

NEWS BRIEFS

Black leadership summit declared a success

HOUSTON (AP) — Declaring a three-day conference "fruitful and successful," the Rev. Benjamin Chavis said Sunday the National African American Leadership Summit will reconvene this fall for a march on Washington.

Chavis, the former head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said his new group adopted a constitution and by-laws at its second annual meeting.

"The NAALS has taken on more of a sense of permanence in terms of building our organizational infrastructure that can help galvanize and focus the vast energy and talent and resources (of blacks)," Chavis said.

Ft. Worth teen accused of truck bomb threat

DALLAS (AP) — Peter Koh, the teen-ager accused in a Fort Worth truck-bomb hoax, is known among classmates as a quiet, studious, arrogant youth who sometimes showed contempt for authority.

In interviews by The Dallas Morning News, adults close to the Koh family expressed shock that the 18-year-old might be behind a truck-bomb hoax at a Fort Worth school district building. But some teenage acquaintances were less surprised.

More than 40 people were evacuated twice on May 16 after someone called and said an explosives-packed truck was parked outside the building, then called back and said a bomb was inside the building.

Old jail to get renovations for housing juveniles

HEMPSTEAD, Texas (AP) — The Waller County juvenile detention center does not meet state standards, even though the state helped pay for the conversion of the former county jail for its use, officials say.

Authorities say the building, used for juveniles since 1988, doesn't meet the state fire code and other safety standards for non-adult facilities and will have to be abandoned or significantly remodeled.

County officials are seeking cost estimates for such work as adding a fire escape to the two-story, 18-bed building and turning old, barred jail cells into single-occupant rooms.

Music festival bomb kills at least 28, injures 200

MEDELLIN, Colombia (AP) — A bomb exploded at an outdoor music festival, spraying shrapnel that killed at least 28 people and wounded more than 200 others, police said Sunday. One suspect was arrested.

The blast in a downtown park Saturday night occurred one block away from a police barracks. It recalled the worst days of the northwestern city's drug terrorism, which dwindled with the 1993 killing of cartel kingpin Pablo Escobar.

A suspect carrying five cans of gunpowder was arrested, but the motive for the attack was not immediately known. A reward of \$625,000 was offered for information leading to the capture of other suspects.

Lotus accepts IBM buyout offer at \$64 per share

NEW YORK (AP) — Lotus Development Corp. agreed to be bought out by IBM on Sunday after the two companies arrived at a \$64 per share price, \$4 higher than what IBM offered when it began a hostile takeover attempt less than a week ago.

The deal has the potential to reorder the personal computer software industry by putting IBM in a strong position to challenge Microsoft Corp., which has come to lead the industry through its dominance in operating system programs that run the basic functions of a PC.

President, speaker debate Medicare, minimum wage

Clinton and Gingrich answered questions from the elderly on Sunday

CLAREMONT, N.H. (AP) — In an unprecedented joint appearance, President Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich sparred politely over Medicare and a host of other issues Sunday and shook hands on a deal to launch a bipartisan commission on lobbying and political reforms.

Sitting outdoors against a backdrop of flags, the Democratic president and Republican speaker fielded questions for an hour from a crowd of about 250 people at a senior citizen's picnic. Never before, Gingrich said, had a president and speaker appeared together at a town hall — never mind leaders of different parties.

"This is a historic moment," Gingrich said. The two men ended the largely congenial discussion with a handshake.

Given the elderly audience, Clinton wasted no time in addressing Medicare. Clinton took issue with GOP plans to find roughly \$300 billion in savings in the health care program, saying it was being done to balance the budget when the only responsible way to find the money was in the context of comprehensive health care reform.

Ceding no ground, Gingrich said Medicare's financial situation was nearing a crisis point and action was needed fast. In their overhaul, Gingrich said Republicans propose to increase spending over the next seven years — just not by as much

publican legislation that he said cuts too much from foreign aid and contains unacceptable restrictions on U.S. involvement in

the lower end of the income scale. Gingrich said he was against it, because he worried it would cost "marginal employees," particularly minority teen-agers, their jobs. Clinton wants to increase it from \$4.25 an hour to \$5.15. Each applauded the

and a smaller Medicare reduction, Medicaid reduction, then see how much we can year by year."

Gingrich wouldn't sign that, but he promised to work with Clinton in the coming months on the issue.

"In spirit, we're not there yet," Gingrich said.

Both men quickly signed on a suggestion from the audience: name a special commission to propose lobbying, campaign and political reforms. The end, the recommendations would have to be voted on — much like Congress does — which military bases get closed.

