



# THE BATTALION

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## Quayle rallies support for Republican Party

MELANIE D. SMITH  
THE BATTALION

November elections during his Monday appearance at Rudder fountain.

Quayle's rally, sponsored by Texas A&M College Republicans, was an effort to drum up support for local Republican candidates and encourage voter turnout for students.

Quayle endorsed Pete Sessions, a 5th District Republican congressional candidate and praised Texas Agricultural Commissioner Rick Perry. But most of Quayle's speech focused on Bob Dole's presidential campaign.

"We need our public officials to tell the truth," Quayle said. "Pete Sessions will tell you the truth. Rick Perry will tell you the truth. Wouldn't it be nice to have a commander in chief who will tell you the truth?"

Quayle said the character of the candidates should play a vital role in the presidential



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Quayle speaks at Rudder Fountain Monday afternoon.

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## Troops await orders

### Clinton does not seek confrontation with Saddam

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is not out to force a showdown with Iraq, President Clinton said Monday, as administration officials cooled their rhetoric over a potential clash with Saddam Hussein.

Meanwhile, 3,000 U.S. soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, waited to see whether they would be ordered to Kuwait for a new round of desert exercises.

"We have sought no confrontation with Saddam Hussein. We never did and we don't now," the president told reporters in the Oval Office.

"My concern is that we limit Saddam Hussein's ability to threaten his neighbors, that we do it with the no-fly zone and, in so doing, we keep our pilots safe," Clinton added.

On Friday, Saddam said

he would no longer shoot at coalition planes patrolling the two no-fly zones over Iraqi soil, which are designed to cripple Saddam's ability to mount threats against his neighbors.

Army officials said Friday that 5,000 members of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, had been ordered to deploy to Kuwait to take part in an ongoing exercise. By Monday, officials said they expected no more than 3,000 would be going — but insisted no final order had been issued.

"We have not gotten an execution order, and when it comes — if it comes — it might even be something less" than the 3,000, said III Corps spokesman, Army Lt. Col. Randy Schoel.

In a telephone interview, Schoel said soldiers at Fort

Hood were continuing with their normal routine, including practicing putting armored vehicles on a ship at Beaumont, Texas. "It is just an exercise," Schoel insisted.

A senior military official, asked about the delay, said, "We're in a watch-and-wait mode. We're watching to see if Saddam's words match his deeds."

To the embarrassment of Pentagon and administration officials, Kuwait balked over the weekend at accepting the latest troop deployment, apparently miffed at a lack of consultation prior to its announcement late Friday.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters Kuwait decided to accept more U.S. troops, but he declined to say exactly how many.

### America's reluctant allies



- 1 Turkey has barred the use of its southern air base in Incirlik for the launching of air strikes against Iraq.
- 2 Kuwait has agreed to the deployment of additional U.S. troops to add to their 1,200-strong contingent.
- 3 Bahrain will allow U.S. F-16s to be based on its territory to help enforce Iraq's southern "no-fly" zone.
- 4 Saudi Arabia has not permitted the Americans to launch air strikes against Iraq from their territory.

AP/Wm. J. Castello

## Report cites negligence Saudi Arabia bombing

WASHINGTON (AP) — A failure by the Pentagon and key field commanders to focus on terrorism contributed to the death toll in the bombing in Saudi Arabia that killed 19 U.S. airmen in June, according to a task force report released Monday.

In response, Defense Secretary William Perry ordered a review of whether any Air Force personnel could be court-martialed.

President Clinton praised the

vicemen living at Khobar Towers in Dhahran, site of the bombing.

"Khobar Towers was identified to Gen. Schwalier as one of the three highest priority soft targets in the region," the report notes.

But Schwalier seems not to have made terrorism a top priority, the report said, contending that he "never raised to his superiors force protection matters that were beyond his capability to correct. Nor did he raise the issue of expanding the perimeter or security outside of the fence with his Saudi counterparts."

An end-of-tour memo written by Schwalier the day before the June 25 bombing does not even mention the terrorist threat as a focus of his tenure.

Perry was not specifically criticized by the task force, which was commissioned by the Pentagon and headed by retired Army Special Forces Gen. Wayne Downing. However, the Downing report cites as its first finding the Pentagon's failure to issue orders on protecting forces housed in buildings.

"I am concerned that insufficient attention is being given to anti-terrorism measures and force protection," Downing wrote in a memo to Perry accompanying the task force report.

With thousands of Army troops packing bags for possible deployment to Kuwait, Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the military is taking steps to coordinate its response to terrorism. Still, the four-star general admitted to being caught off guard.

"All of us have been surprised by the size and sophistication and the destructiveness of this attack," Shalikashvili said.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

### Artist at work

Courtney Jordan, a junior business management major, sculpts a pot during a pottery class at the MSC Plus Center. The center offers a variety of courses ranging from cake decorating to judo.

## Council unites student groups

BY LAURA OLIVEIRA  
THE BATTALION

A student body executive council comprised of representatives from different campus organizations has united to tackle major problems that Texas A&M students face.

The council was created by Carl Baggett, student body president and a senior accounting major. Baggett said the council heightens interaction among organizations on campus and fulfills his vision to give a voice to diverse groups.

