

## Babbitt, duPont drop from race

Democrat Bruce Babbitt and Republican Pete du Pont fell by the presidential campaign wayside on Thursday, while Vice President George Bush said "I'm telling the truth" about GOP rival Bob Dole in his tough television commercials.

With one exception, the six Democratic survivors converged on Texas for a two-hour debate broadcast live on public television.

Republicans Bush, Dole, Jack Kemp and Pat Robertson vied for support in Nevada's caucuses, a competition that drew little notice with delegate-rich primaries just around the corner.

Babbitt made his exit gracefully in a quip-filled Washington news conference. "Look, I'm not going to slash my throat if we don't raise taxes

tomorrow" said the former Arizona governor, who had asked voters to stand up for a national sales tax to reduce the deficit.

Babbitt, who finished fifth in Iowa's caucuses last week and sixth in New Hampshire's primary on Tuesday, said the campaign was "the greatest joy of my entire public life." He praised all his former rivals but endorsed none of them, saying he would do what he could to aid the eventual winner in the Democratic nomination.

du Pont, whose provocative ideas about fundamental change in Social Security and abolition of farm subsidies failed to attract much voter support, announced his withdrawal in news conference in Wilmington, Del.

"The campaign has lowered its flag but the crusade continues to march," said the former governor and congressman. He said his ideas are right for the country and "they're coming to America sooner or later."

Sen. Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee, hoping to emerge as the Democratic front-runner after Super Tuesday, said his rivals had taken positions that were out of the mainstream, and added he was the one who could lead the Democrats to victory in 1988.

"Dick Gephardt, for example, has changed one position after another. . . . Jesse Jackson hasn't had a single day of experience in government. Mike Dukakis hasn't had a single day's experience in foreign policy. We're going to lay it on the line in this campaign," he said.

## Marine accused of being CIA agent

## Responsibility taken in kidnapping

TYRE, Lebanon — A caller Thursday claimed the Islamic Revolutionary Brigades kidnapped a U.S. Marine officer and accused the officer of being a CIA agent.

The Arabic-speaking man, in a telephone call to a Western news agency, said the previously unknown group took Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins out of Beirut "after he was brought out from the south."

U.N. officials and Shiite Moslem militiamen staged a massive search for Higgins throughout south Lebanon and virtually sealed off the area around Tyre, 50 miles south of Beirut.

In Washington, President Reagan said he wants to rescue Higgins, but he offered no details. "We're doing

everything we can," he said at a photo session. "We're trying to find out as much as we can. We're trying to get him located, and certainly we want to rescue him."

A White House official, asked to explain the president's remark, said later that Reagan "was referring to the ongoing efforts on the part of the United Nations and governments to obtain the release of Higgins." The official spoke on condition he not be named.

There has been no mention by officials at the State Department, Pentagon or White House of any U.S. military action to rescue Higgins. Instead, officials repeatedly have emphasized that Higgins is under U.N. authority and control.

Gunmen on Wednesday blocked the coastal highway near Tyre and grabbed Higgins as he returned from a meeting with officials of Justice Minister Nabin Berri's Shiite Amal militia. Abdel Mahid Saleh, an Amal political leader, said he and Higgins had discussed efforts to free foreign hostages in Lebanon, in addition to other topics at the Tyre meeting.

Higgins was serving as chief of an observer group attached to U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said the United States would continue supplying soldiers for the observer group but declined to say if any new instruction would be sent to the Americans.

## Rebels stage largest attack in a year

USULUTAN, El Salvador — More than 600 rebels using mortars, grenades and automatic weapons attacked an infantry base and cotton cooperative early Wednesday in the biggest guerrilla operation since early 1987.

Officials said at least 18 people were killed and 14 wounded. The battle raged in and around this provincial capital of 70,000 people, 70 miles southeast of San Salvador, the capital.

Military officers said two detachments of about 300 leftist insurgents

each took part in the coordinated attacks, which included blowing up two bridges linking the capital and Usulután, El Salvador's eastern province.

Seven members of a civilian family — a couple and five children aged 7 months to nine years — were killed when a mortar shell hit their one-room brick and adobe home in a poor neighborhood just outside the 6th Infantry Brigade headquarters.

Col. Inocencio Montano, brigade commander, said five soldiers were killed in combat at advance posts

outside the base perimeter and no guerrillas penetrated the base. The attack began at 12:10 a.m. and lasted about three hours, he said.

Montano said four of the 55 U.S. military advisers stationed in El Salvador were at the base when the assault began, but none was in danger.

Radio Venceremos, the clandestine rebel transmitter, called the raid a success and claimed the attackers inflicted 190 casualties. It gave no breakdown of dead and wounded.

## Six-day student takeover has ended

AMHERST, Mass. — A six-day occupation of a University of Massachusetts building by minority students ended Wednesday after protesters and the school's chancellor agreed on reforms to correct alleged racial harassment on campus.

The takeover ended just before 1 p.m. when 150 minority students walked onto the steps of New Africa House and began to sing a gospel song, then raised their fists in a victory salute.

"We, the Third World students, wish to acknowledge the time and effort of the administration and the support of those on campus and elsewhere in the world," said Dwayne Warren, 22, a senior who served as spokesman for the protesters.

