



75  
44

TODAY



75  
55

TOMORROW

See extended forecast, Page 6.

## BRIEFS

### Supreme Court lets 209 stand

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court let stand California's groundbreaking Proposition 209 on race and gender preferences in hiring and school admissions. The court's decision is a major victory for affirmative action foes. Predictions now will follow the court's lead.

The court's decision, without comment Monday, is the highest court's rejection of the California measure. The measure, an amendment to the state constitution, says that state and local governments cannot discriminate against or grant preferential treatment to any individual on the basis of race, sex, ethnicity or national origin.

The court had said the anti-affirmative action measure violated constitutional rights and was an unconstitutional way to promote equal opportunity. Opponents contended the measure relegated racial minorities to the status of second-class citizens in California.

### Peace talks off slow start

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new round of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians got off to a slow start Monday as U.S. media explained the delegation headed by Yasser Arafat lacked experience.

The Palestinian leader yielded to Israeli demands and decided hours later to accept the terms of a deal. In the meantime, Secretary of State William Clinton shuttled between the two sides trying to set a schedule for negotiations.

A State Department spokesman said experts were to discuss setting up a joint airport and seaport, an international zone and a corridor for trade between the West Bank and Gaza.

### Dow Jones climbs as markets recover

NEW YORK (AP) — Apparently the market's wild and scary week behind it, the Dow Jones industrial average soared Monday to its highest point in over a year, reflecting a recovery in Asian markets and optimism about the U.S. economy.

The Dow jumped 232.31 points to close at 7,674.39. The rebound came just a week after the Dow had tumbled a record 554 points because of a panicky sell-off in Hong Kong and elsewhere in Asia, Europe and Latin America.

The 1.35 billion shares traded on all U.S. stock markets were settling down to a more normal level after the frantic pace of the week. The Dow closed at 7,674.39, up from 7,442.08 last Tuesday. The rebound came as a sharp gain Monday on the key New York stock market and recovery in other Asian and European markets as well.

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### online

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# CS to vote on conference center proposal

By ROBERT SMITH  
Senior staff writer

College Station voters will go to the polls today to decide if the city should build a proposed hotel and conference center.

The proposed Wolf Pen Creek hotel and conference center was approved 4-3 by the College Station City Council in July.

If the center is approved, city officials will move forward with the Wolf Pen Creek Development Team, which has proposed a \$4

million Sheraton hotel and an \$8 million office center next to the conference center.

College Station Mayor Lynn McIlhaney made the deciding vote for the Wolf Pen Creek conference center after the city council cast a split vote in July.

"We've had three individual studies done and they all found that it (hotel and conference center) is feasible from a market standpoint and a financial standpoint," she said.

Under the proposal, the city will fund a \$6 million conference center and the Wolf Pen

Creek Team will fund the hotel and office.

McIlhaney said the city will commit no more than \$6 million to the project.

"The way it is set up, we will be able to have a convention center at no costs to the taxpayers," McIlhaney said.

Councilman Swiki Anderson said the conference center is a bad idea.

"We could spend our money better on essential services like streets, lighting and water," Anderson said.

