

Recurrence of ridge could cloud state's chance for rain

DALLAS (AP) — Developing weather patterns over the next couple of weeks will determine if most of the state will be drier than the West Texas sands over a summer that forecasters already are predicting will be soggy than usual for the Rio Grande Valley.

Last summer's drought was caused by a stubborn upper-level high-pressure ridge that implanted itself over the Midwest and such a system could form again this year, meteorologist James Wagner said Wednesday.

"There could be a recurrence of the hot and dry conditions...but it's unlikely statistically to be quite as severe or quite as long lasting as the one" Texas experienced last summer, he said.

Last year, the string of 100-degree-plus temperatures began about the middle of June, and Wagner said if such an upper-level system forms, it should do so within the next two weeks.

But the Rio Grande Valley has about an odds-on chance of receiving more rain than normal through August, Wagner said.

"Indications...suggest there could be more storm activity of one sort or another.... That type of a pattern usually favors an outbreak of showers, even a rainy spell in that area," said Wagner, of the NWS Climate Analysis Center in Camp Springs, Md.

"The overall pattern that we are predicting could steer hurricanes into the Rio Grande area if there was one in the general vicinity."

West Texas should receive near-normal amounts of rain, he added. But if a high-pressure ridge develops over the United States, Wagner said, north and east Texas will be even more likely to see less precipitation than normal.

He said because the system would be more likely to form in the Mississippi Valley or Central Plains area, it would make the northern half of Texas more arid and "would have a tendency to steer moisture around the southern periphery" of the state.

"Subtropical ridges will come up to their summertime intensity and won't change too much after that buildup comes about the middle of

June" until August or September, he said. "Of course, what determines whether or not you have a heat wave is where the strongest part of the ridge is."

Higher-than-normal emperature readings are predicted in the northern Panhandle in June, but Wagner said near-normal temperatures are expected for the rest of Texas. Temperatures should rise to warmer than average readings statewide beginning in July, he said.

"Normal" temperatures are compiled from average readings over 30 years and are revised every decade, Wagner added.

Recent heavy rains should keep lake levels from falling as low as last year, even if an entrenched high-pressure system does bring another drought to North Texas, said Tom Donaldson, chief of the lake control unit of the Army Corps of Engineers in Fort Worth.

Some of the state's reservoirs are still low, but others already have returned to normal levels, he said.

"The rain has been so scattered that it varies from project to project," Donaldson said.

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Settlement in Sinai scene of new talks

OFIRA, Israeli-occupied Sinai (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, locked in a tense confrontation with Syria over its missiles in Lebanon, moved today to shore up his back door in a meeting with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

When Sadat arrived by airplane this morning for the conference, the two leaders shook hands, embraced and spoke for a few moments while a trumpet fanfare blared. Then they stood at attention while an Israeli military band played the national anthems of Egypt and Israel.

On his arrival a half-hour earlier, Begin said, "These talks will be important for bilateral and regional matters." The two leaders boarded a helicopter for a short tour of the Ofira area before beginning their talks in a modernistic glass-walled building that is part of a resort hotel.

Israeli troops roused the few tour-

ists off the Red Sea beach at dawn. Soldiers in dress uniforms stood in pairs on the dun-colored hillocks to provide tight security for the meeting at Ofira, an Israeli settlement at the southern tip of the sun-washed Sinai Peninsula.

But a handful of Israelis opposed to their country's withdrawal from Sinai managed to demonstrate on the beach a few minutes after Sadat and Begin started their summit.

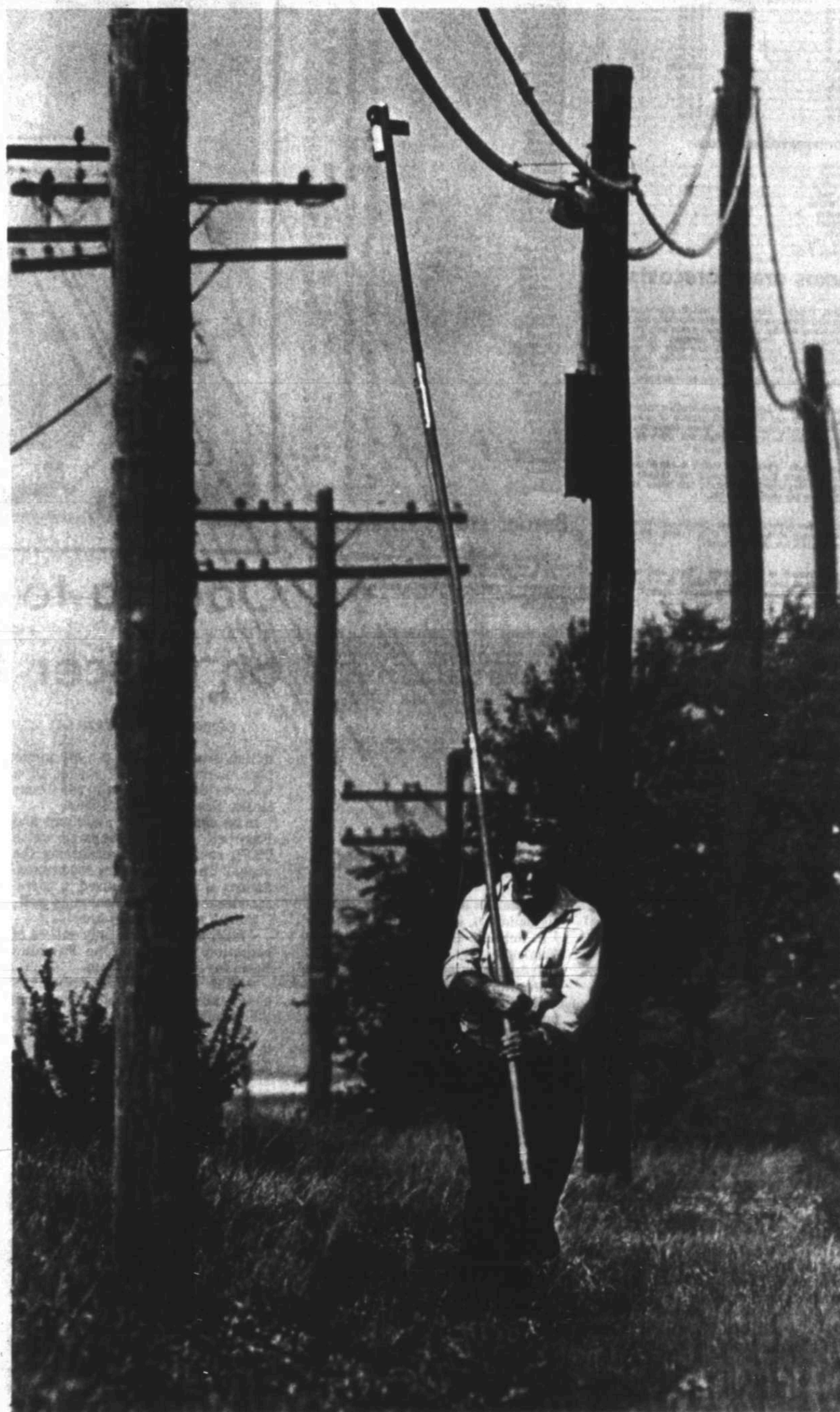
Chanting "Yamit, Yamit" — the name of a settlement in northern Sinai — about a dozen protesters marched up the beach but were intercepted by Israeli troops 300 yards from where the two leaders held their talks. The troops chased the demonstrators into the water, then led them away.

The session, scheduled to last five hours, is the first meeting of the two

leaders in 17 months and the 10th since Sadat traveled to Jerusalem in November 1977 to begin the process that led to the Camp David peace accords.

Begin's spokesman, Uri Porat, told reporters the missile crisis with Lebanon was the "single urgent reason" for the meeting, which Begin requested. Porat said the conference was needed "to protect the peace treaty from any shock that may arise from developments on the Lebanese front."

Sadat has condemned Syria for causing the current crisis in Lebanon and has urged Israel not to escalate the situation. But Butros Ghali, Sadat's minister of state for foreign affairs, has said Egypt's commitment to the other Arab countries could supersede the Camp David peace treaty with Israel.



From pole to pole

Pole in hand, Dan Garner with Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., looks for leaks in pressurized phone lines Wednesday afternoon. On the end of the pole is an ultra-sonic sensor, which can detect leaks.

Construction could start on apartment complexes

By LANA CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Three apartment complexes have been approved under the new revenue bond program and could be under construction in about 60 days, according to the chairman of the Midland Housing Finance Corporation.

Harry Clark told the Housing Authority of the City of Midland, of which he is also chairman, that the city's finance corporation had approved the applications for complexes in the north part of Midland. The Housing Authority was meeting in a regular session Wednesday in City Hall Council Chambers.

