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ASHINGTON (AP) — The

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Agreement on Tariffs and

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The Senate had voted 68-32

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Retiring Democratic Leader orge Mitchell noted that the

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31 Republicans and 37 De-

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THE BATTALION • PAGE 3

linton secures Gatt victory in Senate

enate approves Gramm, Hutchison back GATT pact rade agreement,

WASHINGTON (AP) - Despite some criticism of a world trade accord partially negotiat-

ed by the Clinton administration, Texas' two Republican senators back

ratification of the 124-nation pact that would lower trade tariffs. Sen. Phil Gramm last week announced his support for the accord in negotiation

Gramm since 1986 under the

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison did so Thursday morning, as backers of the pact lobbied vigorously to corral

Dole said he had decided to support agreement, even with its flaws, because the alternative of defeat would be far worse.

"The bottom line is we just can't isolate ourselves from the rest of the world," Dole said bethe accord was supported fore the Senate began voting. The 124-nation trade agree-

ment cuts tariffs by an average of 38 percent worldwide, and for the first time extends GATT rules to such new areas as reduction of trade-distorting agrienough votes for passage. A vote on the accord, easily

approved Tuesday by the House, was taken Thursday evening in the Senate. An Associated Press head count showed GATT backers were on the verge of locking up the votes needed both to surmount a procedural hurdle and approve the accord itself.

The trade agreement would slash global tariffs by 38 percent and create a more power-ful World Trade Organization to referee disputes. Mrs. Hutchison, as did many in Congress, initially questioned whether the Geneva-based WTO would infringe on U.S. sovereignty.

"After thoroughly reviewing this issue, I have concluded that the implementing legislation contains adequate safeguards against ceding our authority to a

culture subsidies, lowering trade barriers in service industries, such as banking and clamping down on copyright piracy.

It creates a more powerful World Trade Organization to referee trade disputes and eliminates the one-country veto that a losing nation could use to block an adverse ruling.

Supporters said the agreement, by cutting the border taxes Americans have to pay while at the same time lowering barriers said.

multinational body," Mrs. Hutchison said in a floor speech announcing her support.

While Gramm didn't fear any loss of sovereignty, he was harshly critical of the Clinton administration's writing of the legislation necessary to implement GATT.

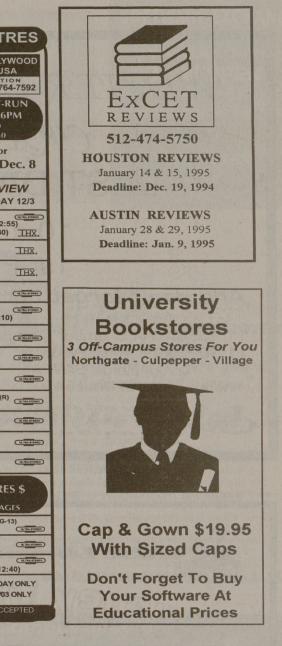
In his floor speech, Gramm complained that the administration crammed goodies unrelated to trade into GATT's implementing legislation, either as a way of rewarding supporters or currying favor with GATT skeptics.

"I am going to take a deep breath and look beyond the outrageous and irresponsible manner with which the Clinton administration has dealt with GATT," said Gramm, who is a likely challenger to Clinton in 1996.

U.S. businesses and farmers face overseas, would provide a tremendous boost to the U.S. economy.

The Clinton administration estimated this would create a half-million new jobs and mean an annual increase of \$150 billion in U.S. economic growth a decade from now, when the deal is fully implemented. That extra growth would put \$1,700 more a year in the pockets of the average family, the administration

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student ex-officion present the interes fied student body Clean-burning gas to hike But Berman voiced concern that retail gasoline prices may rise more than necesve of the System; o provide a direc prices a nickel a gallon nd the Board; he CSAB has show WASHINGTON (AP) — The December

ecast for millions of Americans in the nost polluted cities: Better air, higher d the ability to dea forices for gas

Drivers will begin paying more as gasoe stations shift to a cleaner-burning but re-expensive fuel under government orrs. Prices at the pump could rise a nickel more a gallon.

By the end of the year, nearly one-third all the gasoline sold in America will have be a new, reformulated blend that the overnment estimates will produce 20 perent less toxic and smog-causing pollution. "This is the biggest change in gasoline in iversity to designation lifetime," said William Berman, environ-

mental affairs director for the American Auadership center. A&M officials to the tomobile Association. donors to fund the acres of land just

Mary Nan West, r and Regent Gua passage of the vote liked the idea of b ot think enough whether students

Drivers to pay price at pump for cleaner air But Berman voiced concern that retail

sary in the confusion surrounding the introduction of the new fuel, which the Environmental Protection Agency estimates will cost refiners about 4 cents more a gallon to produce.

The change is expected to affect more than 48 million motorists in all or parts of 17 states, including the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions from southern Maine to Virginia.

The fuel also will be required in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas of southern California; in and around Houston and Dallas-Forth Worth in Texas; in the Chicago area, stretching into northwestern Indiana and southeastern Wisconsin, and in the Louisville, Ky., area.

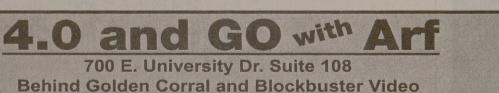
The gasoline, which has a different chemical makeup so it burns more cleanly and evaporates more slowly, already is at distribution terminals and will flow into service

stations during December, industry officials said. In a few cases, some of the new gasoline already is believed to be in service station tanks. Wholesale reformulated gasoline for deliv-

ery in January recently sold at 6 to 8 cents a gallon higher than conventional gasoline on the New York commodity market.

How much of that price increase will be passed onto retail customers will depend largely on local competitive pressures. In some areas of the Northeast and mid-Atlantic, gasoline prices already have jumped as much as 10 cents a gallon since mid-October for a variety of reasons, including weather-related supply interruptions. In some cases those temporary price increases may now become permanent.

'By the first of the year it's going to be 3 to 4 cents higher than today" because of the reformulated gasoline change, predicted Harry Murphy of the Service Station Dealers of America.







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