



RRC fails to make decision

Schneider rebirth?

Historic hotel may become home for senior citizens

By CATHY SPAULDING
Staff Writer

When it was the Schneider Hotel, it was a Pampa landmark, drawing travelers to its luxury accommodations and famous fine food.

But the Pampa Hotel, located at the corner of Russell and Atchison, has fallen into decay and has drawn little more than dust and transients since it closed in the mid-1960s.

If a Houston developer gets his way and a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Pampa (Schneider) Hotel may be reborn as a low-rent housing project for senior citizens.

Because the grant application is still under consideration by HUD, neither developer Robert Kaplin — who developed the Pam senior citizen apartments on N. Wells — nor state officials are saying anything about the transaction.

"We're not ready to make an announcement," a secretary to the developer said, adding that he has to have authorization from HUD to release the information. Kaplin has not been available for comment.

Ron Baugh, director of housing for the Texas Panhandle Community Action Agency, confirmed that HUD is considering a grant application and that a decision could be reached within a week.

"I would say that in four or five days we may have more definitive information," Baugh said, expressing concern that releasing too much information or negative information might endanger chances of getting the grant.

Baugh said the HUD funding would go to help the residents of the proposed 52-unit complex pay rent.

"The government will not pay



Old Hotel may be refurbished

for the renovation," he said. "HUD does not fund rehabilitations, but the project will be done under HUD specifications."

"I think there's a great deal of work to be done to bring the structure to the required standards," said Baugh, who toured the facility before submitting the grant application. "The structure and the exterior is very sound. It is supported with concrete reinforced steel girders."

But the inside of the five-story structure, as well as its windows and exterior trim, is in need of repair, Baugh said, indicating that the insides would have to be gutted to clear the debris and to create the 52 apartment units.

"This is not going to be a nursing home, so there won't be a kitchen or dining area," Baugh

stressed. "It will be primarily for older people so they can sustain themselves independently. It's very much like most apartment operations."

He added that the hotel has "more than adequate square feet" for what the developer is looking for. The size of the hotel will allow for several public gathering areas.

Right now, the vacant structure is filled with the debris from its heyday in the 1930s.

Built by Swiss immigrant and hotel entrepreneur Alex Schneider in 1927, it was one of the showplaces of the Panhandle with its woven-pattern brickwork, red tile roof and arched patios. The hotel stood just north of the Santa Fe railroad tracks and welcomed Panhandle travelers.

Before going into the hotel

trade, Schneider was a tanner and a musician who moved to the Panhandle in 1885. He organized the Panhandle's first brass band in Mobeetie in 1887. In 1890 he went back to his native Biel, Switzerland, where he operated a 60-room hotel. He returned to the United States in 1900.

The current hotel is actually the second Schneider Hotel. Schneider bought what was then the Holland Hotel in 1911. The house-like hotel was renamed and it soon became famous for its family-style service. Many of the meals were prepared by Schneider and his wife because they had trouble keeping cooks with the skill they demanded.

After working 13 years without a vacation, Schneider built the "new" hotel in 1927.

See HOTEL, Page two

'White oil' ruling delayed for week

By LARRY HOLLIS
Staff Writer

AUSTIN — The commissioners of the Texas Railroad Commission have delayed action in a pending decision on oil and gas rules in the Panhandle Field.

"They decided to delay it for another week," E. Ray Grasshoff, RRC information specialist, announced shortly after 1 p.m. today.

Grasshoff said commissioners discussed the Panhandle Field case for about an hour and a half, questioning examiners about the legal issues involved.

The spokesman said the case will be placed on the commissioners' agenda again for their meeting next Monday, May 13.

Meeting in Austin, the commissioners today discussed a recommended proposal issued Feb. 1 by RRC examiners which ruled against independent oil operators using liquefied gases for reporting purposes as crude oil.

Grasshoff said the three commissioners "were asking the examiners all kinds of questions" on the recommended decision.

The commissioners were expected to make a final decision on the proposal today but put the case off until next week.

Grasshoff last week said the commissioners usually completed their Monday morning meetings before noon. But the discussion this morning had continued into the early afternoon, Grasshoff said he had no idea when the decision would be forthcoming today.

The examiners had ruled against the independents, saying applicable statewide rules specifically prohibited the counting of liquefied gases as crude oil for gas-oil ratio purposes for the classification of wells.

At issue is the use of low temperature separation units or other similar equipment to strip liquids from natural gas on the leases to produce so-called white oil.

Final consideration of the decision comes more than 3½ years after Phillips filed an application with the RRC Sept. 1, 1981, asking for an amendment of the special field rules.

Phillips had protested the counting of liquefied hydrocarbons, obtained from the use of LTX units, as crude oil for the maintaining of oil well classification status.

The liquefied gases, variously referred to as "white oil," "albino oil" or "Panhandle crude," were allegedly being commingled with crude oil taken from the wells to increase the amount of oil being reported to the RRC.

Phillips alleged the independents had added the white oil to real oil in order for the wells to maintain the

TEAM members flock to Austin

AUSTIN (AP) — Supporters of a Senate bill to redefine casinghead gas thronged the Capitol today telling everybody the outcome of the measure could affect the economy of their Panhandle area.

Don Boucher, executive director of TEAM, an organization supporting the bill by Sen. Tati Santiesteban, D-El Paso, said about 175 people in two buses arrived from Borger, Dumas, Fritch, Groom, Pampa, Panhandle, Skellytown, Stinnett, White Deer, Lubbock, Levelland, Midland and Odessa.

"We plan to spend the morning visiting with senators and then attend the committee meeting this afternoon," said Boucher.

The Senate Natural Resources Committee heard testimony on the bill last Thursday and was scheduled to take a vote on the measure today.

The Senate bill would place in law a common practice since 1952," said Boucher, "and it would clarify which gas belongs to a well classified as an oil well, and which belongs to a gas well."

Boucher said that since oil wells can be spaced closer than gas wells, "the result is that far more wells can be drilled, benefiting both the royalty owners and the individuals who work in fields. It is an economic issue to the entire district."

Miles O'Laughlin of Pampa is chairman of TEAM.

proper gas to oil ratios established by the RRC for wells to be classified as oil wells.

RRC regulations require oil wells to pump no more than 100,000 cubic feet of gas per barrel of oil. Any well producing more than that ratio is classified as a gas well.

Joined by other majors, Phillips had claimed many of the independents' wells could not maintain the 100,000 to 1 ratio without counting the white oil production as crude oil.

The majors also have claimed the widespread gas production by the independents will severely deplete the natural gas reserves of the Panhandle Field more quickly.

In a recent response, Phillips spokesman Dan Harrison had stated current production rates could deplete the reserves within three to five years. He said the reserves could last 15 to 20 years at least under the conservation procedures being followed by the majors.

New construction valuations lagging

By LARRY HOLLIS
Staff Writers

Valuation of buildings issued permits by the city continued to indicate a downward trend in local construction, according to figures released by the Department of Building Inspection.

Steve Vaughn, head of the Neighborhood Integrity Department, reported valuation for buildings is running more than \$3 million behind figures for last year.

Total valuation for the calendar year to date — January through

April — is \$1,643,475, more than \$3.1 million behind the \$4,759,552 recorded in the first four months of 1984.

For the fiscal year — October through April — building valuation for construction permits totaled \$4,014,831, nearly \$3.85 million below the \$7,864,041 listed for the comparable 1983-1984 fiscal period, Vaughn reported.

The decline is mirrored in the monthly figures.

City personnel issued 31 building permits in April, with a total valuation of only \$322,500 for the

constructions. In April, 1984, the department had issued 29 permits for buildings with a valuation of \$1,145,653, more than \$800,000 above the figures for last month.

The April permits were issued for one single family dwelling, valuation of \$210,000; two commercial buildings, \$20,000; one relocation or demolishing, no value listed; three mobile homes, \$36,100; three alterations-additions to dwellings, \$12,700; three alterations-additions to commercial buildings, \$18,000; four garages, \$25,700; and 14

miscellaneous structures, no value listed.

The department collected \$894.50 in building permit fees last month, approximately \$1,900 less than the fees of \$2,796 collected in April, 1984.

At this time last year construction valuation was running about \$1 million ahead of comparable figures for the preceding year.

The department issued 15 electrical permits in April.