If the city and Wolf Pen Creek do not reach

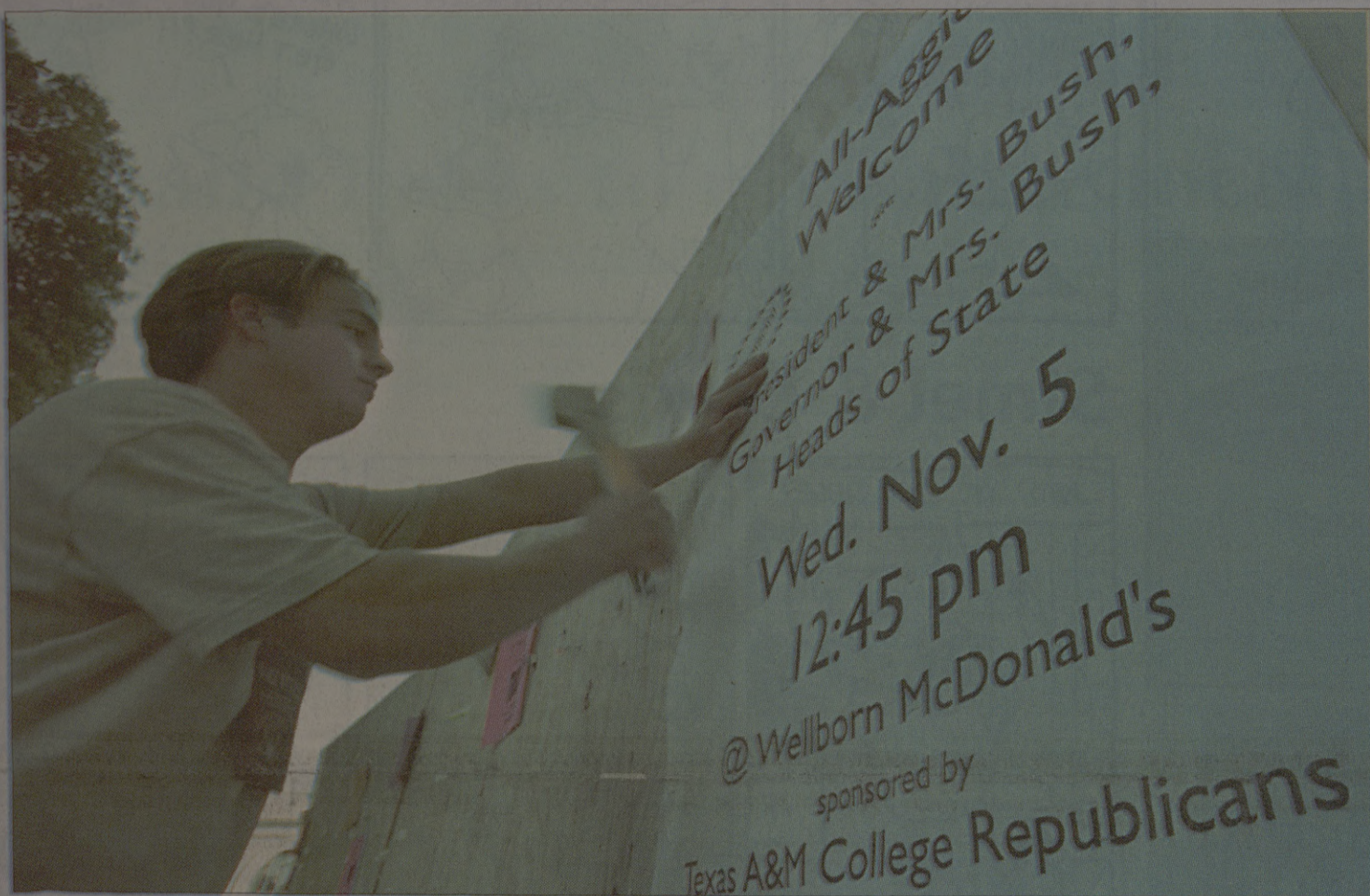
an agreement, the city will begin negotiations with the Leddy Company, which has proposed a hotel and conference center on the Northgate "mud lot."

Voters today only will decide if the center should be built, but not where it will be built.

The ballot reads: "Shall the City Council of the city of College Station proceed with the construction of a convention center?"

The Wolf Pen Creek proposal, at Dartmouth Street and Holleman Drive, includes a full service hotel, office building and a conference center.

## In anticipation ...



Jay Sivacek, Texas A&M University College Republicans treasurer, hangs posters for the arrival of the Bush Library opening day entourage.

# Community invited to greet Bushes, VIPs upon train arrival Wednesday

By JOEY JEANETTE SCHLUETER  
Staff writer

Texas A&M students and residents of Bryan-College Station are invited to welcome former President George Bush and his wife, Barbara, at their arrival tomorrow in College Station.