The five-page agreement was worked out between Chancellor Joseph Duffey and nine of the protesters late Tuesday night following nearly four hours of negotiations.

The pact included a promise to change the school's student conduct code to allow suspension of students found to commit acts of racial violence or harassment.

In addition, Duffey promised extensive renovation of the New Africa House and funds for educational and cultural activities for minority students.

Duffey also agreed to increased funding for the recruitment of minority students and teachers, but he rejected a demand for student involvement in hiring faculty members. Duffey also consented to the formation of a student committee to monitor progress of the pact.

The students said they debated the administration's response until just before noon Wednesday. An early-morning deadlock among protesters temporarily spread rumors they would

take over another campus building.

Protesters say racial tensions at the university began with a clash between blacks and whites following the 1986 World Series.

Joselle Costello, 24, a junior who remained at the New Africa House during the vigil, burst into tears shortly after the takeover ended.

"I feel like I'm going to faint — I haven't been able to sleep and I haven't been able to eat," said Costello. "But it was all worth it."

About 200 spectators, including Amy Carter, daughter of former President Jimmy Carter, watched the end of the takeover, which began Friday morning. Carter, 20, was among 14 people arrested in November 1986 at the university during a protest of CIA recruitment on campus. She was later acquitted of trespassing and disorderly conduct charges.

## Correction

In Tuesday's Daily Nebraskan a headline incorrectly said the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources was being considered for a project in Nigeria. The project is in Niger. Dr. John Yohe's title was also incorrect. Yohe is the program director of INTSORMIL.

The article incorrectly implied the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was competing for the crop project with Purdue University, Alabama A&M and Winrock International. UNL would be cooperating with these institutions if accepted for the project.

## Kennedy sworn in as 104th justice

WASHINGTON — Anthony McLeod Kennedy was sworn in as the nation's 104th Supreme Court justice Thursday, bringing a crucial tie-breaking vote to a court hampered by a vacancy the past eight months.

With a hand on his family Bible, Kennedy promised during a brief ceremony to "do equal right to the poor and to the rich." He then was seated at the high court bench, at the place traditionally reserved for the

junior justice.

President Reagan, who appointed Kennedy, did not attend the courtroom ceremony but Attorney General Edwin Meese III presented Kennedy's commission of office to the justices.

None of the three former court members still living attended the ceremony, Justice Lewis F. Powell, who Kennedy succeeds, and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger were in Florida.

In comments before the ceremony, Kennedy, 51, said he had a running start in his new job.

"I've been working. I'm ready for Monday," when the court ends its current recess, Kennedy said while posing for cameras outside the court building prior to his swearing-in.

"We're just delighted to be in Washington. The welcome has been very gracious," Kennedy said.

## In Brief

### Reagan budget focuses on education, science, AIDS

WASHINGTON — President Reagan Thursday sent Congress a \$1.09 trillion conciliatory, election-year budget combining his most restrained military request ever with proposals for more spending on education, science and the fight against AIDS.

"In presenting this budget, I am keeping my end of the bargain. I call upon Congress to uphold its end," Reagan said in the eighth and final budget of his presidency.

Unlike earlier Reagan budgets, the new document embodies an agreement on spending priorities already reached with Congress.

Reagan's 1989 budget calls for reducing the federal deficit from \$150.2 billion last year and the \$146.7 billion estimated for 1988 to \$129.5 billion in the fiscal year that begins next Oct. 1.

### Lawmakers fail to revive sports agents bill

Lawmakers blew the final whistle Thursday on a bill designed to protect college athletes from unethical and unscrupulous sports agents.

Sen. James McFarland of Lincoln offered a motion to place the bill on general file after the Judiciary Committee killed the bill last week. The motion failed 19-23. McFarland's motion needed 30 votes.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha led the battle against resurrecting LB1049, saying the measure unfairly would have criminalized sports agents and would not have protected athletes.

### Father of missing marine dies at 72

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The father of Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins died Thursday, one day after his son was abducted in Lebanon.

William F. Higgins, 72, died of heart failure at Humana Hospital Audubon, said hospital spokeswoman Donna Hazle.

He had been hospitalized with congestive heart failure, and his son came home in September on emergency leave from the Middle East to see him. The marine's mother died in April 1979.

The younger Higgins' family had been trying to reach him with news that his father was near death when they learned of his kidnapping.

### Judge to decide whether youth is a juvenile

PAPILLION — A 16-year-old Sarpy County youth who married a 37-year-old woman last month should be made a ward of the state and given a guardian, attorneys for the state argue.

Sarpy County District Judge Ronald Reagan was expected to decide whether the youth should be considered a juvenile or an adult. He heard testimony Tuesday from the youth, his wife and others.

### Governor's impeachment trial delayed one week

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The Arizona Senate on Wednesday granted Gov. Evan Mecham a one-week delay of his impeachment trial that was set to begin Monday.

The action came on a voice vote. Earlier in the day, the Senate defeated two motions for delay offered by the embattled governor's attorney, Murray Miller.

Miller had asked that the trial be put off until criminal charges of concealing a \$350,000 campaign loan are adjudicated. He contended that an impeachment trial would prejudice the criminal trial jury.

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