See BUILDING Page two

Cowan sworn in as mayor

Spirit of cooperation prevails at commission meeting

By LARRY HOLLIS
Staff Writer

Sherman Cowan was sworn in this morning as Pampa's new mayor amid a spirit of cooperation and movements toward reconciliation.

After the city commission confirmed the results of Saturday's runoff election, Mayor Cowan was administered the oath of office by Municipal Judge Phil Vanderpool.

Cowan received 1305 votes to incumbent Mayor Calvin Whatley's 1038 votes Saturday to take the office.

Addressing the new mayor after his swearing in, Whatley told Cowan the mayor's job involves "an immense amount of time to serve... a lot of devotion to the job."

The post "can be frustrating but also very gratifying," Whatley said.

On a personal note, Whatley said, "I am not the type of individual to harbor any ill feelings... I love Pampa." Speaking to Cowan, he added, "Anytime I can serve you or the city, please feel free to call on me."

Taking his place at the head table in the City Commission Room, Mayor Cowan said, "I look forward to serving the people of Pampa, the community. I will do my best to try to do the job to the best of my ability."

Mayor Cowan said he will work with the commission and the people of Pampa to ensure continued progress in the city's programs.

Following the meeting, Cowan said he felt the election showed "the voice of the people; the majority is what decided" the election outcome.

"I think they've liked a lot of the things done lately (by the commission), but many apparently felt it just was not done soon enough," he said.

Cowan said he wanted to thank the former mayor "for serving well. He has offered his assistance to me and to the city. He will still work for the city."

The mayor said his goals include "continuing with the programs we've got going now." He said he expects the city to continue to take care of the needs of its citizens and matters affecting them daily, including such areas as the streets, water system, the parks, the sewer system and the renovation of City Hall.

Cowan said the city will need to look for a new city landfill site soon and he hopes to be able to initiate steps in his administration toward the acquisition of a new site.

"I will push to get the city commission

meetings moved to the night hours," Mayor Cowan stated.

He said a nighttime meeting would be more beneficial for most citizens, allowing more to attend.

If an agenda item, such as a zoning matter, involves a working man, then the citizen "has to take time out of his working day" to attend the current morning meetings, Cowan noted, something not always easy for all to do.

He said the night meetings would alleviate that problem for many residents.

He said he knew that general attendance would not necessarily increase just because the meetings are held at night, since not all agendas have items of interest to the general community.

But the night meeting would permit more attendance on those times when items of more interest are to be discussed or acted upon.

In other matters this morning, the commission delayed until next Tuesday any action on the selection of a representative to the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. The request had been made by Commissioner David McDaniel, who was out of town. The other commissioners voted to defer the action.



A NEW OFFICEHOLDER - Municipal Judge Phil Vanderpool, standing right, administers the oath of office to newly elected mayor Sherman Cowan during swearing-in ceremonies this morning. City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers, sitting right, watches the ceremony in the City Commission Room. (Staff photo by Larry Hollis)

TEXAS / REGIONAL

Many small West Texas communities fighting for life

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Texas was once branded a boom state, but recent statistics indicate some rural communities are rapidly losing population and may soon become extinct.

While Texas' population grew by 27 percent during the 1970s, a much different saga unfolded in the vast rural expanses of West Texas where 41 counties lost population and five others experienced minuscule gains, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday.

Some communities now face not only decline, but extinction. The potential ghost towns were founded on agrarian economies that are now reeling from the shift to large-scale farming and several years of low crop and cattle prices.

Many of the fading rural communities also have rapidly aging populations. The median age in some areas is 40 to 52 years. That

compares with a youthful median age of 28 for the state as a whole, according to census figures.

Only a youthful, growing Hispanic population is preventing a population decline in some West Texas counties, where census figures show a striking difference in the median ages of Anglo and Hispanic populations.

For example, in Dawson County, which includes the town of Lamesa, the 1980 Census shows a median age of 19.3 years for the population "of Spanish origin." The predominantly Anglo portion of the population listed as "white" has a median age of 38.6 years.

Even Chamber of Commerce officials admit that things are far from rosy in rural West Texas.

"The metropolitan areas have absorbed the growth. That's where the action has been," said Adolph Janca, executive vice president of

the Abilene-based West Texas Chamber of Commerce.

"Farming and ranching have gone down as the dominant industry," he said. "A lot of the family farms have gone by the wayside."

Some West Texas counties also have had "a real scare thrown into them" because of "the realization that oil and gas is dwindling," Janca said.

Steve Murdock, head of the rural sociology department at Texas A&M University, said the declining population in rural West Texas counties is "typical of almost anywhere in the United States where you have a primarily agricultural economy."

From 1900 to 1930, Haskell County grew from 2,637 residents

to 16,669. However, by 1980 the county's population had eroded to 7,725, less than half what it had been 50 years earlier.

"Unless your family has an established business, it's pretty tough for a kid to come back here," said Haskell postmaster Joe Alves. "They really don't have a lot of options ... We've lost a lot of good kids."

Another shrinking community, Weinert, lies 12 miles north of Haskell. R.S. Sanders, 64, a retired farmer and the town's postmaster for 27 years, recalled Weinert's glory days.

"We used to have a hotel with 10 rooms," he said. "We had a bank. We had three grocery stores at one time and we had a drugstore."

Weinert now has a population of

250, a single grocery store, a post office and a school building.

James Barnes, a labor analyst for the Texas Employment Commission, said West Texas is suffering from a "slow, but steady" decline in agricultural employment.

In 1970, there were 205,233 agricultural jobs statewide, Barnes said. By February 1985, the number had shrunk to 161,500.

The oil and cattle industries also have suffered through recent hard times.

"The cattle raiser probably made a little money in 1979, and that's probably the last time he made any profit," said livestock marketing specialist Edward Uvacek of Texas A&M.

Since oil prices began slumping

in 1982, oilfield jobs have declined. Barnes said the state had 313,700 jobs in oil and gas extraction in January 1982. By February 1985, the number had declined to 262,300.

Some small communities, such as the Concho County town of Eden, are trying to diversify their economies.

"All our economic eggs are in one basket, and that's agriculture," said Jim Schumann, 42, a Ford dealer who is Eden's mayor. "Unless we diversify, our chances for growth are slim and none."

El Paso, Amarillo, Abilene, San Angelo, Midland and Odessa also have grown in recent decades. But the larger cities also have had some problems.

Big guns battle over highway plan

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A member of Fort Worth's wealthy Bass family is leading an effort by environmentalists to keep a nine-lane highway from being built through this Central Texas city.

The case, which goes before the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Tuesday, involves a short stretch of Interstate 30 — a four-lane, elevated roadway that skirts downtown's southern edge for nine-tenths of a mile.

The state Highway Department wants to widen the elevated road to nine lanes — a move that could have far-reaching implications for cities struggling to cope with mounting traffic congestion, the Austin American-Statesman reported Sunday.

But opponents of the plan say it would mask historic buildings and the city's scenic Water Garden, damage the downtown environment and create an ugly barrier that already exists between downtown and the south side.

The opponents are led by a group organized and significantly bankrolled by Robert M. Bass, 37, third oldest and second-most powerful of the four billionaire Bass brothers of Fort Worth, the American-Statesman said.

The group Bass is backing is called "I-CARE" — or Citizen Advocates for Responsible

Expansion. In its battle against state and federal highway authorities, the group has kept the downtown highway issue tied up in federal courts for two years.

Opponents say provisions of the National Environmental and Federal-Aid Highway acts were violated and that the state's actions in Fort Worth would "serve as a license to highway departments everywhere" to commit similar violations of federal law through "cynical, bureaucratic maneuvers."

Bass' group wants the existing overhead roadway, clogged with daily traffic jams and bad tempers, to be torn down and replaced by an aesthetically pleasing road that would keep traffic below the city surface.

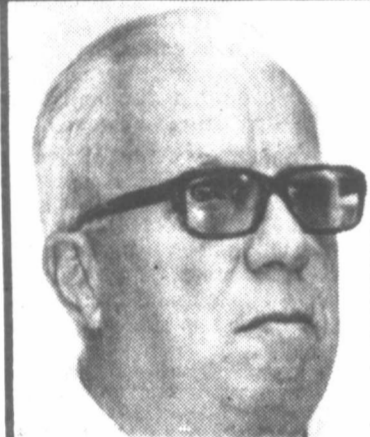
But besides state and federal opposition to the Bass group's plan, a small but formidable group of Fort Worth civic and business leaders also support the overhead development plan for I-30.