The three complexes are: Midland Crest Apartments, 290 units, Andrews Highway near Loop 250, Gary Whitehead and Carl Stephens; Midland

Wildflower Apartments, 264 units, Loop 250 west of Midkiff Road; Paragon Apartments, 220 units, Midland Drive north of Wadley.

TOTAL APARTMENT UNITS to be funded by the low-interest bond money is 774. Clark recalled that originally the MHFC had received a nod of approval to go ahead with the program from the Midland City Council for 1,000 apartment units. But Clark said the corporation panel had decided to up the limit to 1,500 apartments.

"The demand (from builders) has been so great," explained Clark. "We expect two or three more applications to come before us for approval within a week." He added that another 10-15 applications have been picked up and are being filled out, but he doesn't

know when they will be submitted to the MHFC panel.

A fourth complex for 350 units probably will be approved at the panel's next meeting, pushing the total number up to 1,124, he said.

Clark estimated that the apartments probably will rent for about 50 cents per square foot, putting a 700 square foot apartment on the market for \$350 a month.

Each approved applicant has received a "letter of intent" which gives him the authority to seek someone to purchase the tax-exempt bonds. "Then we (MHFC) sell the bonds and make the money available to the applicant."

THIS REVENUE BOND program
(See APARTMENT, Page 2A)

Odessa to appeal THFC ruling

By SUE FAHLGREN
Staff Writer

ODESSA — Representing Medical Center Hospital, Austin attorney Joe Webber said Wednesday he expects to file a motion for a rehearing or a reconsideration Friday with the Texas Health Facilities Commission appealing its recent decision to deny MCH's application for a new cancer machine.

THFC commissioners rendered its negative decision on Odessa's certificate of need application for a 6 Million Electron Volt linear accelerator two

weeks ago. The "state-of-the-art" radiation machine application came under fire by Midland officials who said the presence of a second such machine would hinder the economic feasibility of the Allison Permian Basin Cancer Therapy Center's machine.

Although Webber said he did not want to elaborate on reasons he would present the commission for the appeal, he did say the THFC would have 25 days in which to approve or disapprove the appeal.

The three-member board of commissioners would then have an addi-

tional five days to allow a partial or full new hearing, reconsider the previous order or deny the appeal. If no action is taken by the July 5 deadline, Webber said the original decision would stand.

However, Webber cautioned, "It's premature to gauge what the commission will do."

The Odessa Chamber of Commerce joined MCH officials in the fight for appeal Monday when Chamber President Don Williams and Earl Francell, chairman of its medical service com-

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Toxic waste facility permit sought

By RICHARD ORR
Staff Writer

A Dallas firm has applied for a state permit to operate a hazardous waste disposal "staging area" south of Odessa on the Cowden Ranch, the Reporter-Telegram has learned.

Sandhills Industries, Inc., applied for a permit from the Texas Water Resources Board in Austin and public hearings are tentatively set for next fall, according to the company's owner, Dick Kirkham.

"It's not a dump," said Kirkham. "It's a staging area for the temporary

storage of toxic wastes. No nuclear wastes are involved. In the past, hazardous material has simply been dumped on the ground. That's what's wrong with the water out there (Midland-Odessa)."

The company has an option on five acres of Cowden Ranch land on the Crane Highway about five miles south of Odessa. The waste will be stored in drums and fiberglass containers until enough accumulates that transfer becomes economically worthwhile, according to Kirkham. It will then be disposed of at licensed dump sites on the Gulf Coast.

"It's EPA-classified material from radiator shops, chemical plants and industrial plants in the Midland-Odessa area," said Kirkham.

An initial jurisdictional dispute between state and federal agencies delayed progress on the operation about 90 days, according to Kirkham, who said plans for the project had been on the drawing board for a year.

The dispute has been resolved, he added, and the state will monitor the company on a monthly basis. The list of wastes includes acids, organic chemicals, alkalies, oil sludges, ammonia and solvents.

Headquartered in Dallas, the neophyte waste disposal firm will move to the Odessa area and expects to hire five new employees from the local labor market.

"This is a first for Sandhills," said Kirkham, who also owns Mechanical Components, a Dallas-based warehousing firm. If the application is approved, Kirkham said Sandhills, Inc., would be the only such waste disposal firm from Del Rio to Canada, and from Dallas to Los Angeles.

Although the Browning-Ferris Co. has a disposal site near Odessa, it's an injection well process that puts the wastes into the ground.

As debate heats up, Lefever's position still 'hot'

By R. GREGORY NOKES
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ernest W. Lefever, who has run into a buzz saw of controversy on his nomination as the Reagan administration's human rights expert, closely parallels his superiors in views on the subject.

In part, Lefever's outspoken manner may have exacerbated his problems in the Senate.

The 61-year-old Lefever has demonstrated time and again that he doesn't hesitate to speak his mind, even on matters of great sensitivity. Even many of his supporters described him as having an abrasive personality.

But the fact is that Lefever does reflect the administration's view of

human rights as a foreign policy issue. It is for this reason that the White House has decided to back him to the hilt, because a retreat on Lefever would look like a retreat on policy.

In an interview with The Associated Press in late February, Lefever said there have been instances where Roman Catholic nuns hid machine guns for guerrillas in Latin America.

The comment came at a time when U.S. public opinion was still seething over the slaying of three American nuns and another churchwoman in El Salvador last December.

While Lefever said he wasn't referring specifically to nuns in El Salvador, it appeared as though he felt the crime was less heinous because nuns

may have aided guerrillas in the past.

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. was alarmed enough at these and other comments that he passed the word that Lefever should be less vocal in the future.

In fact, State Department officials are known to have strongly urged Lefever to cancel an appearance on a network interview program last week. While they stressed the final decision was up to Lefever, he cancelled.

The Associated Press reported Wednesday that two of Lefever's brothers say he has expressed himself privately as believing that blacks are genetically inferior to whites in intellect. Lefever issued a statement

denying he had ever said such a thing.

Lefever also had a pointed exchange with Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, at a committee meeting May 18.

Percy wanted Lefever to expand on a previous complaint that communists were orchestrating the opposition against his appointment as assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs.

Lefever said he was certain he hadn't used the word communist, but Percy claimed he had — during a meeting in Percy's office. Lefever then said he didn't think there was any conspiracy against him.

Lefever's major problem of the mo-

ment, however, focuses on his business relationship with the Nestle Corp.

Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee planned to ask Lefever in a closed session today if Nestle helped his non-profit research center distribute an article favorable to infant formula sales in developing countries.

However, the White House has made clear it doesn't believe there is any serious conflict, and despite advice from some key senators that Reagan withdraw the nomination, aides say the president has decided to stay with it because Lefever's views do reflect the administration's view on human rights.

The administration has rejected the

Carter administration policy of openly pressuring other nations to correct human rights abuses in favor of a policy of quiet diplomacy. Abuses are to be dealt with privately and won't be used as a reason to disrupt relations with otherwise friendly nations.

Anti-communism has replaced human rights as a chief criteria for good relations with the United States. That is the policy of Reagan, the policy of Haig and the policy of Lefever.

The administration already has moved to improve relations with South Korea, Argentina, Chile, Guatemala and South Africa, whose human rights policies and abuses resulted in severely strained relations with the Carter administration.

Nestle lawyer admits gift to Lefever's research center

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Nestle Corp. lawyer told Senate investigators he gave \$10,000 to a research center headed by Ernest W. Lefever, whose nomination as President Reagan's human rights adviser is clouded by conflict of interest questions involving the same company, Senate sources say.

The contribution was in addition to \$25,000 that Nestle donated to the Lefever's Ethics and Public Policy Center in 1980 while the center was preparing and distributing an article that Nestle considered favorable to its sale of infant formula in Third World countries.

Sen. Paul Tsongas, D-Mass., a leading opponent of Lefever's appointment as assistant secretary of state for human rights, said he would question the nominee about the additional \$10,000 during closed-door hearing by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today. Tsongas has called the \$25,000 donated earlier an "ethics question."

The lawyer, Thomas J. Ward, said the money, divided into two \$5,000 donations, was contributed to the center through his Washington law firm of Ward

and Grow, the sources said. The sources added that it was still unclear whether the money originated from Nestle.

Tsongas said if the donation did come from Nestle, that would be "laundered" money.

Ward was unavailable for comment Wednesday as was his law partner, Michael A. Grow.

At his confirmation hearing May 18, Lefever was asked if Ward was the source of a \$20,000 donation that Nestle had made to the center in August 1980. Lefever, who is president of the center, answered that he was not.

Lefever said he had solicited a donation from Ward but was not asked whether Ward had contributed any other money — and Lefever did not volunteer such information.

Lefever, who has insisted that the center's work on the formula controversy was not influenced by Nestle's donations, was unavailable for comment Wednesday night.

Nestle has been criticized for marketing infant formula in poor countries where, critics contend, the milk substitutes contribute to the deaths of millions of babies because the formula is mixed with contaminated water or mothers dilute the mixture to save money.