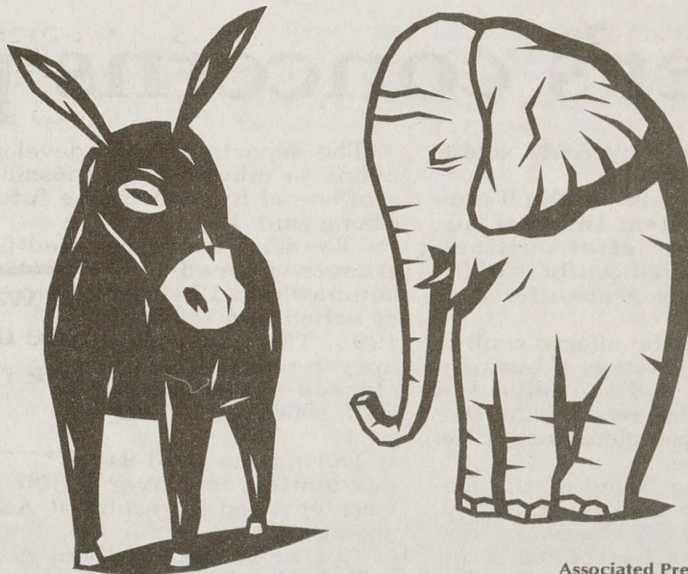
Gingrich said it was an idea, and Clinton said: "Heartbeat. I accept." They shook hands, a moment of the in a very political event.

From the outset, Clinton and Gingrich were on their best behavior — with just a few rhetorical flourishes. Gone was the rhetoric that often surrounds when the two political opponents make their points solo.

Gingrich praised the president for agreeing to the appearance. President Clinton, in turn, said it was extremely important for both Democrats and Republicans to calmly and honestly identify their differences, "and then make our effort, our dead level effort, to work together to move this country forward."



Clinton



Associated Press



Gingrich

as most Democrats favor. The spending is "less than the current projections. I'm not trying to kid anybody," Gingrich said.

As they debated that and other issues — from the minimum wage to American involvement in Bosnia to Clinton's prized national service program — the president and speaker covered familiar ground and yielded little, but in a far more civil tone than has been the case in Washington of late.

Clinton took issue with Re-

United Nations peacekeeping operations. Gingrich defended the bill but said it likely would be changed in negotiations with the administration. He also said the U.N. peacekeeping structure "is a nightmare" and should be changed.

Clinton said he supported raising the minimum wage, saying it was only fair to those on

other's commitment to welfare reform, but Clinton said they were far apart on the specifics. And Gingrich said he hoped to give

the president the line-item veto by this summer.

The polite back-and-forth was perhaps most specific on a subject near-and-dear to the elderly audience: Medicare.

"There have to be some changes but I think these (Republican) reductions ... are too severe," Clinton said. "What I favor is having a smaller tax cut

HEALTH TIPS

Starting day with breakfast will ensure healthy mind, body

Losing weight and lack of time are not good excuses for missing a meal, experts say.

By Vanessa Park SPECIAL TO THE BATTALION

A recent Texas A&M Health Behavior Survey found that 77 percent of A&M students surveyed do not eat breakfast.

If you have a busy schedule, even grabbing toast and fruit is better than nothing to start your day. Most times, your body has not had any nutrients in eight hours (or perhaps four during test weeks). Breakfast provides energy to start a full day of long, hot walks from class to class.

Research studies show that breakfast helps improve your mental and physical performance. When skipping breakfast, you are also skipping your body's needed nutrients, such as carbohydrates, protein, iron and calcium.

Excuses for skipping breakfast include, "I am trying to lose weight," and "Not enough time." Skipping breakfast does not slow down weight gain, but slows your metabolism, which works against weight loss.

Cereal is the "breakfast of champions," especially for those in a hurry. Whole grain, low-fat, high-fiber breakfast cereals are packed with nutrients such as vitamins and minerals. Fruit toppings add more taste and vitamins. Some sugar-coated cereals are low in fat, as well as low in nutrients and are calorie-packed.

If breakfast has not been a regular part of your day, make an effort to start the day with nutritious foods before you run to class.

For further information on breakfast ideas or any health-related issue, students can contact the Health Education Center, Room 16 in the Beutel Health Center.



Nick Rodnicki, The Battalion

GREASIN' UP

Crew members of the Union Pacific No. 3985 lubricate critical moving parts of the steam locomotive during its stop at College Station Saturday afternoon.

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