Lawyers for the Bass group say they will argue that state and federal highway authorities participated in "administrative lawlessness" to get the expanded overhead road approved.

But U.S. District Judge David O. Belew Jr. handed down a 28-page decision last year in support of state Highway Department procedures.



HELICOPTER WRECKAGE—A Department of Public Safety officer and local farmers stand by the remains of a two seater helicopter that crashed Sunday afternoon three miles south of San Angelo. The pilot, John C. Cauhape of Odessa, and his passenger, Samuel James Swallow of Levelland, were killed in the accident during a flight to a practice pad in Wall. (AP Laserphoto)



Off beat

By Fred Parker

Get politics out of farming

The present system of federal farm programs doesn't work. These programs do not work for farmers. They don't work for consumers. And they don't work for the American taxpayer.

Now, this is a real accomplishment for even those politicians who gather on the banks of the Potomac River in Washington, D.C.

Usually Congress comes up with legislation which only robs Peter to pay Paul. But the national farm programs end up mugging both Peter and Paul — and both are left poorer.

The price tag for American taxpayers for the various farm price support programs has jumped from \$2 or \$3 billion annually during the early 1970s to almost \$20 billion in 1983.

And, we the taxpayers, are not the only big losers in the farm subsidy game. Consumers end up paying higher prices as farm price supports drive up the cost of wheat, corn, cotton, milk and a host of other favored commodities.

This means that lower-income Americans are being particularly hard hit as they spend a larger percentage of their incomes on food.

So what has been the solution supplied by the politicians and the bureaucrats in Washington? They thought up the idea of subsidizing food consumption with programs such as food stamps and the taxpayers are hit once again.

But, let us consider factors other than more federal spending of our tax dollars and higher prices to the consumer which have resulted from the present federal farm programs.

In the long run — and I believe we are already there — farmers themselves are ill-served by having prices set by Washington rather than the market place.

Farmers should stop and ponder the fact that many of the problems they face today are the result of poorly designed federal programs, many of which work against production by the individual farmers.

First of all, the artificially high prices set for farm commodities are pricing American farm products out of world markets at a time when we desperately need higher levels of exports to help our nation's balance of trade, and when the world needs more — not less — food in the international market place.

Because of the artificially high price of American farm crops, nations needing to purchase grain and other farm commodities are buying from the countries which have the crops to sell at lower prices — the old principle of supply and demand at work.

Also, when crop prices are set by bureaucrats and not the market, farmers respond, not to the real needs of consumers, but to these legislated prices. This results in farmers growing the subsidized crops instead of those desired by American consumers and the world markets.

Because of these policies, America has accumulated huge surpluses of some crops — those subsidized by the government with money taken out of taxpayers' pockets — which must be stored at taxpayer expense. It is reported that at the end of 1984 some 1.4 billion bushels of wheat, 46.9 million metric tons of feed grains, 1.1 billion bushels of corn and 757 million pounds of non-fat dry milk were in surplus storage.

While I have not seen any figures showing the annual storage costs of all of these surplus farm products, I feel it is ridiculous for the taxpayers to have to continue to foot the bill for storing products for which there is no market.

What American industry, other than those subsidized by the politicians, would continue to manufacture a product in large volume and pay for its storage when there was no hope of selling that product?

Nor are these federal farm programs doing much to help the family farmer whose plight we have seen dramatized in news stories and on television. The largest 12 percent of farms gobbled up more than half the total payments last year. And some 51 large farms received more than \$1 million each last year.

But what is the most amazing to me, even more so than paying the farmers to grow crops and using tax dollars to store the unsold products, is the fact that when surpluses get too high, the government actually pays farmers not to grow crops. Taxpayers — that means each of us — shelled out \$12 billion in 1983 alone to pay farmers not to grow grain and cotton. Another \$10 were given dairy farmers for every hundred pounds of milk they promised not produce.

And, when production drops, those businesses that sell farm equipment and fertilizer go into a government-induced slump, putting Americans out of work and creating the sort of business cycle that the farm programs are supposed to eliminate.

So, as a lawyer might say in summing up... the case is clear. The farm programs as now promoted by many Washington politicians and bureaucrats do not serve the interests of farmers, taxpayers or consumers.

Personally, I hope enough people on Capitol Hill will take heed of some of the proposals of the Reagan Administration which would begin the task of returning agriculture to the free market.

If fully implemented, it would mean lower costs to the taxpayers and consumers and help farmers become more competitive at home and abroad.

And, we might actually see a reduction in the federal deficit by elimination of the tax dollars being spent on farm programs.

After all, America's great heritage of family farms supplying for the needs of our nation and much of the world was created without help or interference from Washington. Farmers only began having serious problems when the politicians got into the act.

Parker is city editor of The Pampa News.

Legislators begin final three weeks

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawmakers, starting the final three weeks of the 4½-month legislative session, face a take-it-or-leave-it vote this week on a proposal to establish a statewide water plan.

The plan would provide \$980 million in state money for water construction projects, \$200 million in state loans to farmers who buy water-saving irrigation equipment and a \$250 million state insurance fund to guarantee water bonds issued by cities.

It was approved by a 10-member House-Senate conference committee Thursday, and conference committee reports must be accepted or rejected with no last-minute changes.

All the funding provisions for water also would have to be approved by voters in November.

With time short in the session, the calendars are growing in both houses.

The Senate agenda, for example, has 74 proposals, including 13 that already have cleared the House. Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby has told senators to expect to work on Friday this week for the first time since the session began Jan. 8.

Major bills would appropriate money for the state's two-year

budget, raise state fees, extend the wiretap law and place a two-year moratorium on the licensing of a low-level nuclear waste site.

The 1986-87 budget approved by the Senate Finance Committee totals \$36.8 billion from all sources, an increase of \$4.38 billion from 1984-85. The spending bill approved by the House totals \$36.4 billion, and the final version will be written by a conference committee.

A conference committee also is expected to settle the differences in two bills that would raise state fees for such items as driver's licenses, auto inspection stickers and corporate charters. The Senate version would raise \$220 million, or \$114 million more than the bill approved by the House on April 23.

A bill approved by the House in early March, but just now reaching the Senate calendar, would continue the use of court-ordered wiretaps to catch big-time drug dealers. The 1981 Legislature OK'd electronic eavesdropping as a four-year experiment. Without legislative approval this year, the wiretap law would expire Sept. 1.

A bill calling for a two-year prohibition against licensing a low-level nuclear waste site in Texas cleared the House 108-25 in

March and remains on the Senate agenda but sponsor John Traeger, D-Seguin, has not made a move to debate it.

House members should get a look this week at the tuition increase approved by the Senate on Wednesday.

The bill would triple tuition at state-supported colleges in the fall and phase in additional increases over 11 years. House sponsor Wilhelmina Delco, D-Austin, said she probably would ask her colleagues to accept Senate amendments to the House tuition bill.

The Senate was expected to receive a House-approved bill today repealing the 1961 Blue Law that bans Sunday shopping for many items. Sen. Ray Farabee said the bill should clear his State Affairs Committee on Wednesday. He added that he has 18 or 19 votes, just short of the 21 he needs to bring the bill to the floor.

"I think the strength with which the bill came out of the House is indicative of broad public support," said Farabee, D-Wichita Falls.

The significant House vote to repeal the law was 102-40.

In hopes of advancing an

anti-abortion bill that is stalled in House committee, sponsor L.B. Kubiak, D-Rockdale, has submitted a new proposal that focuses on prohibiting abortions in the final three months of a pregnancy. His three-page bill replaces a 33-page measure.

Bill Price, director of the Texas Coalition for Life, said Rep. Pete Laney, chairman of the House State Affairs Committee, "told me if he booted this down to a third trimester ban that it would move very, very fast ... so we're waiting to see the fast movement, and at this stage of the game it has to move fast."

The session ends at midnight May 27.

"I haven't had one person tell me they're against a third trimester ban. Even the opposition," said Kubiak.

A Senate committee is expected to vote today on a bill favored by Panhandle "white oil" producers.

TV report says judge lives outside county

HOUSTON (AP) — Hundreds of criminals cases, including the murder conviction of a teen-ager in the slaying of a letter carrier, could be in jeopardy because the presiding judges lives outside Harris County, a Houston television station reported.