The World Health Organization voted last month — with the United States dissenting — to discourage the sale of infant formula in Third World countries.

According to a memo, purportedly signed by Nestle vice president E.W. Saunders and dated Aug. 10, 1980, the giant food manufacturer hoped to use "independent third parties" — like the Lefever center — to argue Nestle's side of the infant formula controversy.

Portions of the memo were read at the May 18 Senate hearing. Nestle, which refuses to comment on the Lefever nomination, has not denied the authenticity of the memo, which surfaced publicly in January. However, Lefever suggested at the hearing that it might be a forgery.

The memo states that "Mr. (David) Guerrant (president of Nestle-USA) is somewhat concerned that Nestle should not be seen to be the dominant subscriber to the Ethics and Policy Center."

"Mr. Ward informs us that there are ways in which this matter can be satisfactorily handled, and in view of his own contacts with Dr. Lefever and his presence in Washington, I suggest that Mr. Ward remain closely involved in the followup activity with the center."

Lefever faces more Senate questioning

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan's embattled human rights nominee, Ernest W. Lefever, is facing new Senate questioning on his Nestle Corp. connection, his racial views and two senators' report that he called opposition to his appointment "communist inspired."

Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said those were the chief questions they had for Lefever at a closed-door meeting this afternoon.

The committee planned to vote on the nomination Friday morning, and Senate leadership sources say the vote may be 12-5 against recommending Lefever's confirmation as assistant secretary of state for human rights.

But Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker said he told Reagan again Wednesday that he believes Lefever still can be confirmed by the full Senate after "a difficult struggle."

Baker said he is taking a head count to find out how much opposition Lefever has in the full Senate.

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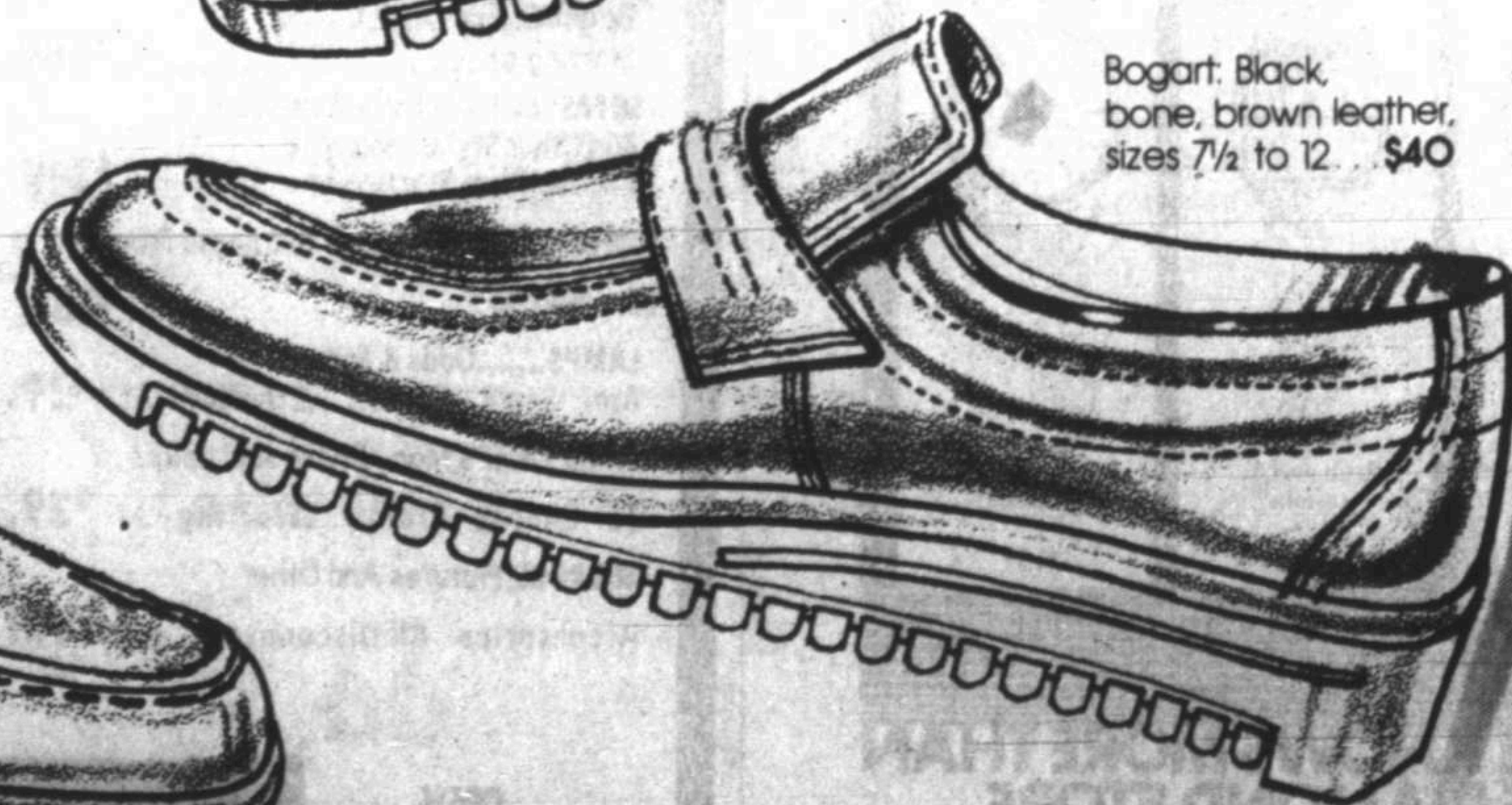
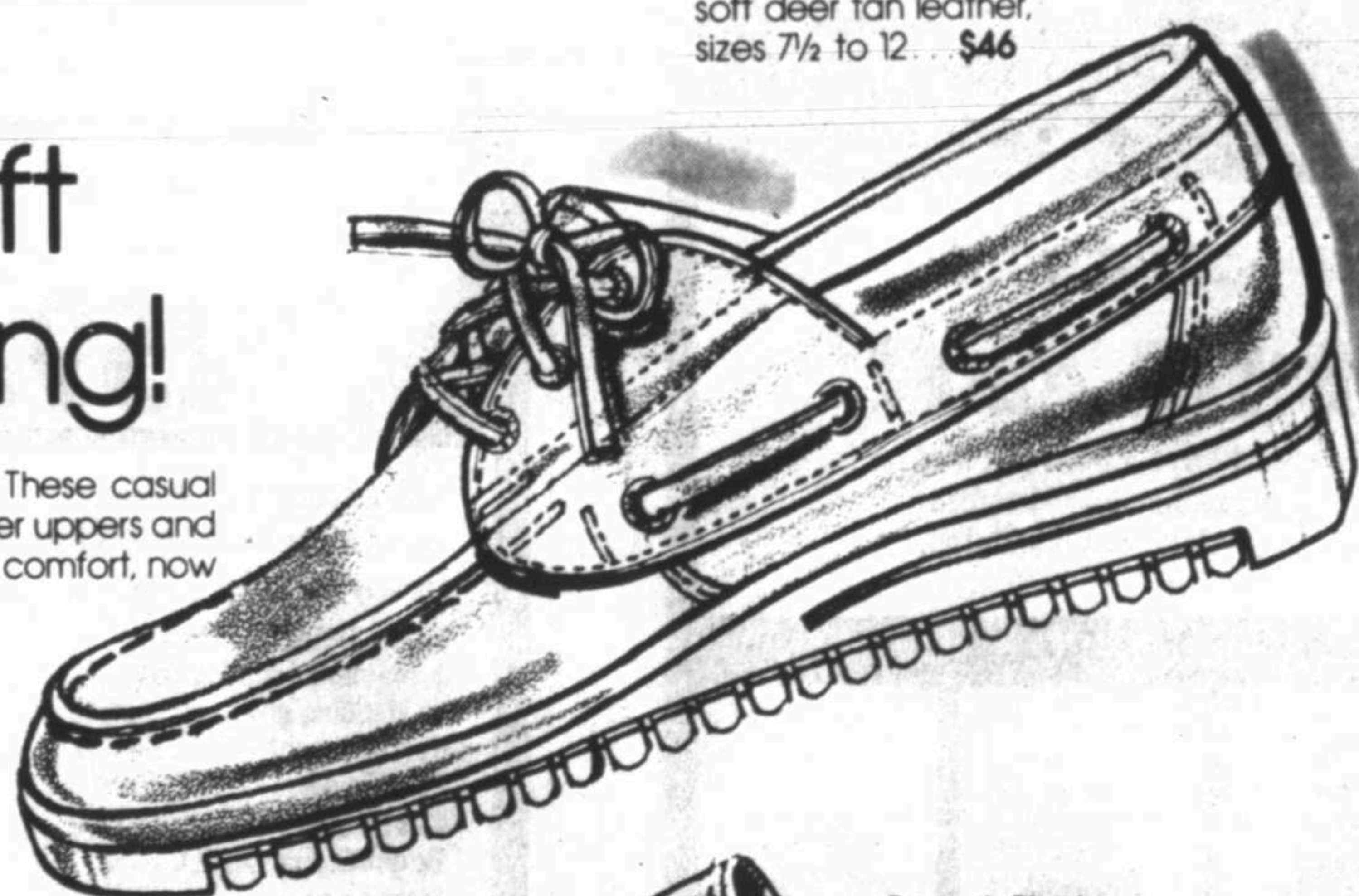
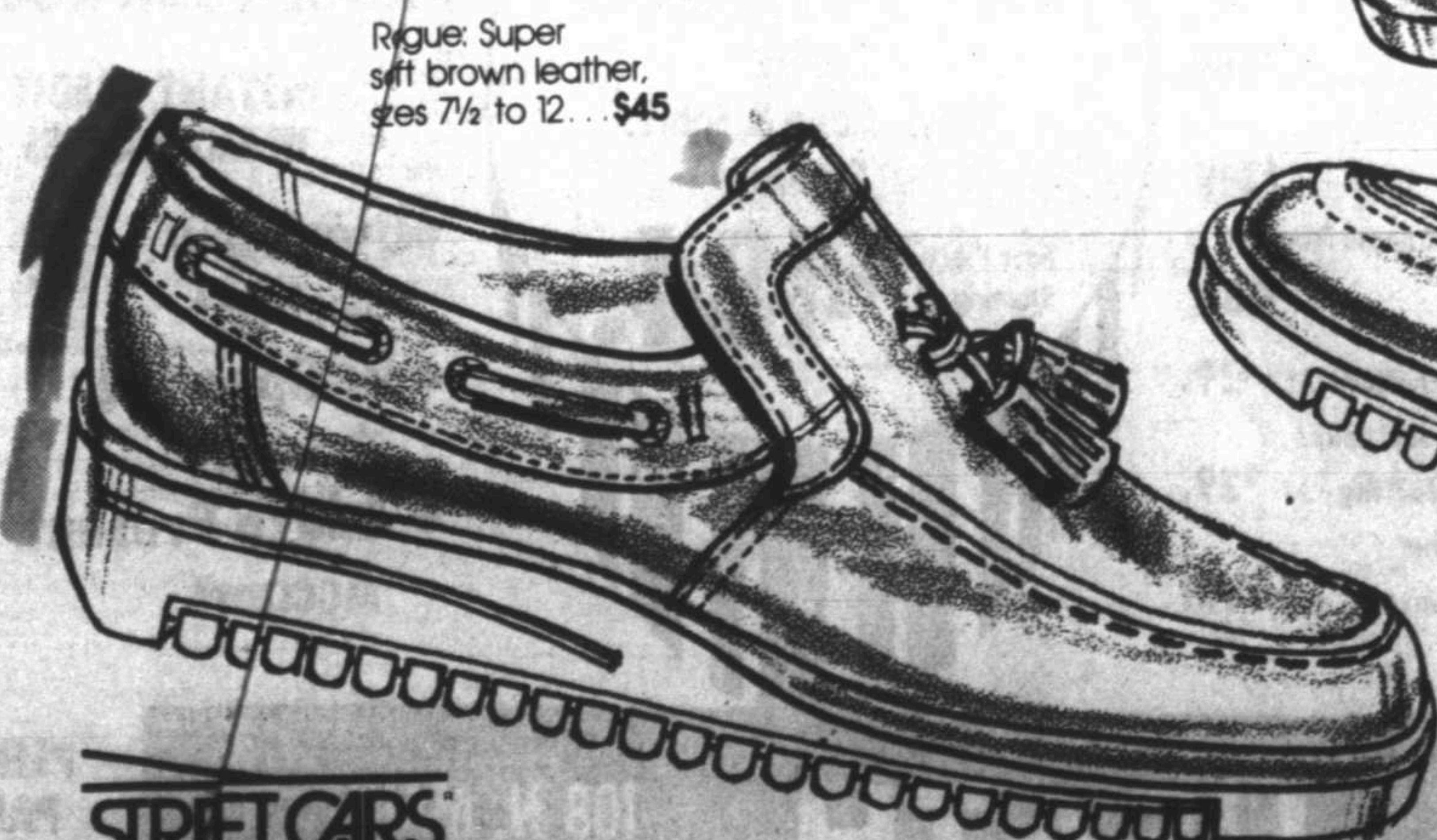
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DEATHS