Chris Reed, speaker of the Student Senate and a senior finance major, said the council serves as a platform for expressing a variety of student viewpoints.

"I think it is a great organization because it allows student leaders that have different perspectives to come together and talk about issues that are important to students," he said.

The council is led by Amy Bigbee, Student Government chief of staff and a senior chemical engineering major. Bigbee said the council's main goal is to develop solid solutions for complex problems.

"We have a goal of tackling problems that do not have immediate solutions," she said.

The council wants to deal with two major issues a year and create strategic plans for problems.

One goal is to bring a new convention center to College Station because the Memorial Student Center and Rudder Tower do not provide ample space for meetings and conferences.

The council is working on a list of guaranteed events that would be scheduled at the new center. They will also lobby potential developers.

Nikki Guerra, executive director of Minority Student Affairs and a senior civil engineering major, said she is pleased by the council's effectiveness. She said cooperation is the key to the council's success.

"We can pull resources together and work as one big group to face problems," she said. "I think we can really make a difference."



Baggett

"I think we need to do a great deal more to protect our young men and women."

Newt Gingrich  
Speaker of the House

Clinton said. "We're going aggressively to implement the ..."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, campaigning in his home state, accused the Clinton administration of being "consistently in its approach to protect Americans from terrorism."

"I think we need to do a great deal more to protect our young men and women," he said.

Clinton's focus of Perry's review is expected to be Air Force Brig. Gen. J. "Terry" Schwalier, commander of the 4404th Wing and officer responsible for the security of the roughly 2,000 ser-

## GOP loses traditional edge on crime politics

WASHINGTON (AP) — Law and order was a powerful refrain for Republican Richard Nixon in the 1968 presidential campaign, and again for George Bush two decades later. But Bob Dole can't bank on party tradition as he tries to use the crime issue against President Clinton.

Mindful of the Democratic Party's painful lessons in crime politics, Clinton has spent much of his first term trying to neutralize the long-standing Republican advantage on the issue.

Monday's timely endorsement by the national Fraternal Order of Police was one sign of that. The nation's largest police organization backed Bush over Clinton four years ago, but the Democratic incumbent basked in a sea of blue uniforms this time in Cincinnati, just as Dole tried to push the crime and drugs issue to the forefront of the campaign.

"We have a straightforward approach: more police on the street, guns and drugs off the street," Clinton said earlier Monday at a White House ceremony, where he joined Attorney General Janet Reno in claiming credit in the war on crime

and in rattling off a string of statistics he said proved his point.

Begging to differ, Dole argues that rather than fight, Clinton has surrendered, particularly in the war on drugs. And on this latter point, he has statistics of his own: Clinton



Clinton

shrank the staff of the drug policy director's office, and the president's own administration recently reported alarming increases in drug use among 12- to 17-year olds.

Dole says this is no accident, and his television ads will soon feature some powerful footage to help make the point: video of Clinton laughing on MTV when asked if he would inhale marijuana if given the chance to relive his college years.

"Sure, if I could," Clinton said.

It is a startling image Dole hopes will shake up the race, one aimed at eroding Clinton's support among the suburban parents that Dole must win over if he is to defeat Clinton.



Dole

"I will make the moral issue clear," Dole said Monday in Pennsylvania as he pledged to cut drug use at least in half if elected and to double federal funding for prison construction. "There is right and there is wrong, and drug use is wrong."

This was the opening foray in a new Dole effort to focus voter attention on what he considers America's moral decline. There is plenty of evi-

dence to suggest voters share his concern, but little to suggest they blame Clinton.

An ABC News-Washington Post poll earlier this month, for example, showed Clinton with a narrow 46 percent to 40 percent edge

when voters were asked which presidential candidate they trusted more to fight crime. The numbers are testament to Clinton's task in escaping his party's past — not only on crime but on welfare and other so-called "wedge issues" used by Republicans in past national elections.

During the 1992 campaign, Clinton returned home to Arkansas to sign execution papers for a convict-

ed murderer — and overcame opposition from liberals to put the Democratic Party on the record in favor of capital punishment.

As president, Clinton overcame Republicans and the National Rifle Association opposition to pass two major gun-control measures, one banning certain assault-style weapons, the other requiring a waiting period for handgun purchases.

These laws are popular among working women and suburban moderates, perhaps the two most critical constituencies in the presidential election.

As Dole tries to turn the crime issue in his favor, he is turning to the familiar liberal vs. conservative rhetoric of Republican campaigns past.

Speaking at Villanova University, Dole said Monday: "From packing the federal court with ideological liberals to running up the white flag in the war on drugs to taking a go-easy approach in prosecuting criminals, this administration's crime policies can be summed up in the phrase, 'Speak loudly but carry a small stick,' or probably no stick at all."

### THE BATTALION TODAY

#### Best Kick It

Michael J. Pejo, tae kwon do team instructor, finds a life in kickboxing. Aggiefife, Page 3

#### The Clutch

Aggie netter Stie Smedsrud earning accolades as team's go-to player. Sports, Page 7

#### Gay Marriage

Edwin: Homosexual couples should be given the legal right to marry. Opinion, Page 11