State District Judge I.D. McMaster, serving his fourth term,

actually lives in Omega Bay in Galveston County, KPRC-TV reported Sunday night. The Texas Constitution says a judge must reside in his district.

McMaster denied he lives in Galveston County and refused further comment.

According to a report by the station's investigative team,

McMaster bought the Omega Bay residence in September 1982. Four months later, his wife registered to vote in Galveston County, KPRC said.

Dr. Cox And Alexander

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

Release in Papers of Monday, May 6

- ACROSS**
- 1 Less than 100 shares of stock (2 wds.)
 - 7 Takes oath
 - 11 By mouth
 - 12 Longed
 - 14 Count
 - 15 Flightless bird
 - 16 Soul (Fr.)
 - 17 Observe
 - 19 Mideast nation
 - 20 City in Georgia
 - 22 Electromotive unit
 - 25 1900, Roman
 - 26 Accounting agency (abbr.)
 - 29 Ills
 - 31 Compact body of troops
 - 33 Engine housing
 - 35 Clamor
 - 36 Island (Fr.)
 - 37 Manner
 - 38 British carbine
 - 39 Gigantic
 - 42 Empty
 - 45 Asian country
 - 46 Who (It.)
 - 49 Ask
 - 51 Foot ill
 - 53 Fools
 - 54 Second-mentioned
 - 55 Female name
 - 56 Cling
- DOWN**
- 1 Mrs. Charles Chaplin
 - 2 Tambour
 - 3 Woman of rank
 - 4 Law degree (abbr.)
 - 5 Fragrant

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | |
|-------|-------|------|
| PUG | EZRA | EVOE |
| AKE | EAUX | EARL |
| PEN | NIDE | LUAU |
| ASER | REDE | LLD |
| RATE | SETEE | |
| BEAMS | ERST | |
| ANT | EVAN | EVEN |
| HEEP | ERAL | ANU |
| EATS | BEGAN | |
| BELAY | ESTA | |
| ANO | EVIL | CRIB |
| BETA | EVER | IBO |
| LOSE | NEVE | EIN |
| | ISEE | SSE |

32 Misplace
34 Edges
39 Dialect
40 Ancient musical instrument
41 Military division
42 7, Roman
43 Wave (Fr.)
44 Osiris' wife
46 Summon
47 Cultivator
48 Regarding (2 wds.)
50 Female saint (abbr.)
52 — degree

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STEVE CANYON
By Milton Caniff

MS. CANYON, I AM VAL ELTON, PRINCE AZIM'S NURSE ...
I BROUGHT HIM HOME FROM HIS THROAT OPERATION IN AMERICA ...
THE PRINCE REGRETS A DELAY IN YOUR INTERVIEW ...
... HE RECALLS MAUMEE UNIVERSITY WITH MUCH PLEASURE!
— EVEN THE STORY OF A JUST LONG COW BEING ELECTED HOMEcoming QUEEN! —
THAT TOOK ENOUGH FOR THE METAL DETECTOR TO SCAN MY PURSE!

THE WIZARD OF ID
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

THEY HAVE BENEFITS, GOOD PAY AND VACATION ...
...WHAT MORE COULD THEY WANT?
LONG HANDLED SHOVELS
THE STABLEHANDS ARE ON STRIKE, SIRE!

ECK & MEEK
By Howie Schneider

I FINALLY REALIZED THAT IT'S REALLY NOT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO TELL ME 'YOU LOVE ME' IN SO MANY WORDS ...
I CAN TELL BY YOUR ACTIONS HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT ME

B.C.
By Johnny Hart

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO BE ABLE TO FLY?
WOW! ... WOULD IT EVER!
... BUT ... SIGH ... I'M JUST NOT AERODYNAMICALLY BUILT ...
TELL THAT TO GOODYEAR.

MARVIN
By Tom Armstrong

THERE'S AN INTERESTING STORY BEHIND HOW YOU GOT THAT STUFFED BUNNY, MARVIN
ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, I ASKED YOUR FATHER TO GO BUY YOU YOUR FIRST TOY
I WANTED IT TO BE SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE WARM AND CUDDLY AND GIVE YOU A FEELING OF SECURITY
YOUR FATHER WANTED TO GET YOU A FOOTBALL

MARMADUKE
By Brad Anderson

"Looks like you have an uninvited guest."

KIT N' CARLYLE
By Larry Wright

NOTHING CAN MAKE HER FEEL MORE GUILTY THAN EATING A PIZZA WHILE WATCHING AEROBIC EXERCISES.

ALLEY OOP
By Dave Graue

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID I FIGURE TH' REASON YOU DON'T HAVE A QUEST ANY-MORE IS BECAUSE YOU FOUND TH' HOLY GRAIL!
ODDS BODKINS! YOU ARE RIGHT!
AN' I'LL BET SOME KNIGHT GAVE YOU A LONG SONG AN' DANCE ABOUT HOW POOR HE WAS.
... AN' HOW HE'D SELL YOU TH' CLIP T'GET HIMSELF OUTA HOCK!
BUT ... HOW DID YOU KNOW THIS ...??
OH, THAT ISN'T ALL! I'M JUST GETTIN' WARMED UP!

WINTHROP
By Dick Cavalli

COME ON HOME AND STOP BEHAVING LIKE AN IDIOT, CHIPS!
I'M SORRY I EVER TOLD YOU ABOUT THAT LOBSTER THAT ESCAPED FROM THE FISH STORE!

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I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU BOTHER TO ARGUE WITH ME! I'M ALWAYS RIGHT!
BY THE LAW OF AVERAGES, I MUST BE RIGHT SOME TIMES!
EVEN A CLOCK THAT DOESN'T WORK IS RIGHT TWICE A DAY!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane

"Barfy's tail can only give half a wag when he's lying down."

TUMBLEWEEDS
By T.K. Ryan

WHAT A FATE! — FOREMAN TO AS FLAKY A FLOCK OF FLUB-DIPS AS EVER FLAUNTED A FEATHER.
MY BRECHCLOUT HAS BEEN REPOSSESSED.
CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO THE NEAREST FIG TREE?
WHIMPER

THE BORN LOSER
By Art Sansom

DO I GET THE RAISE, OR DO I WALK?
YOU GET THE RAISE.
HUH? ...
DO YOU MEAN IT?
NO, BUT THIS IS YOUR DREAM.

FRANK AND ERNEST
By Bob Thaves

GUNS
"HEY, ERNIE! ... DOES THE CONSTITUTION SAY WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO ARM BEARS?"

PEANUTS
By Charles M. Schultz

Dear Sweetheart, Why did you leave me?
Please come back.
SUPPERTIME!
But not right now.

GARFIELD
By Jim Davis

LUCKY ME, JON'S COUSIN JUDY COMES TO VISIT AND SHE BRINGS HER TWO YARD APES, TAMMY AND STEVIE.
THEY'RE BASICALLY GOOD KIDS, I GUESS.
FOR WEREWOLVES

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

May 07, 1985

Look for favorable changes in the year ahead regarding important relationships, both businesswise and socially. Bonds will be established that will be envied by others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do not lock yourself into ideas or concepts that have proven to be unproductive. A revised outlook will bring you success. Trying to patch up a romance? The Matchmaker set can help you understand what it might take to make the relationship work. To get yours, mail \$2 to Astro-Graph, Box 489, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A frustrating work condition will begin to undergo a favorable change today. Hang in there because better times are ahead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Try to share with your closest friend today. Events that transpire will help renew your comradeship and strengthen your sincere feelings for one another.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Items you acquire for your home today will provide you with lasting joy. They could become centerpieces that you won't tire of readily.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Ideas you already feel strongly about are likely to take on even greater intensity today. Supporters will be drawn to your pet cause.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your inner feelings of self-worth will be heightened today and give you impetus to strive for better and grander things. Fire your best shot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your noble qualities will be accentuated today and win you the admiration of friends. When they give of themselves to you, you'll give far more back in return.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Do not be satisfied with the status quo today where your earnings or income are concerned. Measures can now be taken to improve your lot in life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A hope close to your heart, which you thought was out of reach, will be imbued with new life today. Don't let your optimism waver.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Just because an objective was too tough for another to achieve doesn't mean that you are destined to fail as well. You can succeed where he couldn't.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Things can now be smoothed over with a friend with whom you've had a recent disagreement. Don't let the day go by without mending your relationship.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) When engaged in conversation today with people whose ideas you admire, listen attentively. Fresh thoughts on ways to attain important objectives may be revealed.

