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Israeli army bars Palestinians from entering state

The Associated Press

AFULA, Israel — As thousands of angry Israelis gathered Thursday to bury the victims of a car bombing, the army barred 1.8 million Palestinians from entering Israel for a week in one of its strictest closures ever.

The order follows two more attacks by Islamic fundamentalists on Thursday, including one in which an Israeli was killed and four were wounded when a Palestinian opened fire at a bus stop in southern Israel.

"We plan for Israel to be empty of Arabs from the territories until Independence Day," Police Commissioner Rafi Peled announced on Israel radio. "I hope it will calm the situation and contribute to the security."

Israeli Independence Day is April 14. The attacks spurred calls for a suspension of negotiations with the PLO on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

The measures to bar Palestinians from Israel were the strictest since March 1993, when 15 Israelis were killed in a series of

stabblings. They effectively tighten travel restrictions imposed after the Feb. 25 Hebron mosque massacre.

Peled said all permits for workers had been canceled and no cars would be allowed in from the territories. The army barred a Palestinian conference at a Jerusalem hotel where Jesse Jackson was to speak. The conference would have brought in hundreds of Palestinian academics from the occupied lands.

The violence came as Israelis observed Holocaust Day in memory of the 6 million Jews slaughtered by the Nazis during

World War II.

In Afula, police fought running battles with about 300 Israeli youths who burned tires after the funerals for the victims of the suicide car-bombing. The bus stop where the attack occurred was covered in wreaths.

Settlers passed out literature condemning the peace talks. Banners attacked Israel's peacemaking with the PLO.

About 5,000 Israelis gathered in the cemetery as four of the victims were laid to rest in a service broadcast nationally. Three other Israelis and the attacker were

killed in the bombing.

The government representative was booed, cursed as "trash" and forced to leave under police escort. Three relatives fainted.

Much of the anger focused on PLO leader Yasser Arafat's failure to condemn the attacks.



Arafat

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Mattox, Fisher meet in democratic runoff

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Jim Mattox grew up tough and gained a reputation as a political brawler for the underdog in over two decades of public office. Businessman Richard Fisher has said that one of his earliest memories is of being wrapped in a fur coat and riding in the back of a Rolls Royce. The Dallas millionaire has never held an elected office.

The two are fighting for the U.S. Senate Democratic Party nomination in Tuesday's runoff.

The winner faces Republican Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, whose political strength has increased since her acquittal on ethics charges in February.

Neither Democrat has focused much on issues such as health care and welfare reform.

Mattox, 50, accuses his opponent of living like a rich Republican. Fisher, 45, calls himself a "New Democrat," then scolds Mattox for indulging in divisive politics.

Fisher, whose personal fortune is estimated at \$9.5 million, owns an investment firm that manages more than \$300 million in assets. "I have done well in the business sector. I am proud of my accomplishments. I don't think I should be penalized for my success," Fisher said.

Mattox lists \$3.1 million in business and real estate assets, including a 10-story building in Austin and car washes in Dallas. But he says his holdings are highly mortgaged and modest compared to Fisher's.

"I am by any stretch of the imagination not a wealthy man," he said. "I'm just a working guy who tried to invest wisely in a few things. I've made some decent investments, and if the notes all get paid off, then my brother and sister and me might be able to have a little net income."

Mattox, a former state attorney general, congressman and state legislator, is trying for a comeback after a bruising gubernatorial runoff defeat to Gov. Ann Richards in 1990.

In 1992, Fisher was an adviser to independent presidential candidate Ross Perot.

He finished fifth out of 24 candidates in the 1993 special election required when then-Sen. Lloyd Bentsen was appointed President Clinton's Treasury secretary.

Fisher spent about \$2.1 million of his own money in that campaign, which Mrs. Hutchison won.

Since Jan. 1, Fisher has reported pumping \$1.4 million of his own money into the campaign.

During that period, Fisher has outspent Mattox more than 2-to-1 — \$1.6 million to \$714,627.

Mattox has hounded Fisher for donating money to Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., and to the Bush-Quayle campaign.

Fisher says he gave the money to Lugar because he's a family friend; he says his wife was the one who supported the Bush-Quayle ticket.

Mattox also has taken aim at Fisher's membership in an all-white country club. Fisher says it would be hypocritical to quit and labels the attacks as vintage Mattox.

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Gimme a break



James Talmage/Special to The Battalion

Mark Brewer, a member of Master's Commission from Dallas, breaks 10 concrete slabs Thursday as part of Chi Alpha Christ-

ian Fellowship's Tent Revival Week by Ruder Fountain. The revival continues today with a service at 7 p.m.

Texas A&M honors ex-Dallas Cowboy with executive award

By James Bernsen
The Battalion

Roger Staubach, a former quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys and now a successful Dallas businessman, was honored at Texas A&M Thursday with the 1993 Kupfer Distinguished Executive award.

Staubach was recognized for pioneering the concept of tenant representation at the Staubach Company, an integrated real estate firm he started in 1977.

Staubach said in business as well as football, a successful organization is more likely to be destroyed from problems within than from without.

"People can be productive, but sometimes they're arrogant and are out to make advances at other people's expense, and we can't do that," he said. "Business isn't cutthroat."

Staubach, who was the recipient of the 1963 Heisman Trophy, also spent four years in the Navy, including service in Vietnam, before playing for the Cowboys.

Staubach said his company tries to downplay the personal goals of the employees, a lesson he learned from football.

"In 1971, we had the most talent we ever had," he said. "But too many people were worried about their bonuses, and not about the team."

Staubach said that, after a 4-3 start, the team received an inspirational speech by teammate Mike Ditka, which turned the entire year around. The team made it to the Superbowl where they defeated Miami.