Joe Brasuell

Services for Joe G. Brasuell, 71, of 4497 Pleasant Drive were held Wednesday in North A and Tennessee Streets Church of Christ with David Wallace officiating. Graveside services were to be at 10 a.m. today in DeLeon Cemetery. Local arrangements were handled by Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home.

He died Monday in a Midland hospital following a lengthy illness.

Brasuell was born July 14, 1909, in Downing. He grew up in DeLeon. He married Ruby Bowman on June 25, 1930, in DeLeon and he farmed there until 1964. Brasuell then moved to Midland in 1964.

He retired from farming and went to work for the Midland Independent School District. He retired from that 17 years ago due to poor health. Brasuell was a member of the North A and Tennessee Streets Church of Christ, Woodmen of the World and IOOF Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby; seven daughters, LaVera Caruthers, Glenda Barron, Joyce Patten, Kathy Holdridge, Margaret Joale Brasuell, Juanita Prater and Becky Wilder, all of Midland; two brothers, Calvin Brasuell of Rosco and Clarence Brasuell of Grand Prairie; two sisters, Alta Parker of Fort Worth and Viola Wilson of DeLeon; 20 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

C.T. Cole

Services for Charles T. Cole, 26, 507 Spraberry St., were held Wednesday in the Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. Bill Skaggs, associate minister of Kelview Heights Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Cole died Monday at his home.

He had lived in Midland for two years, moving here from Denver, Colo.

Survivors include his mother, Barbara Brown of Kenner, La.; his father, Raymond E. Cole of Houma, La.; two brothers, Ernest Cole and Robert Cole, both of Kenner, La.; a sister, Deborah Coulson of Houma, La.; and his grandmother, Mrs. Jean Bourgeois of Mobile, Ala.

Shuttle worker's widow files suit

MERRITT ISLAND, Fla. (AP) — The widow of a technician who was fatally injured in March while working on the space shuttle Columbia has filed preliminary papers for a negligence suit against the space agency.

Nancy Cole signed a one-page form accusing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of negligence for failing to remove nitrogen from the spacecraft before allowing her husband to enter the chamber.

Forrest Cole of Merritt Island died April 1 at Shands Teaching Hospital, 10 days after he and four other Rockwell International Corp. technicians entered a nitrogen-filled compartment of the space shuttle.

S.H. Williams

Services for Slatner H. Williams, 73, of 3702 Roosevelt Ave., were held Wednesday in the Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home chapel with Dr. R.B. Smith of First Presbyterian Church officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park.

He died Monday afternoon. Pallbearers were to be Dick Yeats, Marvin Mills, Lawrence Berry, Ed Snodgrass, Glenn Howard and Charley Odom.

Gladys Bonner

Services for Gladys Bonner, 78, of 3321 W. Louisiana Ave. were held Wednesday in the Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. O.A. McBrayer of St. Luke Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Mrs. Bonner died Monday afternoon in an Odessa hospital.

Pallbearers were to be Bill Pounds and Cecil Triplitt, both of Odessa; John Milwee, Charles Hardy and Mike Smith, all of Midland; and Tom Mills of Lubbock.

Mrs. G. Crawford

Mrs. G.T. Crawford, 86, of Route 1, Box 77K, died Tuesday afternoon in her home.

Services were to be at 3 p.m. today in Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home chapel with J. S. Kirkpatrick and E.F. Pennick of Primitive Baptist Church officiating. Burial was to be in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Mrs. Crawford was born April 20, 1895 in DeLeon and as a child lived in Indian Territory and Red River County. She was married to G. T. Crawford in Paris, Texas July 13, 1913 and moved to Dallas. She lived in Lubbock and Snyder before moving to Midland in 1931. Her husband preceded her in death May 31, 1966. She was a member of Primitive Baptist Church.

Survivors include four sons, J.D. Crawford, Oscar Crawford, Carl Crawford and Herman Crawford, all of Midland; two daughters, Lenora Pike of Midland and Leora Spann of Colorado City; a sister, Lela Cummins of Las Cruces, N.M.; 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Protest ends peacefully

By STEVE BREWER
Associated Press Writer

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Led by a station wagon carrying the body of a martyred leftist, about 1,500 grim protesters marched through downtown Juarez on Wednesday to protest a dispute among residents at a squatters' village.

There was no violence, although Carlos Gonzalez, chief of the state judicial police in Juarez, had said earlier that police expected more trouble from the leftist Comité de Defensa Popular.