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

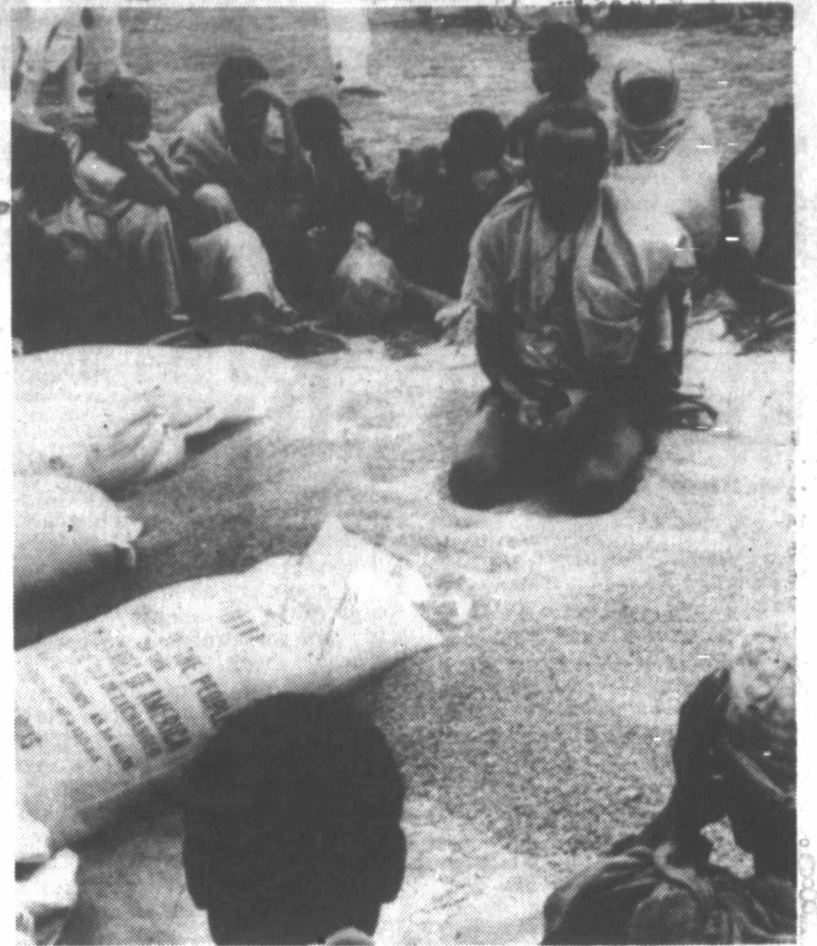
Soil erosion may be hurting water and wildlife as much as farm land

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soil erosion, traditionally seen as a blight on the long-term productivity of farmland, may be having even more serious effects off the farm — on water supplies, reservoirs and wildlife habitat. Erosion is costing the United States some \$6 billion a year in increased flood damage, water treatment expenses, river and harbor dredging, lost recreational capacity and similar effects, according to an assessment

released today by the Conservation Foundation, a nonprofit Washington research group. The figure, which the foundation concedes is at best a rough measure, is the first attempt in 40 years to gauge the downstream costs of erosion. When analysts last calculated the cost of soil runoff in the mid 1940s, the cost in constant dollars was put at \$700 million. Soil erosion has likely become the No. 1 cause of water pollution in America, as clean-up laws reduce

the adverse impacts of municipal and industrial waste disposal, the new study said. For every pound of food eaten in the United States in 1977, water washed 22 pounds of dirt from the fields where it was grown. The eroded soil, some 6.4 billion tons a year, winds up clogging reservoirs and shipping channels and adding to flooding problems. Its chemical fertilizers and pesticides destroy fish and wildlife breeding grounds and seep down into drinking water.

"The damages are going to continue to increase," said Edwin H. Clark II, the primary author of "Eroding Soils: The Off-Farm Impacts." "If we don't start getting cropland erosion under control, farmers will apply more chemicals" and the problem will worsen. While there is no solid evidence that the rate of erosion has grown over the past decade, Clark said the increase in chemical use to maintain soil productivity makes the impact of current erosion rates more harsh. Of the rough \$6 billion estimate of erosion's off-farm toll the largest portion, roughly one third, is blamed on cropland runoff. Other erosion and pollution runoff sources include construction sites, mining operations and city streets. Topping Clark's list of adverse effects was recreation, which he said suffers some \$2 billion in losses annually because of damage to fishing and to boating and swimming because of silt accumulation and weed growth. Clark said in an interview he hopes the study will stimulate new efforts under the Clean Water Act and under new comprehensive farm legislation, as well as "increasing awareness in the farm community" of the problems.



NO RELIEF—A victim of the Ethiopian famine sits amidst a pile of United States - supplied relief grain in a refugee camp at Ibnet, Ethiopia in late April. Earlier this week Assistant Secretary of State Chester A. Crocker claimed that Ethiopian forces had burned down the Ibnet camp to force refugees to leave. The Ethiopian government denies the charges, saying that the famine victims left Ibnet feeding station "out of their own free will over the past 27 days." (AP Laserphoto)

Manges auction set Tuesday

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — The stage is set — but it is uncertain if the curtain will rise Tuesday on the foreclosure auction of Clinton Manges' Duval County ranch mineral rights. The auction, set to begin Tuesday morning on the steps of the Duval County Courthouse, was ordered by Aztec Petroleum Co. of Dallas. The company is foreclosing on Manges' mineral rights to collect a \$1.7 million judgment ordered last December by a Maverick County judge. Manges' attorney, Marynell Maloney, had won a temporary

restraining order from a Webb County judge halting the sale. Aztec officials decided to fight the order and a Monday hearing had been scheduled. But Saturday, Mrs. Maloney told the San Antonio Light, "We're not electing to take that action further." She said other options are open to Manges, but refused to elaborate. "The Associated Press was unable to contact Mrs. Maloney Sunday. But she vowed Friday the auction would not occur. Aztec won the \$1.7 million judgment after suing Manges,

claiming he never paid for gas his company ManGas Transmission purchased from Aztec. Manges, who said he did not owe the money, has tried to post a surety bond to guarantee the judgment while he appeals. But he has been unable to convince the Maverick County district court clerk to accept his bonds. The first bond that Manges offered was put up by Bud Haun, president of South Texas Sports, the parent company of the San Antonio Gunslingers.

Father of education reform not surprised at backing

DALLAS (AP) — The billionaire businessman who spearheaded the education reform movement in Texas says he isn't surprised at the opposition or the support that tougher education standards have generated. H. Ross Perot headed a special governor-appointed commission to study public education reform in the state. After a year of research, public hearings and debate, Perot's

committee submitted its report to the Texas Legislature. House Bill 72, as the education reform bill was called, was made into law last June. "I knew kids would resent it. It's kind of like asking them to take medicine. They won't like it, but it's good for them," Perot said. "The quicker we quit talking about it, the sooner the athletes will realize they have to learn." The Dallas Morning News

reported Sunday that a telephone poll it commissioned of 1,002 Dallas-area residents found that 71 percent would strengthen the controversial no-pass, no-play rule that bars a student from extracurricular activities for six weeks after failing a class. The News said 60 percent of those surveyed agreed with the rule and an additional 11 percent said it didn't go far enough. About one-fourth of those questioned said

the rule was too harsh. "We're doing what we started out to do, strike a balance between learning and play," Perot said. Perot was appointed by Gov. Mark White in 1983 to head the Select Committee on Public Education. Perot said he expected the first year after the reforms were implemented to be stormy at times.

"When you go through a revolutionary change, there's a high level of discord. But when you go through the change, pretty soon what's hard will start to seem normal," Perot said. "We are just at the front end of seeing the effects. I think things will improve dramatically over the next two or three years," he said. The poll found that the no-pass, no-play rule was the only part of the complex bill that a significant percentage of respondents could identify with. "During the reform period, the press coverage was massive and detailed. All the issues were covered, but that ended a year ago," Perot said. "Once the reforms passed into law this year, the featured story has been the no-pass rule. When you stop people and ask them about

it, they are reacting to what they've seen or read most recently," he said. Dallas Superintendent Linus Wright said he initially believed the six-week rule too strict, but now supports it. "If I were to guess what support is out there for reform, I think it would be pretty close to your poll," Wright said. House Speaker Gib Lewis said the results "merely reinforce what I've said all along, that a majority of parents and most educators in Texas feel the primary responsibility of our schools is still the education of our children." Opponents of the no-pass, no-play provision said they believed the poll merely demonstrated that the measure was more popular in Dallas than in other areas of the state. The News reported.