"We started talking about how to play as a team, not about our individual contracts," he said. "We went from a team that was written off to world champions."

Staubach also discussed some of the lessons he learned in a mortar attack during the war.

"When it's all coming down on you, you just have to persevere and make the right decisions," he said. "In a way, life is a series of mortar attacks."

Staubach said he learned ambition from his mother and service to others from his father and these later led to his successful business ventures.

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Special Olympics to aid disabled children

By Juli Rhoden
The Battalion

Elise is a small, bright child with deep blue eyes. She likes to run and play with her friends, just like any other 12-year-old girl. But Elise is different — she has Down's Syndrome.

Although mentally retarded athletes like Elise don't have all the advantages children without handicaps do, they will have a chance to make their dreams of being Olympic stars come true Saturday in the Special Olympics.

The Special Olympics, which will be held Friday and Saturday at A&M Consolidated High School, is an annual event that allows mentally retarded students to compete in athletic competition.

Gin Griffy, a volunteer coordinator, said the Special Olympics is a chance for mentally retarded athletes to showcase their talent.

"They get to show their abilities and learn the spirit of competition," she said. "They also get a chance to integrate into a larger society."

Griffy, a senior microbiology major, said Special Olympics is not just a Bryan-College Station competition.

"There are athletes from as far away as Austin and Conroe," she said. "There are over 600 participants in this year's spring games."

Special education students from schools in Brenham, Hearne, Navasota and others, compete in the Special Olympics.

The athletes train year-round and have other competitions before the spring games.

Opening ceremonies will begin at 4 p.m. Friday with a torch run from Wal-Mart on FM 2818 to the A&M Consolidated track where a bark from Reveille VI will start the competition. A dinner and dance, sponsored by Aggie Partners, will begin at 7 p.m. with a hot-air balloon display.

Special Olympics, which is an international corporation, has fund-raisers and takes donations from the community to help fund the event.

Griffy said over 1,000 volunteers from different organizations on campus have given time and effort to make this year's games extraordinary. Some businesses and both police and fire departments also have volunteered services.

The Aggie Men's Club is sponsoring an Olympic Town carnival. Alpha Phi Omega, a service organization, will work at the games and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is putting up a petting zoo, she said.

Terry Easterly, a special education teacher and coach for College Station, said the Special Olympics is not only an athletic competition, but it gives participants a chance to show themselves off.

"The students get very excited about Special Olympics because their parents and other students get to see them compete," she said. "It's good for their self-esteem and it makes them proud."

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Officials say Supreme Court needs to reflect U.S. diversity

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Justice Harry A. Blackmun's retirement will give America the youngest Supreme Court in a half-century, and some court-watchers are urging President Clinton to aim for one that will more closely reflect the country's diverse population.

"I wish he'd pick a black man or a black woman" to provide a more liberal counterpart to conservative Justice Clarence Thomas, said American University law professor Herman Schwartz.

Clinton should choose a Hispanic to reflect that group's growing share of the U.S. population, Rep. Jose Serrano, D-N.Y., chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, wrote in a letter to the president.

Clarke Forsythe of Americans United for Life said Clinton should choose someone who does not seek to legislate from the bench as a replacement for the retiring Blackmun, the court's most liberal member.

The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League's James Wagoner would like to see a second black, a third woman or the first Hispanic as long as that person has a "deep-seated commitment to individual privacy and protecting a woman's right to choose."

Rex Lee, a former U.S. solicitor general, argued against trying to

fill any particular demographic slot. The Supreme Court is a non-political branch of government and has no obligation to reflect the population, he said.

"What it should look like is the very best talent that is available in the legal community," said Lee, who served in the Reagan administration and now is president of Brigham Young University.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, is high on Clinton's list of possible nominees. He's 60. Another possible nominee, U.S. District Judge Jose Cabranes, 53, of Connecticut, would be the court's first Hispanic.

Other possible candidates include Solicitor General Drew S. Days III and federal appellate Judge Richard Arnold of Arkansas. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt was named as a top prospect but said he did not want the job. Days is black, the others white.

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said Thursday a decision would be made in "weeks, not months." Last year, it took Clinton three months to choose Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to replace retiring Justice Byron R. White.

The departure of the 85-year-old Blackmun will continue a trend toward a younger court.

The court's average age was 72 in 1986, when five justices were

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McGlothlin, Allen, King elected '94 class agents

Ross McGlothlin, Jodi Allen and Chad King were elected Class of '94 agents Thursday and will serve for five years as the senior class's link to Texas A&M after graduation.

Almost 1,200 seniors selected class agents from two groups made up of three students each.

During the next five years, the agents will be responsible for creating a quarterly news letter, holding yearly reunions during football

season and planning the class's five-year reunion.

At the reunion, the agents can choose whether they want to run again.

McGlothlin has served as executive officer in Squadron 13, Class of '94 historian for 2 years, a member of the student senate for two years, a member of the Ross Volunteers and a member of Who's Who Among Students at American Colleges and Universities.

Allen has been a member of

class council for three years, a member of Baptist Student Union, a member of the Town Hall reception committee and a Fish Camp counselor for three years.

King has been Class of '94 president for three years, a member of the Student Senate, a member of MSC Council, a recipient of the Buck Weirus Spirit Award and a member of Who's Who Among Students at American Colleges and Universities.

McGlothlin said it will be a

great honor to represent his class in the future.

"My commitment to A&M goes beyond the time I'm spending at A&M," he said.

McGlothlin also said it was a shame that all six candidates couldn't be chosen as class agents.

Allen said she is looking forward to serving five years as class agent.

"It's going to be a lot of work, but it's going to be a lot of fun," she said.