The march was staged by the committee, which is headquartered in the squatters' village, or colonia. Leading the parade was a van that blared accusations against Juarez Mayor Jose Reyes Estrada and the station wagon carrying the casket of Jose Fernandez Mejia, 39.

Fernandez was shot to death and 10 other people were injured Sunday when members of the committee attempted to evict some residents of the squatter's village, or colonia.

Two people were charged in the incident Wednesday, Gonzalez said. He said Jose Victor Zigarroa was charged with murder in the slaying of Fernandez and Humberto Soto Grajeda was charged with assault and battery for allegedly cutting five people with a knife. Gonzalez said another man may be charged if ballistics tests

showed he also fired shots during the incident.

The suspects are residents of the colonia who were being evicted when the incident occurred, Gonzalez said. Fernandez was described as a "lieutenant" of Pedro Matus, the leader of the committee.

The committee runs the colonia, which has grown from a cluster of cardboard shacks a few years ago to a neighborhood with a school and medical facilities.

Committee members evicted about 45 people from the colonia earlier this week because those evicted had accepted titles to the land where they live from Reyes Estrada.

Matus and the committee members have blamed Reyes Estrada for the shooting, saying his actions led to the evictions and the conflict.

As the protesters marched, demonstrators carrying buckets of paste made from flour plastered posters along the parade route which read: "We denounce Reyes Estrada as a murderer and demand his suspension and punishment."

During an impromptu news conference before the march, Matus called the mayor "the intellectual perpetrator of the crime."

Reyes Estrada has said he doesn't understand the accusations, adding that he was trying to help the squatters by securing the land titles for them.

Mexican government takes over Juarez Race Track

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — A Dallas woman who owns four horses being held at the Juarez Race Track said owners of some of the animals being held hostage there had discussed trying to remove them today.

Another owner and the son of the former operator of the track, which is now closed, predicted there would be trouble if the owners made the attempt.

Pat Limag of Dallas said Wednesday that a loss of electricity and an endangered water supply at the track may lead the owners to take action.

About 150 horses and about 600 greyhounds have been held at the track for a month because of a strike by track employees.

The 325 employees of the track went on strike May 4 after the government announced it would award the track franchise to another operator. The strikers, fearing for their jobs, set up picket lines at the gates of the track.

Under Mexican law, no traffic can cross such a picket line so the owners of the animals have been unable to remove them. Most of the owners are United States citizens, which has led to frantic attempts to negotiate the release of the valuable animals.

On Wednesday, the federal government took over the track, so the strikers no longer control it. Talks were under way late Wednesday in Mexico City, where Oscar Flores Jr. of El Paso apparently was attempting to interfere with the government. Flores, son of the former governor of the state of Chihuahua, has been reported to be in line to get the track franchise.

Demetrio Sotomayor Jr., son of the man who formerly held the track franchise, said his father also was in Mexico City on Wednesday night, attending the negotiations at the Mexican equivalent of the Interior Department.

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United Mine Workers president Sam Church explains the union's proposed contract with miners at the Southern Ohio Coal Company's Meigs Mine #2 near Wilkville, Ohio Wednesday. Church visited groups of miners in Ohio during the day seeking ratification of the union's contract with coal operators.

Ohio Wednesday. Church visited groups of miners in Ohio during the day seeking ratification of the union's contract with coal operators.

Stop-gap fare hikes sought for railroads

CHICAGO (AP) — With rail shutdowns looming for the already crippled Chicago-area transit system, a top lawmaker says he'll ask a federal judge to keep a major commuter line running until the Legislature can consider a stop-gap measure allowing railroads to raise fares.

The appeal by Illinois House Speaker George Ryan came as agitation over the Regional Transportation Authority's money woes, which already have affected 60,000 commuters, became more vocal.

One Chicago newspaper — the Chicago Tribune — called on readers to give "the boot" to politicians responsible for the crisis, and Chicago Alderman Robert Shaw called on the governor to resign. "We need more time," Ryan said Wednesday in Springfield. "We need more time in an environment free of crisis and panic."

One railroad spokesman said fares may have to go up 50 percent to raise enough money for continued operation.

Ryan said he would meet today with U.S. District Judge Thomas McMillen to ask that the Milwaukee Road commuter rail line, which serves about 20,000 riders daily, be ordered to continue operations, at least during weekday rush hours.

McMillen oversees the Milwaukee Road's operations because the line has filed a bankruptcy petition over an unrelated matter.

A hearing before McMillen on the Milwaukee Road's plans to suspend service at 2 a.m. Saturday also was scheduled today. The RTA, which subsidizes railroad and bus lines in a six-county area, has filed a petition seeking to block the shutdown.

Other commuter railroads also have threatened to shut down as early as this weekend if no solution to RTA's money woes is found. Four suburban bus lines already have halted service and a fifth has slashed service by 25 percent.

Declining sales tax revenues and rising costs forced RTA to cut off subsidy to the bus lines and railroads last month. Most suburban bus lines depend heavily on the subsidy to keep running.

Ryan appealed for time so the House could consider a Senate-passed bill that would keep commuter railroads running by allowing them to raise fares to cover operating costs.

The Senate bill would permit commuter railroads

District judge issues restraining order

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Ship repair workers for private companies began showing up for work at the Swan Island repair yard after Port of Portland employees obeyed the orders of a U.S. District judge and removed their picket signs from certain gates at the port.

Acting on a request by the National Labor Relations Board, Judge Robert Belloni on Wednesday issued a temporary restraining order, saying the 83 striking port employees must confine their picketing to a port gate.

The 83 port employees — crane operators, carpenters, electricians, guards and boilermakers — struck last Thursday.

Nearly all work was stopped because employees of private companies repairing ships at the yard refused to cross picket lines at three gates used by the ship workers.

About 1,600 laborers were idled by the strike as five ships awaited repairs.

Port spokesman Darrell Buttice said about a dozen workers had arrived for the Wednesday night shift but that full operations probably would not begin until later today.

Meanwhile, the District Council of Trade Unions, which represents the strikers, filed an NLRB complaint charging that two companies, Northwest Marine Iron Works and Dillingham Corp., were acting in collusion with the port.

The two companies earlier this week filed lawsuits against 14 unions, charging that honoring picket lines of the port employees constituted an illegal secondary boycott.

The two companies had sought, through an NLRB complaint, to have pickets moved away from certain gates.

The strikers are the port's only employees at the repair yard. Negotiations have been going on since the old contract expired in June 1980.

The port wants to contract with private companies for work done by 12 of the strikers, and wants the pay for all port employees brought in line with salaries of workers covered by the Pacific Coast Master Agreement.

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Chrysler could show profit

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — The troubled Chrysler Corp., which has not been in the black since 1978, has "a good shot at reporting a profit" in the second quarter of 1981, chairman Lee A. Iacocca said today.

"We've overhauled the entire corporation, improved all of our operations, and lowered our break-even point to nearly half of what it was just one year ago," Iacocca said in remarks prepared for the automaker's annual meeting.

"We will demonstrate our improvement when we announce our second-quarter results in July," he said.

The No. 3 U.S. automaker, which lost a record \$1.71 billion in 1980 and another \$298.4 million in the first three months of this year, has not reported a quarterly profit since the final quarter of 1978 when it earned \$43.13 million.

But Chrysler's sales have been improving steadily in recent months and Iacocca's address to the stockholders came just one day after the company reported a 34 percent increase in sales for the month of May.

For the year, Chrysler's sales are 23 percent ahead of 1980 and, when Mitsubishi imports sold by Chrysler are included, have accounted for about 10.2 percent of the total U.S. market.

Chrysler had predicted 8 percent to 9 percent share when it presented its reorganization plans to the federal Chrysler Loan Guarantee Board. On the basis of those plans, the board gave its approval to a total of \$1.2 billion in federal loan guarantees.

David Healy, an auto industry analyst with the New York firm Drexel Burnham Lambert, called Chrysler's May sales performance "respectable," although he noted the automaker had lost a little ground following a price increase announced in April.

In his speech, Iacocca outlined the measures

Chrysler has taken to reorganize itself, including wage concessions from its employees, price concessions from its suppliers, capital spending cuts and white-collar staff reductions.

But he said the federal government must take a firmer hand in dealing with the country's economic problems if Chrysler and the auto industry are to recover from the recession.

He said the government should put a lid on taxes, cut government spending and reduce the number of regulations affecting automakers.

"It looks like that's coming — and not a minute too soon," Iacocca said.

Also at the meeting, Chrysler officials announced that stockholders had approved increasing the number of authorized shares of common stock from 120 million to 170 million.

The approval means each stockholder will get less of a share of any future profits. Without the approval, however, the automaker would have been in default on its federally guaranteed loans.