Astronauts to 'jump-start' crippled satellite

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Astronauts on an August mission of space shuttle Discovery will rescue a crippled \$85 million satellite by giving it a spacewalking "jump-start." Aviation Week & Space Technology

magazine said. The magazine said that astronauts James D. Van Hoften and Dr. William F. Fisher will install wiring to bypass a failed electronic sequencer on the Syncom satellite, enabling the

craft to fire itself into a 22,300-mile orbit. When Syncom failed to turn itself on after being placed in low orbit by the space shuttle last month, astronauts tried to activate it with an improvised "fly swatter."

The magazine said engineers call the plan "the jump-start rescue." It has the advantage of salvaging the craft in orbit. Bringing it back to Earth for repairs and then relaunching would cost \$50 million, Aviation Week said.

Seven Texas counties among nation's 25 fastest growing

NEW YORK (AP) — Of the nation's 25 fastest-growing counties with at least 100,000 residents, four of the top five are in Texas, according to a Dun & Bradstreet report that was released Sunday. In all, eight Texas counties are among the Top 25. Of the other 18 counties, all but four are in the Sun Belt, the report showed. The nation's two fastest-growing counties are both in the Houston area — Fort Bend County, which abuts Houston on the southeast side, with a 45.76 percent increase in population, and Montgomery

County, which begins on the north side of Houston, with a 45.47 percent increase. The two counties that flank the northern edge of the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area came in third and fourth on the list. Denton County's population increase was 35.87 percent, the fourth-best in the United States, while Collin County's hike was 32.34 percent, the fifth-best jump. Farther down the Top 25 list are Ector County, whose major city is Odessa, 11th with a population increase of 22.46 percent; Travis County (Austin), 15th, up 20.39

percent; Harris County (Houston), 17th, up 19.65 percent; and Hidalgo County (Edinburg), up 19.61 percent. The results "reflect the continuing development of the Sun Belt states," said Joseph W. Duncan, an economist with Dun & Bradstreet. "Many companies have relocated or begun operations in this area, creating a need for new employees. The availability of new

jobs is the greatest single cause of population migration." Florida had seven on the top 25 list, while Georgia and Louisiana had two each. "Texas' population has continued to grow despite the recent slump in the petroleum industry, Dun & Bradstreet said. New opportunities continued to attract workers to the state while providing jobs for workers who were laid off following cutbacks in the oil sector.

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Let's talk.

Information about your changing telephone service from Fred Epperly, Network Services Supervisor

Information Age booms in Texas

You've heard how during the Industrial Age people had a tendency to settle near major waterways and railroad hubs. Well, these days, it seems people are moving to the areas with the most efficient, up-to-date telecommunications systems. We've reached a period of time known as the Information Age.

How does the Information Age affect us as Texans and our working environment? We feel the economy of Texas will be greatly influenced by this revolution in telecommunications technology, possibly much in the same way as it was by the construction of roads and highways. At the core of this revolution in telecommunications, are businesses in Texas that are knowledge-intensive or what's known as high-tech industries.

These industries include businesses such as finance, research, education, medicine, electronic development and other business services. Many of you may have worked for or now work in one of these growing fields. These knowledge-intensive industries require a sophisticated telecommunications network. Just looking at the high-tech industries located in Texas gives you an indication of the telecommunications needs our customers demand.

An investment partnership

As you can probably imagine, keeping service at high levels and meeting customer needs, requires substantial investment. That's why Southwestern Bell Telephone is investing more than \$1 billion in Texas this year, the eighth consecutive year our company has invested more than \$1 billion in the state.

We want you to know that Southwestern Bell Telephone is committed to Texas and plays an important role in the overall economy of the state. For example, as of the end of 1984, we operated in 450 cities and towns statewide and served more than 80 percent of the state's telephone customers.

At the same time, we had a work force of 34,248, and we paid approximately \$680 million in taxes.

Positioning company for the future

The primary reason we make such an investment in Texas is because of customers like yourself who want and expect quality telephone service in Texas.

And as technology changes our environment and lifestyles, it will be even more important to maintain the traditional quality of service. As customers of tomorrow, you will expect things like shopping without leaving home, electronic mail, banking by telephone and a host of other services — some which are not even invented yet.

We at Southwestern Bell Telephone want to be in a position to provide those services. By continuing the investment and community partnership with Texas, the future will be here before you know it.

Southwestern Bell Telephone
Texans providing telecommunications for a growing state.

Fred Epperly
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Pampa, TX 79065

SPORTS SCENE

'Super sub' sinks Celtics

By WILLIAM R. BARNARD
AP Sports Writer

The Detroit Pistons are even in their best-of-7 playoff with the Boston Celtics because they have a few good men in reserve.

Backup guard Vinnie Johnson almost singlehandedly crushed Boston Sunday with 22 of 34 points in the fourth quarter as the Pistons outscored the Celtics 26-12 in the final 12 minutes for a 102-99 victory. The two teams are now tied 2-2 in their National Basketball Association Eastern Conference playoff series.

"Our bench is starting to play well," said Johnson, who scored the first 12 points of the fourth quarter to wipe out an 87-76 Boston lead. "We're starting to get into our rhythm like last year, when we were the 'A Team'."

"You have to have depth in the playoffs," added reserve forward Terry Tyler, who had 18 points Sunday after pitching in 16 in the fourth quarter of Thursday night's Detroit triumph. "You've got to come through when you're called upon."

Detroit's bench, now known as the "Elite Second Fleet," outscored Celtic reserves 58-13 on Sunday.

In other NBA playoff games, Philadelphia tripped Milwaukee 121-112 to complete a 4-0 sweep. Portland defeated Los Angeles 115-107 to trim the Lakers' advantage to 3-1 and Denver downed Utah 125-118 to up its series margin to 3-1.

On Tuesday night, Utah is at Denver and Portland is at Los Angeles, while Detroit is at Boston on Wednesday.

Tyler and Johnson might be contributing as much on defense as on offense against the Celtics. They

helped the Pistons hold superstar Larry Bird to 9-for-23 field-goal shooting and guard Dennis Johnson to 5-for-13.

"It's just a matter of concentrating on defense," Tyler said. "We got turnovers when we had to have them."

76ers 121, Bucks 112
Philadelphia, which finished one game behind Milwaukee in the regular-season Eastern Conference standings, completed a surprising sweep of the Bucks. Moses Malone had 31 points and 13 rebounds and Andrew Toney 23 points and 11 assists to lead the 76ers, who rallied from an eight-point deficit in the third quarter to overcome the Bucks.

"Philadelphia is a sleeping giant right now," Bucks Coach Don Nelson said. "They woke up somewhere along the line in the Washington series and they really came to life."

Trail Blazers 115, Lakers 107
Mychal Thompson scored six of his 17 points in the final 30 seconds, including four straight foul shots, to help Portland avoid a sweep and hand Los Angeles its first loss after six straight playoff victories.

Clyde Drexler had 15 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds for the Blazers and also keyed a trapping defense that forced Los Angeles into 28 turnovers.

"If the guys wanted to go home, this was the perfect opportunity," Drexler said. "But this team has a lot of character."

Earvin "Magic" Johnson had 31 points and 13 assists for the Lakers, while Kareem Abdul-Jabbar added 21 points.

Nuggets 125, Jazz 118
Denver led 62-38 in the second period, then had to hold on as Utah cut the deficit to one in the final minute of the game.



Vinnie Johnson drives for basket

Amy Alcott beats rain, wind, fan

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Neither storms, nor wind nor a delay caused by an "overzealous fan" prevented Amy Alcott from posting her second Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament victory of the season.

Alcott fired a 3-under-par 69 Sunday for a 284 total and a four-stroke victory in the Moss Creek Women's Invitational. Patty Sheehan, Juli Inkster, Nancy Lopez and Kathy Postlewait were all knotted for second place at even-par 288.

Alcott had consistent rounds of 72, 70, 73, and 69 on the Devils Elbow South course to earn the \$30,000 first prize and boost her season earnings to \$103,351.

On Friday, torrential rains forced a delay that left some players on the course as darkness fell. Saturday, winds gusting to 25 mph on the back nine sent scores soaring.

