



Kerry picks Edwards as running mate

By Ron Fournier
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Presidential candidate John Kerry on Tuesday chose former rival John Edwards as his running mate, selecting the smooth-talking southern populist over more seasoned politicians in hopes of injecting vigor and small-town appeal to the Democratic ticket.

"I trust that met with your approval," Kerry told a boisterous crowd of supporters in Pittsburgh who shouted their consent while waving hot-off-the-presses "Kerry-Edwards" placards.

The two senators — Kerry of Massachusetts and Edwards of North Carolina — sealed their political marriage during a 15-minute, early morning telephone conversation that papered over their differences in style and substance.

"I was humbled by his offer," Edwards said in a statement, "and thrilled to accept it."

Kerry, 60, a decorated Vietnam veteran whom critics call aloof, calculated that his ticket didn't need foreign policy heft as much as a bit of pizzazz and the quick embrace of party activists who had rallied behind Edwards' stealth campaign for the No. 2 slot.

Edwards, 51, who made a fortune as a trial lawyer before jumping into politics in the 1990s as a self-styled champion for the common man, edged out several Washington veterans under consideration, including Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri and Sen. Bob Graham of Florida.

Along with Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, a veteran of state politics with a low national profile, they were finalists in a process that began four months ago with a list of about 25 candidates.

In March, after defeating Gephardt, Graham, Edwards and several others in the Democratic primaries, Kerry told his vice presidential

search team to help him find a political soul mate who would be "ready at any minute" to assume the presidency.

Republicans on Tuesday questioned whether Edwards met either standard. While President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney politely welcomed Edwards to a "spirited race," their allies at the Republican National Committee issued a thick press release that called the first-term senator a politically inexperienced phony who is beholden to the trial-lawyer lobby.

"Disingenuous, unaccomplished liberal," the RNC said.

Shape up



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Each Zutavern, a second year mechanical engineering doctoral student, uses a lathe, a machine for shaping an article of wood or metal, to bore a metal chalk holder in the Halbouty Geosciences building. A chalk holder is similar to a mechanical pencil for chalk.

Foundation Board names new member

By Shawn C. Millender
THE BATTALION



SUROVIK

Bob Surovik, Class of 1958, is the newest member of the Texas A&M Foundation Board of Trustees.

After narrowing the field of candidates to three, the Association of Former Students announced the appointment in late May.

"I was very excited. I felt like this was an honor, but I also felt like this was going to be a lot of work," Surovik said.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for allocating funds that go through the A&M Foundation. Board members meet four times a year.

Surovik said his duties will not interfere with his work as president of his law firm, McMahon, Surovik, Suttle, Buhrmann, Hicks, Gill and Cannon, P.C. in Abilene.

"I will be surprised if it takes less than 12 to 14 days of my year, which won't be a problem since I made 35 trips to College Station as president of the Former Students Association in 2001," Surovik said.

Surovik, former president of the Abilene A&M Club, will replace James Creel, whose seven-year term ended June 30.

"I've known Jim a long time, and I've always regarded him as outstanding in his field," Surovik said. "He's an exceptional person and I hope I can be as good at this as he was."

Steve Suttle has been a partner in Surovik's law firm for 37 years. He said Surovik is more than qualified to take on this job.

"His integrity is unimpeachable and his character is beyond reproach," Suttle said. "He's worked with charitable organizations in the past so he knows the rules and laws

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Blood donations sought from Aggies

By Pammy Ramji
THE BATTALION

For the past few months, there has been a shortage of blood in the United States. The Texas A&M chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, a national co-ed service fraternity, is sponsoring a blood drive this week on campus, which started on Monday, and will be held through Friday.

The American Red Cross' goal is to receive 350 units of blood this week, but due to the lack of students donating blood, that goal may not be reached.

Aggies can donate blood at the Rudder Fountain area, SBISA Dining Hall, the Biochemistry-Biophysics Building and Wehner.

Lori Patterson, team supervisor for American Red Cross, said that it is important for students to donate blood.

"Right now we are in what we call an appeal because our blood supply is at a critical stage. We have been in a critical stage for the past few months and it is difficult to come out of

it," Patterson said.

American Red Cross territory manager for Bryan-College Station, Theresa Evangelista, hopes that more students donate blood this week.

"We certainly appreciate students coming out to donate blood," Evangelista said.

The biggest importance of blood donation to the Red Cross is that it saves lives.

"Hospitals wait for us to get blood, check it and send it to them," Evangelista said.

