "But she's so busy that she can't enjoy her later years."

"We feel like it's time to retire her," Riels said.

Riels, a finance major, said they are still in the process of finding a new Reveille.

But Riels said no information will be released on the search process or on the new Reveille for a few weeks.

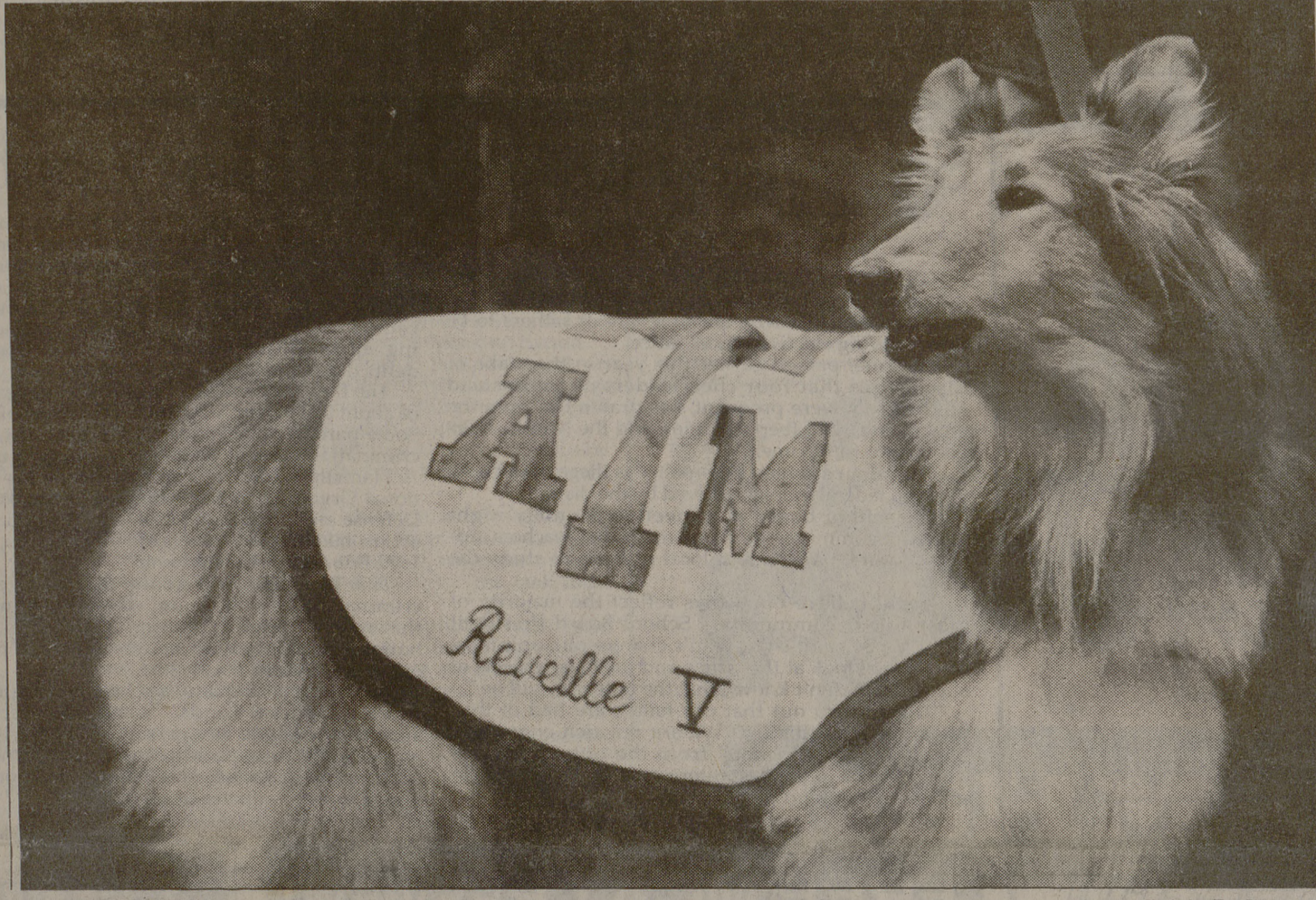
Reveilles are usually placed in the care of a former student when they retire.

When Reveille IV retired in 1984 after serving as A&M's mascot for nine years, she was placed in the care of Dr. and Mrs. Lee Phillips of Bryan.

Dr. Phillips is a former Corps member and Class of '53.

When Reveilles die, they are buried at the north end of Kyle Field in view of the scoreboard of the Aggie football team.

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Kevin Ivy/THE BATTALION

Clinton removes Army Rangers, ends Aidid hunt

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a further step back from armed confrontation with Mohamed Farrah Aidid, President Clinton ordered a pullout Tuesday of Army Ranger forces he had sent to Somalia to capture the clan leader.

The move reflected the administration's effort to shift the focus in Somalia toward pursuing a political settlement following the deaths of 18 Americans in the disastrous Ranger raid on Aidid loyalists Oct. 3.

"Right now we are engaging in a political process to see how we can resolve our mission in Somalia," Clinton told reporters at the White House. "So right now we're in a stand-down position."