And Sunday, play was suspended for more than 90 minutes while authorities escorted from the tourney a man described as an "overzealous fan" suspected of having a gun. During the delay, the players were pulled from the course and taken to the clubhouse by security officers.

LPGA spokesman Kevin Plate said security guards at the gate to Moss Creek Plantation thought they saw a man drive in with a firearm in his lap. The man was found and his car searched, but no weapon was discovered. But officials did find a list with the name of three players on it.

Plate wouldn't name the three players, but said the man, who "can be described best as an overzealous fan," has written letters to players in the past.

Yesterday's hero

Ex-Cowboy Niland fights for survival

DALLAS (AP) — An attorney of former Dallas Cowboys lineman John Niland said the former all-pro fell victim to a common problem among athletes — life after retirement.

"He's a classic yesterday's hero," the attorney, who asked not to be identified, told the Dallas Times-Herald. "He just couldn't make that adjustment. He couldn't grow up."

Niland, 41, is trying to keep from going to prison. He was arrested April 8 on a drunken driving charge and held without bond after prosecutors argued the arrest violated his probation on charges of cocaine possession.

He was released Thursday on a program by which he works during the day and returns to jail at night.

If convicted of the latest DWI charge, Niland could have his probation on the drug charges revoked — and face a 40-year prison sentence. Even though he's "losing faith in the system," Niland believes he will be acquitted.

Niland, plagued by mounting personal and financial problems in the years since he retired from football, says he's trying to reassemble his life — and fight off thoughts of a possible prison sentence.

"I can rebound," he said. "I can rebound well off of all of this."

"People think I beat women; people think I'm a doper; people think I'm a drunk. That's not true," he said last week.

Niland claims he has been targeted by prosecutors and police officers because he is no longer a Cowboy.

"When an active player gets busted, they squash

it," he said, discounting the recent arrest of Cowboys fullback Ron Springs following a barroom brawl. "But with a retired player, they think you're old meat."

A first-round draft choice of the Dallas Cowboys in 1966, he was traded to the Philadelphia Eagles in 1974, but was plagued by injuries and retired in 1977.

Since then he was undergone a divorce and a business bankruptcy. During a six-week period in March and April 1983, Niland was twice arrested on charges of possessing small amounts of cocaine.

Niland contends the district attorney's office offered to dismiss the drug charges if he cooperated and helped obtain evidence on five Dallas Cowboys players who then were under investigation for alleged cocaine activities. He refused to help, he said.

"The real reason they busted me is because they were trying to indict the Cowboys (players)," he said. "What they were trying to do is get me to snitch ... because they were that hungry to get a Cowboy."

Niland was sentenced in July 1983 to 30 days in jail for stealing a necklace from his former girlfriend. Two months later, he was placed on 10 years adjudicated probation, meaning the charges would be wiped from his record if he completed the probation.

In December 1983, he was acquitted of a drunken driving charge.

"We resented the manner in which the prosecutors presented their case and because of that we didn't find him guilty," jury foreman Martha Weber said last week.

Cruz triggers

Astros' win

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jose Cruz is often talked about as an underrated player, but the way the Houston left fielder is performing, he won't carry that description much longer.

Cruz hit a two-run homer and a double Sunday and made several

fine fielding plays in leading the Astros to a 4-3 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Cruz, who batted .312 last year, has nine hits in his last 18 at bats and has boosted his average to .355. His manager, Bob Lillis, thinks it's about time someone noticed.

Braves' Mahler unexpected leader among hurlers in NL

By DAVE GOLDBERG
AP Sports Writer

No one expected Rick Mahler to rival Dwight Gooden this year. So far, he hasn't — he's three wins better.

While Gooden, last year's National League rookie of the year, was improving his record to 4-1 Sunday as the New York Mets edged Cincinnati 3-2, Mahler won his seventh decision without a loss as the Atlanta Braves beat Montreal 6-1. San Diego's Andy Hawkins is 5-0 and no one else in the majors has more than four wins.

Mahler has been a .500 pitcher for most of his six major-league years. He was 13-10 last season and entered 1985 with a career mark of 30-26.

"There were times when I thought my opportunity would be with another organization," he said Sunday.

"The difference is that I'm a lot more confident now. I'm not beating myself as before with walks. I don't think I have any better stuff than I did a couple of years ago. I just know how to use it better."

In other National League games, it was San Francisco 5, St. Louis 0; Pittsburgh 3, Los Angeles 2; and Houston 4, Philadelphia 3.

The game between Chicago and San Diego was suspended by darkness in the seventh after being delayed by rain three times. It will be resumed July 8 with the Cubs leading 4-2.

"I hope it doesn't stop and I hate to think it might," Mahler said of his winning streak.

NL roundup

He scattered eight hits in eight innings and Terry Harper knocked in three runs as the Braves salvaged the third game of their series with the Expos.

Mets 3, Reds 2
Gooden struck out nine in seven innings, then Jesse Orosco came in to shut down the Reds over the final two and pick up his third save.

Rookies John Christensen and Lenny Dykstra, replacing the injured George Foster and Mookie Wilson, each singled in a run for the Mets. Dave Van Gorder doubled home both the Reds' runs.

Astros 4, Phillies 3
Jose Cruz, who has nine hits in his last 18 at-bats, had a two-run homer and a double for Houston to raise his average to .355, then said: "I don't feel too comfortable at the plate yet. Maybe I'll get comfortable when I get to .360."

Joe Niekro, 2-3 was the winner, going seven innings and scattering seven hits.

Giants 5, Cards 0
Dave LaPoint, traded by St. Louis to San Francisco in the off-season deal involving Jack Clark, won his first game after four losses for the Giants and snapped his team's four-game losing streak in the process.

LaPoint, who has a 1.73 ERA despite his 1-4 record, limited the Cards to six hits and said he may have been helped by facing his former teammates.

"It wasn't very comfortable, I'll tell you that," he said. "Those are guys I'd shared jokes with for three or four years. But I guess in a way it worked out better that way. I had to put it all out of my mind. It helped me to concentrate."

Pirates 3, Dodgers 2
The Pirates fell behind 2-1 in the top of the eighth on Al Oliver's RBI double, then won it in the bottom of the inning when Joe Orsulak and Johnny Ray drew bases-loaded walks to force in the tying and winning runs.

"I don't think it was any kind of a great comeback but it's a win and that's a plus for us," said Pittsburgh's Bill Madlock, who started the winning rally with a single.

Padres-Cubs
This nearly became the first major-league game this season to be postponed by rain.

It was delayed 11 minutes, then halted for another 1:37 in the first inning and 1:12 in the fourth inning after two innings of steady rain.

Keith Moreland's two-run homer in the sixth gave Chicago the 4-2 lead it will take into the game when it is resumed.

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Things I Gotta Do Today!

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FAREWELL—President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy, center, say goodbye to West German President Richard von Weizaecker, second from left, and his wife Marianne, back to camera, at the end of Reagan's state visit to West Germany Monday. Looking on is West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl who will accompany the Reagans to their last stop in Hambach, where the president will deliver a speech to German youth. (AP Laserphoto)

Reagan pitch on democracy to shift focus from Bitburg

By CLIFF HAAS
Associated Press Writer
BONN, West Germany (AP) — President Reagan, in the second half of his 10-day European tour, is starting a series of upbeat speeches touting democracy today, hoping to shift the focus from a controversial ceremony at a Nazi gravesite and a difficult economic summit.

The first, concluding his state visit to West Germany, was aimed at German youth.

Following a departure ceremony in Bonn, the president was flying south to the city of Neustadt to deliver a speech at nearby Hambach Castle. The one-time imperial fortress is known as the cradle of German democracy in memory of the 1832 Hambach Festival, where 20,000 people were urged to spark a national rebirth through political freedom.

In a prepared text of the speech, Reagan said, "Europe today — divided by concrete walls, by electrified barbed wire, and by mined and manured fields, killing fields — is a living portrait of the most compelling truth of our time: the future belongs to the free."

The president pitched for a unified Germany saying, "The cause of German unity is bound up with the cause of democracy."

He also told his young audience that each of them "is made in the most enduring, powerful image of Western civilization. We are made in the image of God — made in the image of God the Creator."

"This is our power. This is our freedom. This is our future. And through this power, not drugs, not materialism, nor any other 'ism,' we can find brotherhood; and you can create the new Europe — a Europe democratic; a Europe united East with West; a Europe, at long last, completely free."

