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Political cross-fires rock Mattox's campaign

Attorney General Jim Mattox, for the second time this fall, returned from a trip out of the country to find himself in a political cross-fire that rocks his campaign train.

Last week Mattox returned from Central America to face what remained of the wrath of several Texas county treasurers who speculated that he was, in effect, using political blackmail to shake them down for campaign contributions.

Almost three weeks ago, Mattox told the annual conference of the County Treasurers Association of Texas that a legal opinion that could erode their powers was pending before him.

A couple of days later, Mattox's campaign asked for money and support from treasurers across the state. The solicitation riled some treasurers, including some of the GOP persuasion, and they took the issue to the press. Mattox's staff was really huffing to stomp out the brushfire before the boss returned.

Manipulation denied
Mattox, now running for governor, has been asked to render a legal opinion whether county payrolls should be handled by the treasurers or the county auditors.

A spokesman for Mattox said that his 11-member opinion committee would probably resign if the attorney general tried to manipulate the opinion.

Lab equipment donations made

Donations continue to come in for the Cobas Mira Chemistry System for the Eagle Lake Community Hospital's lab department. New donors are added to the end of the list: Pink Ladies, Mr. and Mrs. David Wintermann, Mrs. Griff (Lora) Thomas, Mrs. Christine Karstedt, the late Bill Taylor memorial fund, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pidgeon, Dr. and Mrs. Jose Ugarte, Mrs. Esther Sunderman in memory of Mrs. C.E. (Marjorie) Eovitt, Eagle Lake Alcohol Anonymous, Fred and Eunice Frnk in memory of Mrs. Marjorie Eovitt, Sissy Brisco memorial fund, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harrell, Laker Printing, Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Stephens, Frank and Barbara Davidson, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Altar Society, Mrs. Mary Markus, Louise and Lloyd Spalinger.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Miss your reports

Dear Elizabeth:
I have missed your reports on the Eagle Lake Museum lately. They have been very interesting, and I read them every week.

I have also read about your illness and hope you will be back soon. Your reports and the Headlight have kept me in touch with my friends in Eagle Lake — so please get well.

Lucille and I pray for your good health.
God bless you,
Bill Wallace

State Capitol Highlights By Lyndell Williams

Mattox vs. PUC

Earlier, Mattox returned from Russia to find the Public Utilities Commission had kicked him off rate cases representing consumers. They'll fight it out in the Texas Supreme Court.

Last week, PUC commissioners continued the sabre-rattling by hiring a prestigious Austin law firm to represent them in the high court drama.

But the question of conflict of interest arose once it was discovered that the law firm also represents utility companies that are challenging PUC rates.

AIDS testing debate

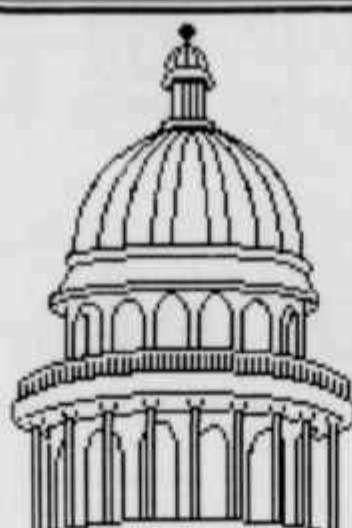
State Insurance Board members listened to insurance companies push hard for permanent rules giving them the right to test prospective policy purchasers for AIDS. The industry says it can't stay in business if it has to insure sick people.

"We're not engaged in any kind of social service, or welfare service, or health service. We're in the insurance business," one spokesman said.

Four oil, gas operators agree to well plugging penalties

The Railroad Commission assessed \$3,000 in administrative penalties Monday to four oil and gas operators for problems under the Commission's well plugging rules.

The operators agreed to the penalties without admitting any violation of Commission rules. Companies and penalties included McDonald and Midkiff of Midland, \$1,000 for one inactive and unplugged well each on the Midkiff B and C leases, Upton County, Largo Oil Co. of Longview, \$1,000 for one



But Glenn Maxey, former Capitol aide, now head of a gas group, warned of the need for strict limits on such testing.

He wants the industry board from requiring anyone to take an AIDS blood test except in certain cases, where health history raises the possibility of AIDS.

Conviction reserved
The cattle theft conviction of former state Rep. David London was reversed last week by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

London had served about one year

of a 10-year prison sentence, according to his Austin attorney.

In an unanimous opinion, the appeals court said prosecutors should not have been allowed to question a defense witness about her brother's criminal record.

London, a former Bonham resident, served in the House in 1981-82.

Other highlights

"CBS television's '60 Minutes' has prepared a report on the big money politics of the Texas Supreme Court."

"U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen told capital reporters he will run for reelection in 1988. No challenger has surfaced."