Many students such as senior electrical engineering major Tuan Le have been donating blood since high school.

"I donate blood as often as I can because it feels good knowing that you can help save someone's life," Le said.

Each person's blood donation helps save up to three lives, but only less than one percent of people eligible in the United States actually donate.

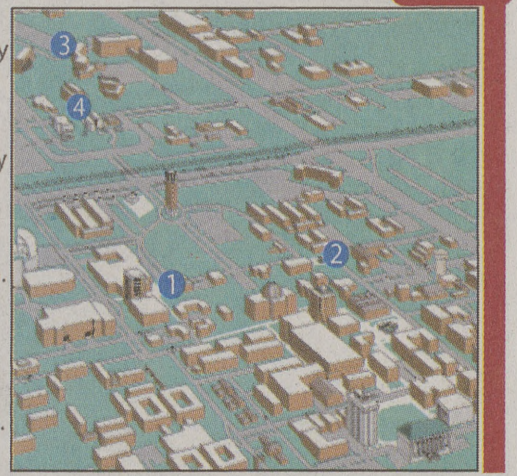
"If everyone in the United States who could donate blood

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BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross will be on campus this week to hold a blood drive sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega.

- 1 RUDDER FOUNTAIN
Thursday through Friday
from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- 2 SBISA DINING HALL
Wednesday through Friday
from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- 3 WEHNER
Wednesday from 10 a.m.
to 4:30 p.m.
- 4 BIOCHEMISTRY-BIOPHYSICS BUILDING
Wednesday from 10 a.m.
to 4 p.m.



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MAP COURTESY OF: TAMU.EDU
SOURCE: THERESA EVANGELISTA, AMERICAN RED CROSS

Professor named to state bar committee

By Suzy Green
THE BATTALION

Mario Rojo del Busto, director of international faculty and scholar services at Texas A&M, began his term on the State Bar of Texas Standing Committee on Laws Relating to Immigration and Nationality on June 25.



ROJO DEL BUSTO

"It's an honor to be able to serve in this committee," Rojo del Busto said. "I look forward to communicating the concerns of the higher education community to the committee to improve immigration laws."

The committee studies current and proposed laws pertaining to immigration and nationality and makes recommendations to improve these laws, said Paul Parsons, an Austin immigra-

tion lawyer and the chairman of the committee.

"This committee brings together many people who are extremely active in this area of law," Parsons said.

"This appointment is a recognition of A&M's professional staff expertise in immigration law," said Emily Ashworth, A&M assistant provost for international programs. "It allows us to have a voice at the state level to address immigration related issues."

"As a member of this committee, it will be easier to communicate our concerns in higher education and make recommendations in areas that it may be necessary to improve," Rojo del Busto said.

The State Bar of Texas is a professional organization for Texas attorneys that serves as an administration agency of the state's judicial branch. The State Bar helps courts improve the administration of justice and the quality of le-

gal services to the public.

"I'll be able to interact more directly with federal agencies that are responsible for implementing immigration laws," Rojo del Busto said. "I plan to make them aware of concerns we have in higher education."

Rojo del Busto will be able to update the committee at its quarterly meetings from the viewpoint of foreign students and faculty, Parsons said.

"In this time of increased security checks and restrictions on foreign nationals including international students and faculty, he will be able to add the perspective relating to international education as it relates to immigration," Parsons said.

"Rojo del Busto has had experience in practicing immigration related law and handling international faculty and visiting scholars," Ashworth said.

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Gunn elected speaker of the Faculty Senate

By Chelsea Sledge
THE BATTALION

When J. Martyn Gunn moved from Great Britain to join the Texas A&M faculty in 1976, he told his wife and daughter that it was only temporary. 28 years later, Gunn and his wife are still living in College Station, both employed at the University.



GUNN

"There is a tremendous opportunity for faculty at A&M," said Gunn, a professor of Biochemistry and Nutrition and Associate Head of the Department of Biochemistry and Genetics. "There

are not a lot of restrictions with research. It's a very friendly campus and I particularly like that."

Gunn was given the honor of being voted speaker of the Faculty Senate in May. Nominated by the A&M Faculty Senate, three other opponents were slated. As speaker, Gunn will preside over monthly faculty senate meetings and serve as chairman of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. In addition, he will meet with A&M President Robert M. Gates, administrators and student leaders.

"The speaker is also regarded in a sense as representative of Texas A&M University's faculty," said John Fike,

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