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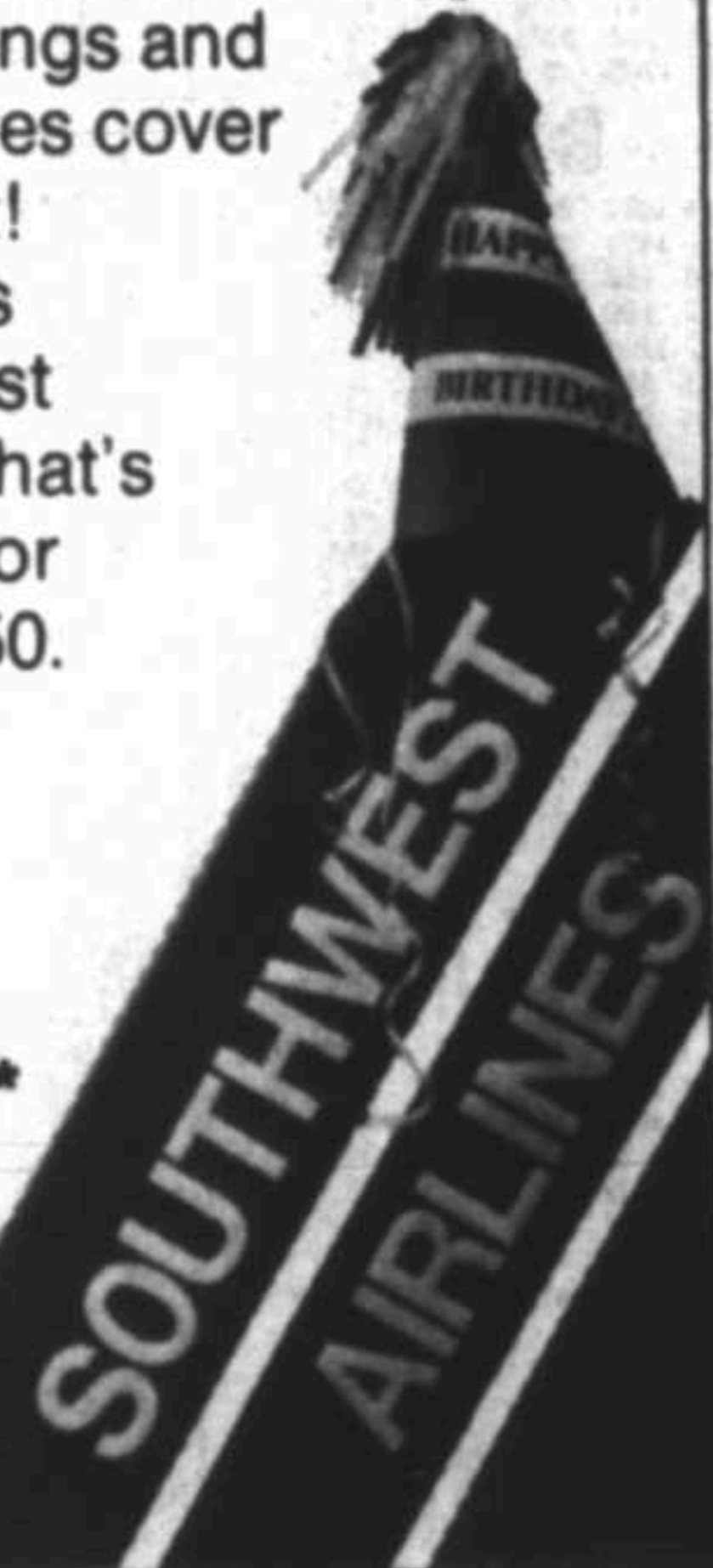
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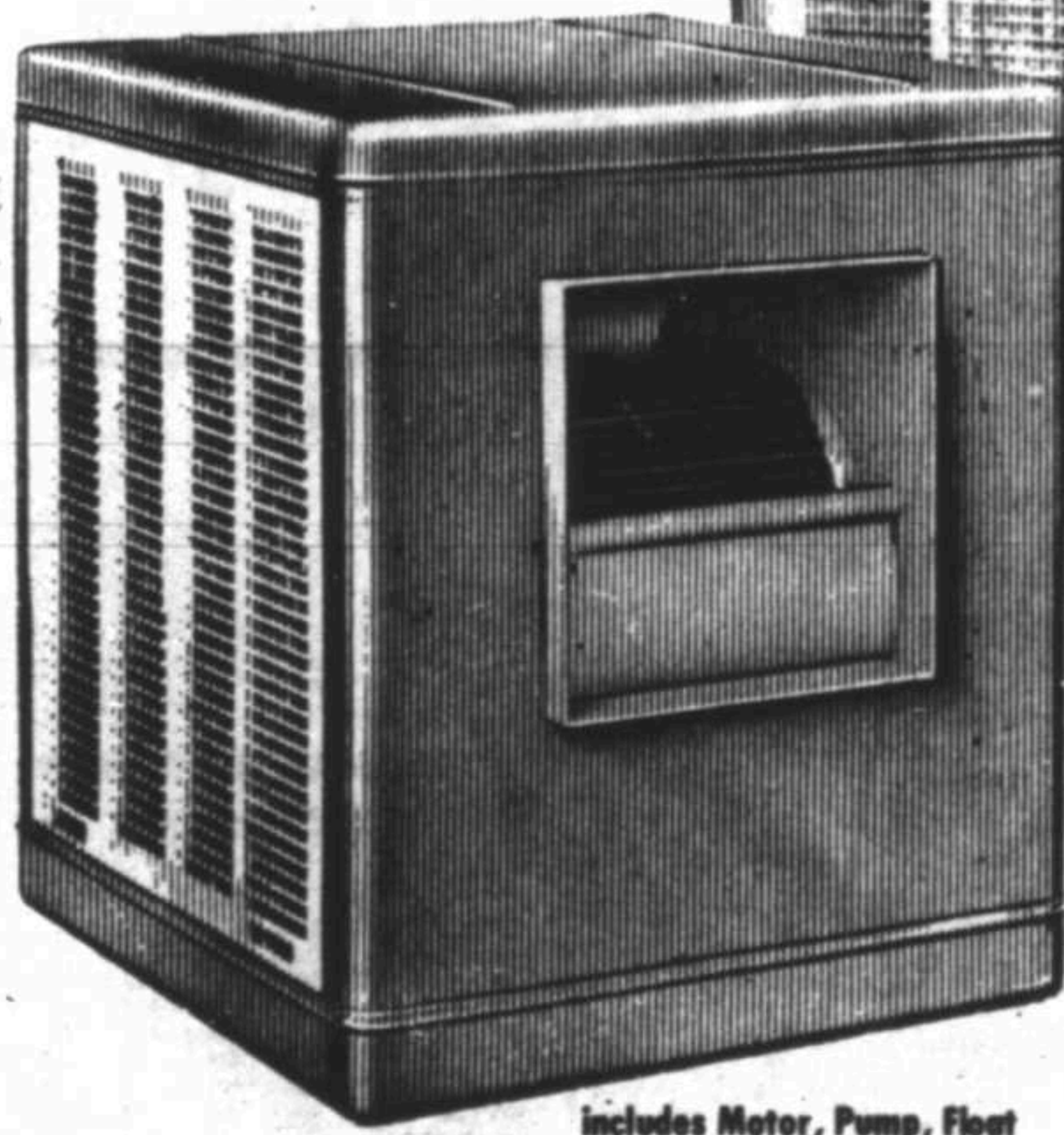
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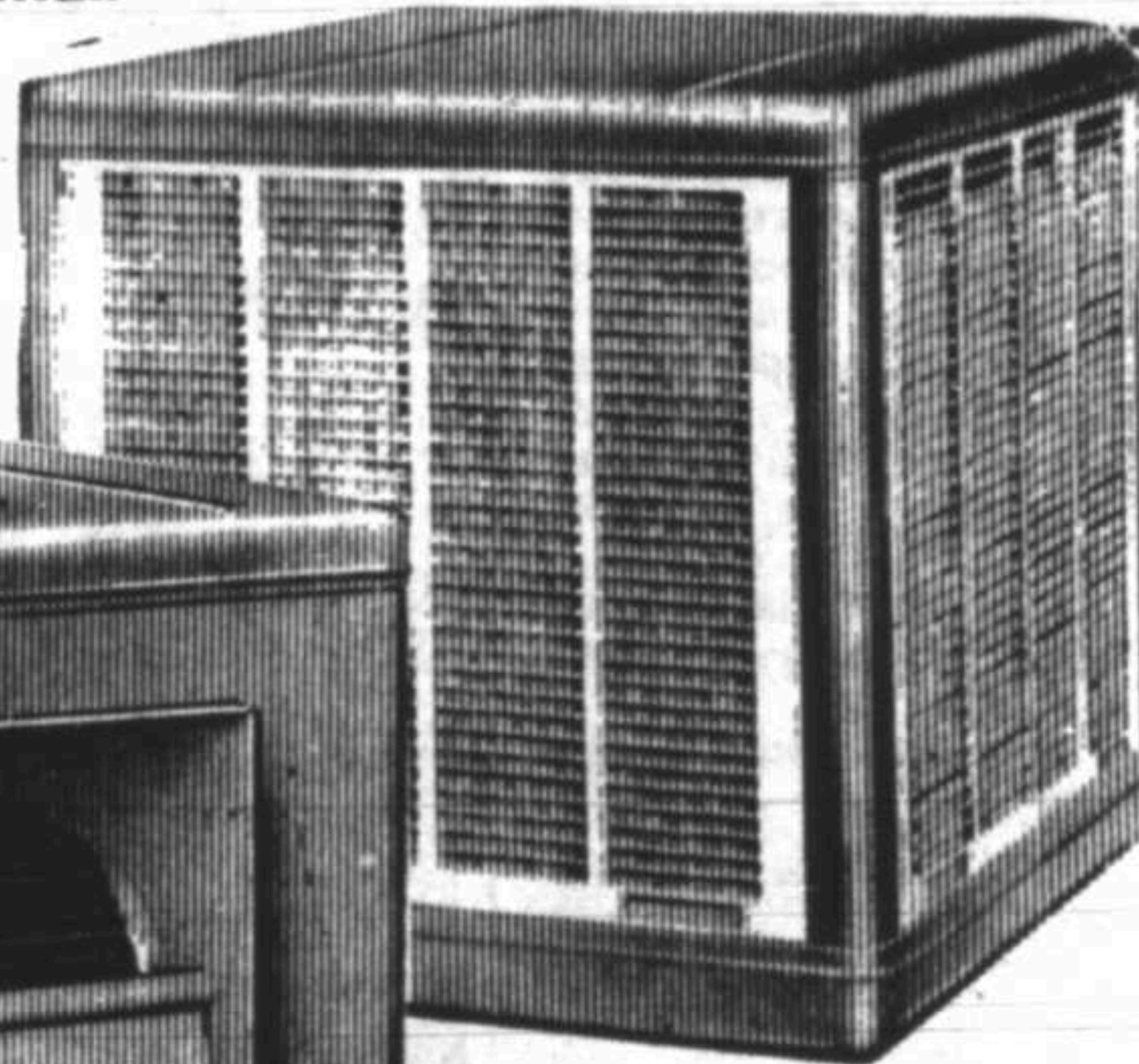