"State Rep. Bobby Aikin, D-Commerce, announced he will not seek re-election, but will run instead for an East Texas seat on the State Board of Education. His legendary father, the late Sen. A.M. Aikin, played a major role in creating the agency in the 1949 school reform bill."

"Another son of a former state official, Jerry Langdon of Midland, is running for the Texas Railroad Commission. His father, the late Jim Langdon, served on the panel from 1963-1977."

"Texas prison board chairman Al Hughes relinquished his gavel last week, but will serve out his term. A real estate developer, he has quietly earned respect for guiding the various prison construction projects out of a scandal-ridden era."

"Officials for the University of Texas and Texas A&M said they will increase efforts to improve higher education in South Texas."

"A state district judge postponed a hearing on whether rock singer David Bowie should submit to an AIDS virus test after Bowie, now on world tour, volunteered to take it between concert stops."

"A Dallas woman who filed sexual assault charges against Bowie, asked the court to order his return to Texas to take the blood test. Bowie denies the assault."

Dial will not challenge Sweeney

Joe Dial, a Victoria Rancher who has been traveling the 14th U.S. Congressional District considering candidacy in the Republican primary, has announced he will not become a candidate for the office.

Dial said when he was prompted to challenge incumbent Mac Sweeney he decided to enter the race only if his candidacy would not be divisive or overly disruptive of the Republican effort to keep the 14th district seat.

"I am convinced I could have beaten Congressman Sweeney fair and square," Dial said in a news release. "However, my victory over an incumbent Republican might have split our party and the Democrats would certainly take advantage of that division in November (of 1988). So, for party unity and to give our present Congressman five or six extra months to get his ship ready for a tough general election, I will not run and am withdrawing my name from consideration in 1988."

Dial recently spoke to the Eagle Lake Lions Club and outlined problems he saw with the federal government. He said it was his goal to have "a conservative government fully responsive to the will of the people."

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Next long ballot voters face will be March 8

Now that the "faceless" constitutional election is history, you may be interested to note that on March 8, voters again will be asked to go to the polls and vote another lengthy ballot.

This time, though, names will be on the ballot instead of amendments or referenda.

The election on that date, dubbed "Super Tuesday" because a large number of southern states will hold their presidential (and other) primaries then, will be for county-wide or higher offices. Because of the new early primary, state laws have changed for city and school board elections, which were held in early April.

For the big election, in all Texas counties, the sheriff's office will be up for grabs, as well as commissioners in precincts one and three. All district attorneys will stand for election. As you get higher up the ladder, some district judge seats will be on the ballot, as well as various court of appeals judges.

There are 150 state representatives up for election and in the state senate, 15 seats are up for election. In the Court of Criminal Appeals, three positions will be on the ballot; Texas Supreme Court, four places, and Railroad Commission, two positions.

For U.S. Congress, 27 districts in the state will be asked to cast ballots, and on the other side of the Hill, Lloyd Bentsen's seat is up for election.

Of course, voters also will be asked to cast their votes for U.S. President and Vice President.

Or, of course, voters also will be asked to cast their votes for U.S. President and Vice President.

Lets Look Back... 48 Years Ago

(October 20, 1939)

The Eagles now have two wins and one loss; they defeated the Rosenberg Brahmas 18-6 Friday night... The Eagle Lake High School Band, which did a mighty fine job in cheering those Eagles to victory last Friday evening, were led in their yells by three new cheerleaders. These popular high school students are Misses Nadine Causey, Dorothy Ellen

Kohleffell and Lois Goode...

Congratulations are extended Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Beane on the birth of a fine baby boy Sunday night... Four grass fires during the week have given the firemen plenty of "practice"...

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Heck of Eagle Lake announce the marriage of their daughter, Lorene Heck, of San Antonio, to Ray Wilkins, also of that city, the wedding having been kept a secret for some time.

(October 17, 1963)

T.J. Smith, formerly city manager of Pearlsall, has been named the new city manager for Eagle Lake, announced Mayor E.H. Shirley... Doris Lednicki, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lednicki, was elected FFA chapter sweetheart for the year 1963-64... Eight persons were assessed still fines in court Monday on charges of illegal hunting. State Game Warden Leo Kohleffell at Columbus was assessed in rounding up the illegal hunters by state game wardens from throughout the area...

Miss Patsy Louise Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee, represented the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department at the Fair of the Fair contest in Garwood this week. Miss Julia Wells, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Wells Jr. was selected by the Eagle Lake Lions Club to represent them in the Fair of the Fair contest... Mrs. L.H. Dye and Mrs. James Adams flew to Memphis, Tennessee October 6 to attend funeral services for their aunt, Mrs. J.W. Owens on October 7 in Bolivar, Tennessee. They returned home Thursday... Mrs. Sam Austin of this city and Miss Dorothy Austin of Beaumont spent Friday-Sunday in Dallas at the State Fair.

