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Richards, Bush compete in dead heat

(AP) - According to a new opinion poll, the governor's race is virtually a dead heat, with Republican challenger George W. Bush holding a one percentage point lead over Democratic incumbent Ann Richards.

The Texas Poll, published Tuesday in several newspapers, gave Bush 45 percent support, Richards 44 percent and Libertarian Keary Ehlers 1 percent. Ten percent were undecided.

"If ever there was a race too close to call, the 1994 Texas governor's race is it," said Candace Windel, the poll's director.

"Given the four percentage point margin of error inherent in a survey sample of this size, a rainstorm or a traffic jam could decide it. The outcome all depends on who turns out to vote and how mad they are when they do," she said.

The Texas Poll was conducted Oct. 6-15 for Harte-Hanks Communications Inc. by the Office of Survey Research of the University of Texas College of Communications. The telephone survey of 675 likely voters had a margin of error of plus or mi-

nus four percentage points. The poll, the latest in a series of surveys, showed Bush continuing to climb slightly from the 39 percent support he had a year ago.

Richards, who had 47 percent support in each of four previous Texas Polls since the fall of 1993, slipped for the first time. The change was within the poll's margin of error. "The polls show this is still up in the air and up for grabs," Bush said Tuesday. "I really do believe I'm going to win. I can feel it. I can see it."

Richards spokesman Chuck McDonald said the poll surveyed too few women and that skewed the results. "This poll is 52 percent male and 48 percent female, when in 1990 the vote was 53 percent female and 47 percent male," McDonald said.

In other political developments: — The Houston Post reported that Bush, who took eight months to notify the government of his sale of stock in a company on whose board he served, also missed the filing deadline for reporting other trades involving Harken Energy.

• The newspaper, citing Securities and Exchange Commission records, said it found additional instances in which Bush "ran afoul of the SEC rule requiring notification within 10

days of the end of the month in which the transaction took place."

Bush's lawyer, Robert Jordan, said, "I don't recall right now whether they (filed) the information as the rule literally suggests or not."

— Geraldine Ferraro, the 1984 Democratic vice presidential nominee, campaigned for Richards. "This race is not about Ann Richards. Without your help the door of open government is going to slam shut on election day if Gov. Richards is not re-elected," she told a Monday gathering of about 500 Richards supporters in Austin.

Karen Hughes, a spokeswoman for Republican gubernatorial candidate George Bush, said, "The campaign visit of Geraldine Ferraro is reflective of the national liberals' efforts to help their soulmate."

— The Texas Abortion Rights Action League announced endorsements. Among the statewide candidates getting the group's backing: Richards, Democratic Gov. Bob Bullock, Democratic Attorney General Dan Morales, Democratic state Treasurer Martha Whitehead, Democratic Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, and Democratic Supreme Court candidates Alan Oliver Parrott and Jimmy Carroll.



Richards

Suicide attempt sparks explosion Mexico

JENNINGS, Mo. (AP) — A man who apparently tried to kill himself by turning on the gas and blowing up his home survived the explosion that demolished at least five houses and damaged dozens of others.

James Kimble, 32, was in critical condition at St. John's Mercy Medical Center on Tuesday with second- and third-degree burns over nearly half of his body. He also suffered a deep skull wound and a broken leg and ankle.

Police Chief James Trentham said Kimble hadn't regained consciousness since shortly after his house blew up Sunday afternoon.

He was wearing only a pair of white briefs when emergency workers found him dazed and nearly buried in the

rubble of the one-story home he rented. Rescuers said he was waving an arm for help when they arrived.

No one else was home at the time and no one else in the neighborhood was seriously hurt, although the blast damaged about 40 homes and businesses.

On Monday, a television reporter found a sheet of paper that appeared to be part of a suicide letter about 100 yards from the blast. Two other pages of the letter, dated Oct. 13 and signed by Kimble, were later recovered.

"It says he was despondent over family problems and evidently he was using some type of drugs," Trentham said.

Investigators found a line

to the home's natural gas furnace had been disconnected.

Trentham said it was a miracle that Coleman, who was in the basement at the time, survived.

"He could have easily ended up in the trees with the rest of the debris," he said.

Five houses have been condemned and others may have to be, Trentham said.

If Kimble recovers, Trentham said he would face charges of endangering the lives of other people and would be held responsible for the \$2 million in damage.

A neighbor, Sharon Coleman, said Kimble hadn't left the house for two weeks. The self-employed construction contractor was recently separated from his wife.

Continued from Page 1

development seminar and a Texas and Mexico children's art exhibition," he said.

In a three-day leadership seminar students talked with Mexican business leaders, visited top universities and had student leaders from various Mexican institutions. When they returned, the students were expected to give two seminars explaining their experiences.

"A five-day experience can do as much as a five-month program, if conducted correctly," Carranza said.

A corporate alliance program is now being developed to help generate income for the center. This program will also provide international internships for students. The alliance includes the United States, Mexico and Canada.

In its future, the University Center plans to incorporate more leadership seminars with other colleges, faculty and students, Ashworth said.



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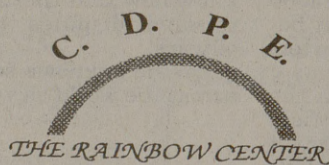
We will see you on Wednesday, October 19th at 8:30 pm Room 302 Rudder

Everyone in the Class of '96 is welcome to attend!

National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week October 17-22

"For Women Only" 5:30 p.m. MSC Flag Room Thurs. Oct 20, 1994

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Enlighten Us

with your bright ideas

You Could Win a \$5,000 Scholarship in the "Know When To Say When" Poster Competition

That's right, we're paying big bucks for the most "illuminating" poster ideas that communicate a message of personal responsibility about alcohol. So, grab an entry form and enlighten us with your creativity. Drawing ability will not be a factor in determining the best poster concepts. Use of the "Know When To Say When" message is encouraged, but not mandatory.

Nineteen scholarships will be awarded. The grand prize is \$5,000 for the brightest idea. A matching grant will be given to the winner's school. Two runners up will each receive \$1,000. Sixteen third place winners will be awarded \$500 each.

This competition is an extension of National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. Scholarships are underwritten by Anheuser-Busch in conjunction with the Inter-Association Task Force on Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Issues.

Contest ends December 16, 1994.

All entries must be accompanied by an official entry form. You may obtain a form and a complete set of official competition rules at:

CDPE: RAII: BOW CENTER

222 Beutel Health Center

845-0280

or write to "Know When To Say When" Poster Competition, 1000 Geyer Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104.



--Thomas Alva Edison (circa 1900)