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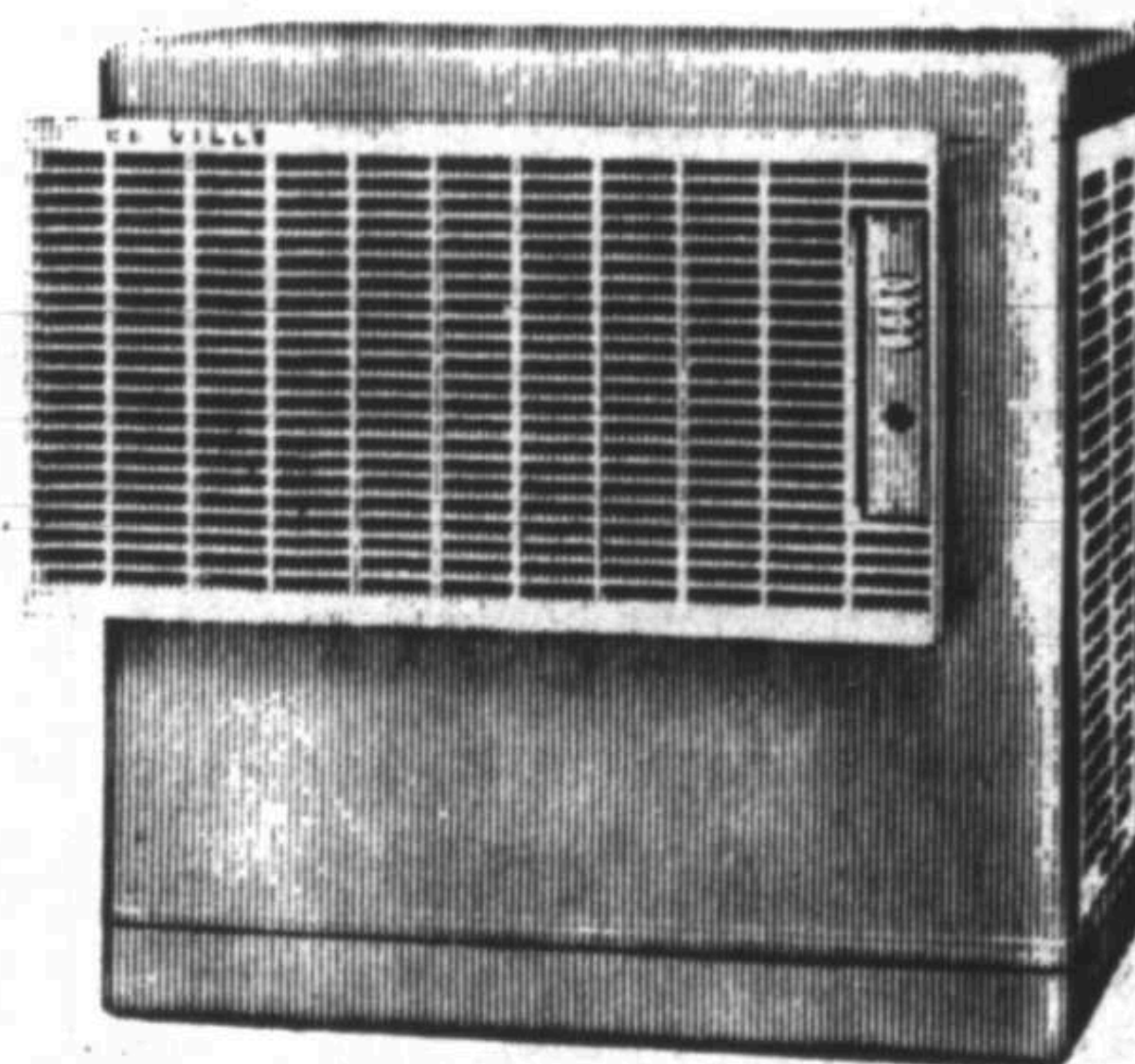
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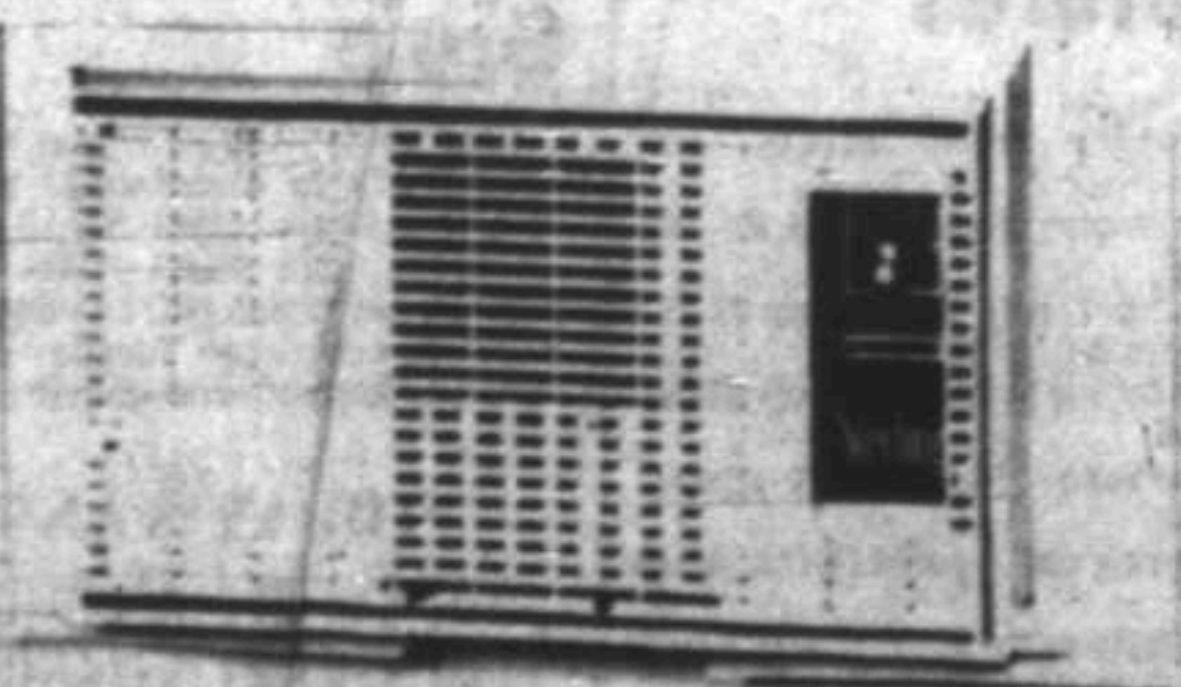
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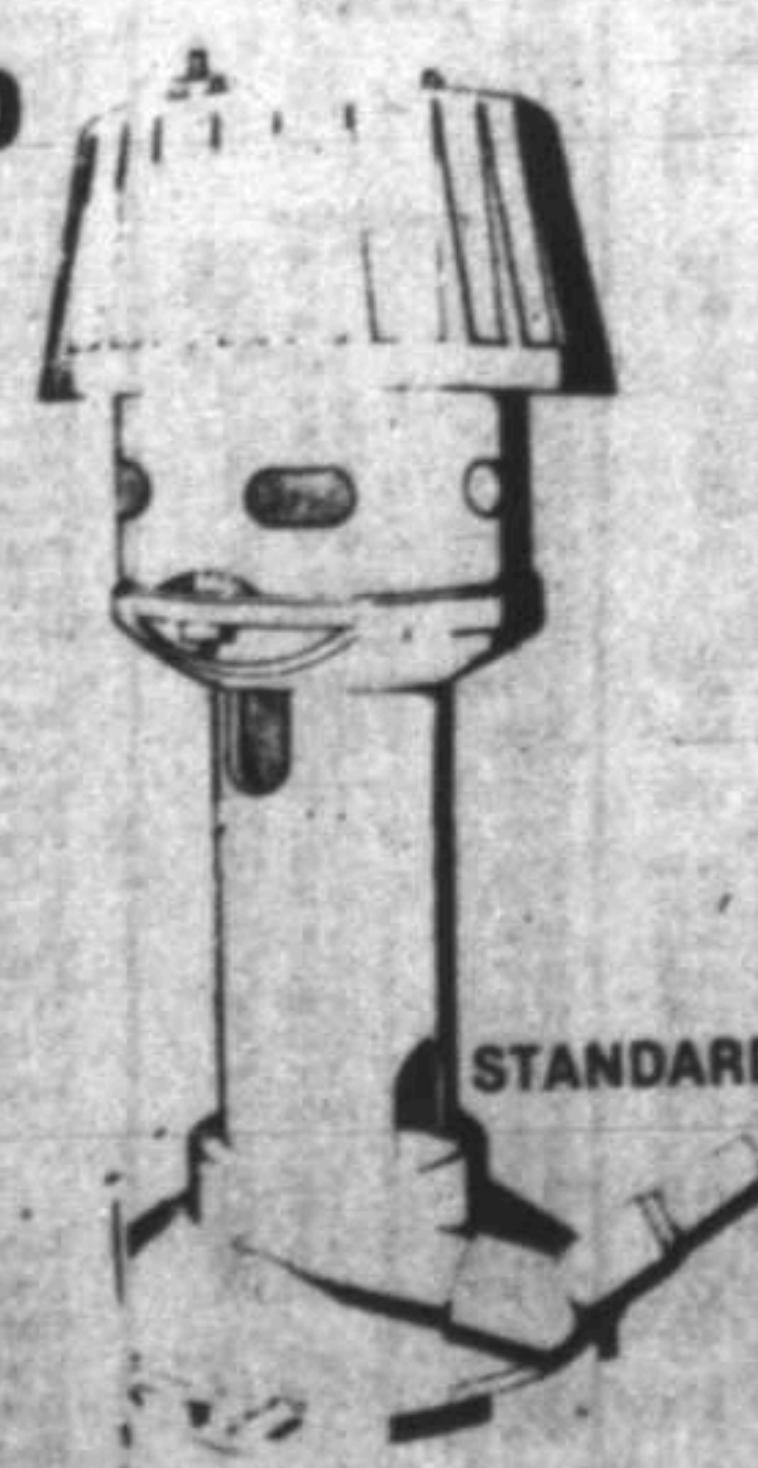
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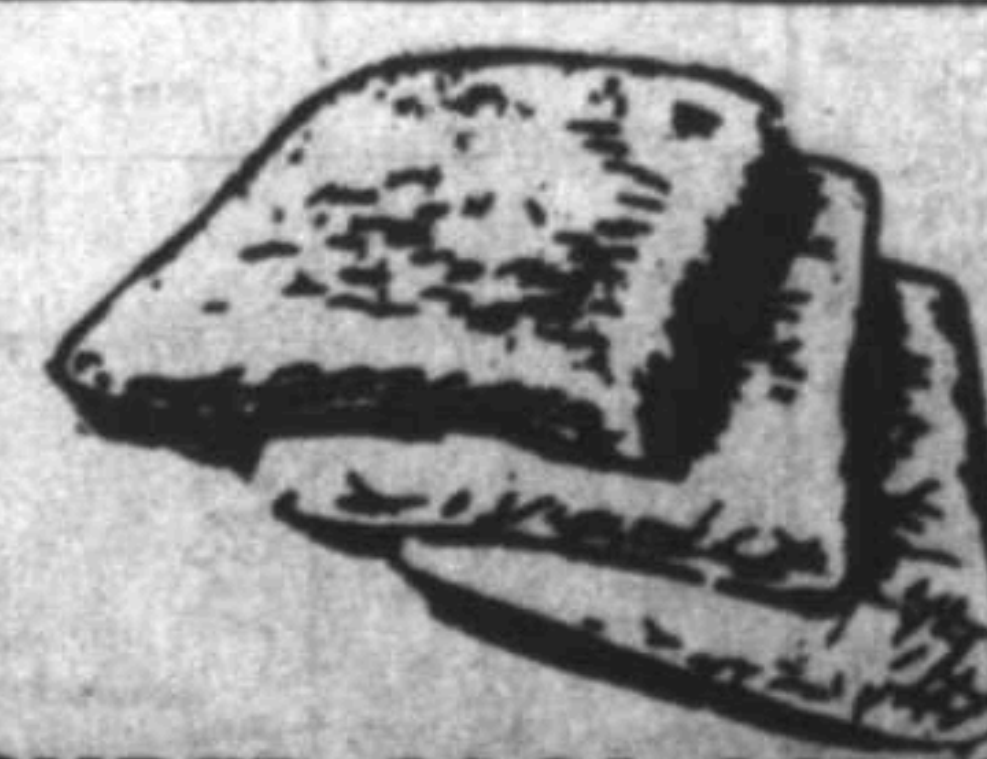
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Today's opening stock market report