At the Pentagon, spokeswoman Kathleen deLaski said a Ranger task force of about 750 men would be withdrawn from Somalia "in the next couple of days." Officials declined to provide a full breakdown.

Sixteen of the 18 Americans who died in the Oct. 3 raid were members of the Ranger task force.

DeLaski said about 6,300 U.S. troops now remain in Somalia.

Clinton said the time was right to pull out the Rangers because two Marine Expeditionary Units, totaling about 3,600 men with helicopters and armored vehicles,

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Congress objects to NAFTA costing \$2.5 billion in taxes

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Faced with new worries about the North American Free Trade Agreement, President Clinton sought Tuesday to work around congressional objections to paying for it with a \$2.5 billion tax increase.

"There are still some practical things to work out," Clinton said of the administration's plan to replace federal money lost under NAFTA with increased fees on international airline and cruise tickets and higher rail and truck fees.

Some conservative House Republicans are threatening to withdraw support for the three-nation trade agreement unless the administration drops its plans to raise international transportation taxes.

A battle over taxes related to NAFTA is just what the administration doesn't need at a time when it already faces strong opposition to the trade pact from organized labor and some top congressional Democrats.

The increased taxes would offset money lost when NAFTA wipes out most tariffs and other barriers to trade among the United States, Mexico and Canada. Tariff reductions would deprive the U.S. government of about \$400 million a year over the next five years.

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Hutchison charges may be dismissed

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Prosecutors said Tuesday a legal error may require the dismissal of criminal charges against U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and over 500 other indictments, including that of convicted killer Kenneth McDuff.

But Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle vowed to take Hutchison's case before a second grand jury if the indictments are dismissed.

Following a defense motion, Earle acknowledged that a grand jury who heard Hutchison's case and others should have been excluded because of a 1988 theft charge that accuses him of writing a hot check for \$20.04 to a grocery store.

"Senator Hutchison has raised a legal technicality which could result in the dismissal of her indictments and a delay in her trial," Earle said.

"In that event, the state will present its evidence against Mrs. Hutchison to another grand jury and fully prosecute this case."

Hutchison's attorney Dick DeGuerin said the technical miscue was due to "sloppy work by the state."

Prosecutors said the mistake was because

"Senator Hutchison has raised a legal technicality which could result in the dismissal of her indictments and a delay in her trial."

— Ronnie Earle, Travis County district attorney

there is no established system for criminal history checks of a potential grand juror.

The senator's spokesman, David Beckwith, said Hutchison would be found innocent of any charges if a second grand jury were to consider the case.

"I am confident that a fairly-selected grand jury, one with six Republicans and six Democrats, will not indict Sen. Hutchison," Beckwith said.

A final decision on whether the case against Hutchison, a Republican, will have to be reinstated may come this week, said assistant district attorney Claire Dawson-Brown.

"We are going to be reviewing and studying the law about what we need to do with these indictments," Brown said.

"We want to exhaust all the possibilities of saving them."

Hutchison, 50, was indicted last month on charges of using her previous office as state treasurer for personal and political gain and then destroying records as part of coverup.

She resigned her 2 1/2-year tenure as treasurer after winning a landslide victory June 5 to Lloyd Bentsen's vacated Senate seat. She is the first woman senator from Texas and the 10th sitting senator ever to be indicted.

Motions were filed Monday by Hutchison's attorneys, claiming the grand jury that indicted her was improperly empaneled.

The motions claim grand juror Melvin Wrenn should have been excluded because a charge of theft by check is pending against him.

Texas law states that a grand juror "must not be under indictment or other legal accusation for theft or of any felony."

Wrenn's attorney Sam Buford said Tuesday that his client did not know there was a warrant for his arrest until the motions were filed Monday.

Fisher hopes to reinvent government as senator

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION



Varnell Hopkins/THE BATTALION

Dallas businessman Richard Fisher outlines his plan for a renewed government in a speech Tuesday evening.

A Dallas businessman who plans to run for United States Senate in 1994 said he wants to inspire citizens to get involved and help reinvent the current American government.

Richard Fisher, a democrat who hopes to unseat Kay Bailey Hutchison, told the Aggie Democrats Tuesday night that the current system of government has become obsolete.

"We need to build a government for the world that will be, rather than the one that was," he said.

The key to rebuilding the government, he said, is to focus on individual rights rather than group rights.

"My advice is to be tolerant of others who have different views," he said. "Listen to them and make up your own mind about what you want to support and then go out there and support them."

Fisher expressed support for President Clinton's health care plan, but said it will take a long time to get it working. He said he agrees with Clinton that the welfare system is a failure and should be done away with, calling it a "system of entrapment" that has

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WEATHER

• Wednesday: 70% chance rain, high in 80s, becoming cool at night

• Thursday: much cooler, rainy, highs in mid-60s, lows in 50s

• Weekend forecast: fair sky, warmer, highs in 70s, lows in 60s

Tomorrow in **Aggielife**

Features:
An interview with
Blind Mellon

Reviews:

New albums by Rush, Pearl Jam, and Iggy Pop.
Also the film 'Judgement Night'