After the Hambach speech, Reagan was flying on to Spain, where protesters have been calling for the closure of U.S. military bases there and an end to Spain's participation in North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In addition, Reagan's policy toward in Central America and his decision to impose economic sanctions against Nicaragua have also drawn sharp criticism there.

Reagan's journey ends Friday upon his return to Washington, but the lasting images of the trip will have come from the controversial ceremony in Bitburg paying homage to German war dead.

It was part of a day heavy on symbolism.

In an eight-minute ceremony of reconciliation, climaxing more than three weeks of controversy, Reagan walked through the Kolmeshohe cemetery with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. They placed two wreaths of brightly colored flowers in front of a slate tower commemorating the dead of the two world wars.

"Too often in the past, each war only planted the seeds of the next," Reagan said later. "We celebrate today the reconciliation between our two nations that has liberated

us from that cycle of destruction."

The president added: "We who were enemies are now friends. We who were bitter adversaries are now the strongest of allies."

To underscore that theme, Reagan enlisted two war heroes to accompany him to Bitburg: 90-year-old retired U.S. Army Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, leader of the invasion of Sicily and a commander of invading forces in Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, and Luftwaffe ace Johannes Steinhoff, a retired general of the post-war era and a one-time top NATO officer.

Standing in the cemetery, the two officers shook hands.

Earlier, Reagan and his wife Nancy held hands as they walked through the park-like site of the Bergen-Belsen Nazi death camp in northwestern Germany, where 14 heather-covered mass graves contain the remains of 50,000 Jews and others who died there.

The president, his face grim, said, "We're here today to confirm that the horror cannot outlast hope — and that even from the worst of all things, the best may come forth."

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Reagan participated in a frustrating seven-nation economic summit at which he was unable to win unanimous agreement on an exact date for starting a new round of international trade talks early next year.

French President Francois Mitterrand adamantly refused to agree to such a meeting yet.

Problems of vanquished and victor viewing the past

By ALEXANDER G. HIGGINS
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The protests which accompanied President Reagan to the gates of Bitburg made plain the difficulty that victor and vanquished have in standing side-by-side to observe a war anniversary, even after the passage of decades, even when the old antagonists now are allies.

Even had there been none of the atrocities committed by Adolf Hitler's Third Reich against millions of European civilians, the gesture would have been sensitive.

As it is, the Fuehrer's extermination campaign is too fresh a memory for any ceremonial gesture of reconciliation to be conducted without arousing bitter opposition.

On the day of his Bitburg visit, Reagan acknowledged as much.

"Some old wounds have been reopened, and this I regret very much because this should be a time of healing," he said in a speech after leaving the cemetery.

Reagan was begged to cancel his Bitburg visit. Instead, he reluctantly added a stop at a concentration camp where 50,000 Jews and gentiles had perished — a gesture to the victims as well as to their killers.

West German Chancellor Helmut

Kohl wanted the Bitburg ceremony, and Reagan became resolute. He was obliged to Kohl, who had backed him on other issues — the hotly-contested stationing of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in West Europe and his support of Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defense plan, which some Europeans fear will leave them unshielded in a nuclear war.

So from a political standpoint, the visit can help the president internationally, no matter what its impact at home. When the long day had ended, Kohl expressed his gratitude to Reagan.

Concentration camp survivor Elie Wiesel, chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Committee, pleaded with Reagan not to visit the cemetery in a searing speech in the White House.

But on Sunday, Wiesel conceded after the visit that the gesture might do some good because it had ironically served to focus the world's attention on the Holocaust.

"The response was extraordinary," he said.

Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt

recalled that when his Social Democratic government was in power five years ago there had been no attempt to have a U.S.-German observance of the war's end, nor on any of the previous fifth-year anniversaries.

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Rule to allow consumers to judge hospitals themselves

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal regulation going into effect this month will enable consumers to judge for themselves how well their local hospitals are doing their jobs.

Beginning May 17, the public will get access to comparative data about hospitals, including such things as rates of death and post-surgical infection, that have been gathered by Peer Review Organizations.

PROs, created by Congress in 1982 and fully operational only last November, are private companies that contract with the government to oversee hospital operations to police the quality of care provided Medicare patients.

Made up of health professionals, they are under orders to reduce unnecessary surgery, avoidable deaths and complications resulting from treatment while increasing the use of cheaper alternative

services, such as outpatient care.

Their contracts with the government establish specific annual goals for Medicare patients. For example, California Medical Review Inc., the PRO for California, has goals including a 20 percent reduction in breast biopsies and a 40 percent reduction in cataract surgeries.

In the process of achieving its goals, a PRO peeks into every corner of a hospital's operations, looking for unnecessary admissions, premature discharges, inappropriate procedures or substandard care.

If they find such problems, they can bar admission of Medicare patients, refuse payment for unnecessary service or even impose fines on hospitals.

The Health and Human Services Department published final regulations April 17, ordering public disclosure of the hospital

data — but not that on individual doctors — that had been gathered by the PROs.

Under the regulations, the hospital must be given 30 days notice of the impending release, and can include any explanatory data it wishes.

Many in the hospital industry fear the information to be released will be inaccurate, unfair or misunderstood, damaging worthy institutions.

"Very often, the determination of the PROs are only initial determinations that are subject to an appeals process," said Peter Aronson, a Los Angeles lawyer who specializes in health care issues and who is counsel for the Federation of American Hospitals.

"If they make that public, they may be putting out a whole lot of stuff that isn't true."

"What happens if it turns out that the PRO is wrong?" he asked.

Budget battles resume in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is resuming its budget debate after a weekend off for senators to ponder a series of proposed cuts — including possibly their own salaries — while the House returns to business under the cloud of a Republican revolt.

Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., proposed on Friday to cut the congressional salary of \$75,100 by 10 percent, only to lose in a 49-49 tie. The symbolic proposal came after the Senate approved cutting \$17.5 billion from Medicare and Medicaid over the next three years.

"It is not fair for Congress to ask the public to sacrifice if its members are not willing to accept cuts from their own pockets," said Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., in a statement. "If we are going to be successful in reducing the deficit, we must cut everywhere and Congress' pay should not be exempt."

But Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said the proposal was "brought up frivolously for political purposes." The money

saved would total about \$4 million, or \$2 million less than the millionaire Rockefeller recently spent for a Washington mansion.

For the pay cut plan to return, one of the senators who voted against the cut would have to ask that the proposal be reconsidered.

The House will attempt its first major business since last week's brief Republican walkout. GOP members marched from the chamber Wednesday after Democrats first refused to call for a new election, and then installed a Democrat Frank McCloskey in a disputed Indiana congressional seat.

Lengthy House debate is expected, beginning Tuesday, on dozens of amendments to a bill authorizing money for the State Department and related agencies for the next two fiscal years. At least a half dozen other bills also are expected to reach the House floor.

But the budget is expected to consume the Senate's week, with debate on controversial proposals including the elimination of

Amtrak subsidies, Small Business Administration loans and the Job Corps.

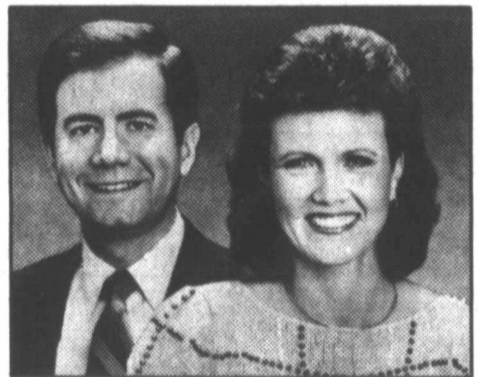
The Senate last week also voted to slice the administration's military buildup by \$17.7 billion over the next three years, holding the 1986 rise in Pentagon spending at the rate of inflation.

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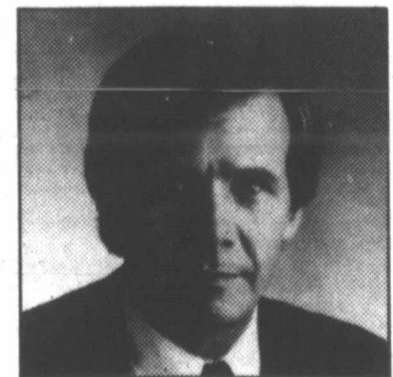
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