GG's Greatest Gender Contest



GG's Greatest Gender contest, which started the opening of duck/goose season, has put hunters to the test of who can bring in the biggest and the best bird. Points are calculated at the following rate: 10 points per pound of body weight and 1 point per inch wingspread. Rules are: 1. Hunter must register before hunt; 2. Bird must be registered within six hours of kill; 3. No foreign objects in birds; 4. All ties decided by coin toss (hunter's luck will prevail). Divisions include: 1. Non-greater Canadian (regular geese - Snows, Blues, Specs, Lesser Canadians); 2. Greater Canadian; 3. Earliest limit killed (minimum 4 hunter party); 4. Most unusual bird (duck or goose); 5. Junior division (14 or under); 6. Longest distance hunt (residence to Eagle Lake). Prizes coincide with the divisions: 1. Browning 3 inch Mag. 12 gauge; 2. Marlin 10 gauge "goose gun"; 3. \$200 gift certificate at GG's; 4. Free Mount (Gary Harris Taxidermy); 5. Remington 1100 20 gauge; 6. Free weekend hunt (1988-89) with GG Hunting Club. These local hunters pictured above are leading the contest. In the left photo: Joe L. Yuen (right) and Joseph Montcash hold up a Speckle Belly that Joe killed one afternoon behind his house near a rice field north of Eagle Lake. The bird weighed 6 1/2 pounds (65 points) and had a wingspread of 59 inches (59 points). His total points for the bird are 124 points. In the right photo: Wes Perry (center) is proud of his Snow goose he killed one foggy morning. After the log lifted and with the help of his father, John Perry (right), and their dog "D.D." they were able to locate the bird. Clint Gerson (left) is helping Wes hold up the bird. The contest will continue through the season.

at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with Father Jesse Eures officiating. The main event, the fish fry, was becoming a reality as VFW members gathered at the Community Center to start preparing for the crowd expected. A total of 473 tickets were sold with many sold at the door. "It was a huge success and the community's response was great," commented VFW commander Wilfred Lueddecke and ladies auxiliary president Catherine Berger. "The surge of ticketholders all at once took us by surprise and we were unable to keep up with frying the fish. We're sorry you had to wait for your meal, but we wanted to make sure your meal was fresh and hot. This being our first time on preparing the fish, we learned a lot and will be prepared better next time."

Flagraising ceremony, fish fry held Veterans' Day

The Rice Area Memorial Post 8783 of Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Ladies Auxiliary celebrated Veterans' Day, Wednesday, November 11 with activities held throughout the day.

At 8:30 a.m., VFW sponsored a flagraising ceremony at the Eagle Lake Middle School. All the classes gathered around the flag pole while principal Charles Abel introduced the special guests. Guest speaker, Elmer

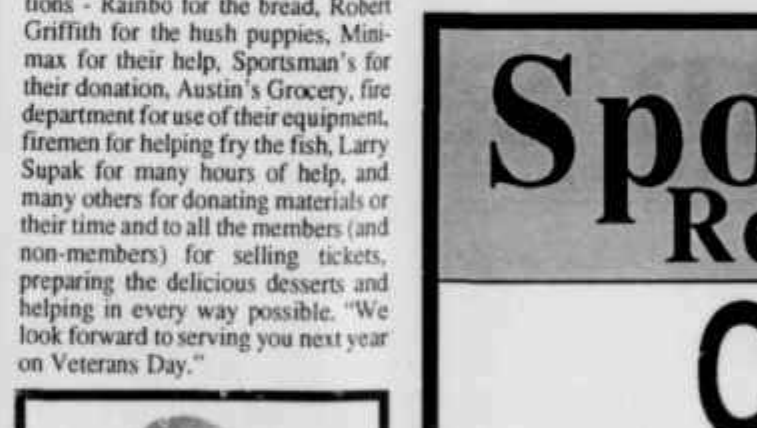
Stuss gave a very informative talk on the veterans and their role in the history of the world.

As the flags were being raised, everyone sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America" accompanied by the Eagle Lake Middle School Band, under the direction of band director Kerry Porter. Soloist Bonnie Benge filled the air by performing "Taps."

At noon, a special Mass was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with Father Jesse Eures officiating.

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Tanya Bunge accepted in honor society

Tanya Marcarelle Bunge, a student at Southwest Texas State University, was initiated Sunday into Kappa Delta Phi.

Kappa Delta Phi is an honor society for students majoring in education. In order to qualify one must have a 3.0 grade point average, be of junior standing and have a major in education.

Attending her fall initiation tea were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Marcarelle, and her sister, Lori Marcarelle.

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