The Bushes will come in on a Union Pacific train at 1:15 p.m. Students should arrive by 12:45 p.m. at the McDonald's on the corner of George Bush Drive and Wellborn Road. The train stop is behind McDonald's near Marion Pugh Street.

Students must pass a security screening to be at the arrival. Bush will be accompanied by his son Gov. George W. Bush and his wife, Laura.

Dignitaries, friends and guests to the dedication also are coming in on the train with Bush.

The Bushes will be greeted by the Ross Volunteers Honor Corps and the A&M Consolidated Marching Band.

Jeff Lowther, drum major and a senior high-school student, said the band's 160 members will perform tomorrow.

Lowther said band members hope to meet Bush.

"We are all looking forward to it," Lowther said. "I think it's a great honor to play for the Bushes."

The Ross Volunteers Honor Corps, the official honor guard for the governor of Texas, will be at the arrival.

The Bengal Belles and A&M Consolidated cheerleaders also are expected to attend.

After the Bushes' arrive, they will be transported to the library and museum. Bush and his family will stay in his apartment located above the Bush Conference Center.

Along with students and residents, the College Republicans will be on hand to welcome the former president and family at the train stop.

PTTS officials said students should park on main campus near Kyle Field and walk to the event.

Students are urged to take caution when crossing Wellborn Road and George Bush Drive and obey traffic signals.

On Thursday, Bush will attend the dedication of the Bush Presidential Library and Museum with other dignitaries, including President Bill Clinton and former Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

## 1906 - 1936

# Protests, Bonfire and 12th Man mark chapter in Texas A&M history

By JENARA KOCKS  
Staff writer

The beginning of the 20th century was a trying time for the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. The first of the century was marked by a student strike, fires and financial problems for the college.

On Feb. 8, 1908, according to We are the Aggies by John A. Adams Jr., Class of '73, the Class of '08 staged a strike by not attending classes, because their complaints against Henry Hill Harrington, the college president, were not addressed by the Board of Directors. By Feb. 13, 1908, 525 of the 630 students had left the campus.

The Alumni Association persuaded most students to return to campus by promising to investigate Harrington and bring charges before the Board of Directors. More than 400 students came back to campus by March 10, 1908.

The Board of Directors continued to support Harrington despite the 12 charges the

association presented to them June 9. Harrington resigned Aug. 7, 1908.

Fires were the next disaster that plagued the college. On Nov. 11, 1911, a fire destroyed the Mess Hall. Less than one year



Second in a four-part series detailing significant events in the growth of the University.

later, May 27, 1912, Old Main, the first building on campus, and most of the college's records also were destroyed by fire.

Henry C. Dethloff, an A&M history professor and author of the book, A Centennial History of Texas A&M University, said the

Board of Directors had to ask the governor of Texas for an appropriation of \$100,000 for the construction of a new mess hall for 2,500 students.

The directors awarded a contract of \$190,845 in August 1912 to Texas Building Company of Fort Worth to build the Academic Building to replace Old Main.

Dr. David L. Chapman, University archivist and Class of '67, and Dr. Donald H. Dyal, director of Cushing Memorial Library, said members of the Texas Legislature tried to close Texas A&M and use it as a college of agriculture at the University of Texas. Chapman and Dyal said the school was \$87,000 in debt during 1912.

Chapman said the legislators' thought closing A&M would save the legislature money.

Chapman said Edward Benjamin Cushing, president of the Board of Directors in 1912 and Class of 1880, saved the University.

PLEASE SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 10.

### A&M Timeline

- A&M College established
- Old Main destroyed by fire
- The Battalion, Aggie Band, Muster, Silver Taps and Ross Volunteers formed
- Lawrence Sullivan Ross serves as A&M president
- Student strike occurs
- Cushing keeps A&M open
- ROTC program and traditions of Bonfire, Twelfth Man, Aggie War Hymn and Reveille established
- A&M enrollment limited to men

1876  
to  
1906

1906  
to  
1936

1936  
to  
1966

1966  
to  
1997

Wednesday

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Thursday

QUATRO OAKLEY/THE BATTALION