New York Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — Today's selected national prices for New York Stock Exchange issues.

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American Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — Today's selected national prices for American Exchange issues.

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Over the counter

NEW YORK (AP) — Today's selected national prices for over the counter issues.

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Stock sales

NEW YORK (AP) — Today's selected national prices for stock sales.

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Country western performer Johnny Paycheck will perform Friday at 7 p.m. at Chaparral Center. Appearing with him will be fiddler Johnny Gimble and Wally Fowler and his Tennessee Top Ten. The concert is a benefit show

being presented by the Midland Police Officers Association. Reserved tickets, priced at \$7.50, may be purchased at Chaparral Center, The Music Haul, Freddie's Instant Shopping or Tape Town.

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Round Top Festival slated

ROUND TOP — The opening weekend of the 11th annual Round Top Festival begins Friday with a chamber music concert featuring James Dick and Vivian Weilerstein, pianists; Peter Rejto, cellist; and Donald Weilerstein, violinist.

Saturday will mark the fourth appearance of the Houston Symphony at the festival and the introduction in Texas of the American-born conductor, Gerard Schwarz. Pianist will be Dick, founder and director of the festival.

Saturday's program will include Copeland's "El Salon Mexico," Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Opus 43," and Brahms' "Symphony No. 4 in E, Opus 98."

The final concert of the weekend will be a chamber music program with student artists and faculty Sunday at 4 p.m.

Sixteen performances are scheduled weekends in the five-week festival period, including chamber orchestra, chamber music and solo recitals. Artists appearing for the first time are Peter Zazofsky, top prize winner in the 1980 Queen Elizabeth Competition; Weilerstein, first violin-

ENTERTAINMENT

ist of the Cleveland Quartet; cellist Rejto; pianist Mrs. Weilerstein; and the 1981 first prize winner of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition will perform June 19.

Other soloists include Jeannette Haien, Eugene Rowley and Patricia Zander, pianists; Isidor Saslav, violinist; Yehuda Hanani, cellist; James VanDemark, double bassist; Thomas Bacon, French horn; Leon Fleisher, conductor and pianist; and the Texas Festival Chamber Orchestra.

Seminars will be given by Robert Finn, music critic of The Cleveland Plain Dealer; Paul Hume, music critic of The Washington Post; John Dewards, general manager of the Chicago Symphony; and musicologist Carl Schachter.

Performances are presented on the Mary Moody Northern Pavilion stage, one of the largest outdoor facilities in the United States. Other concerts are given at the William Lockhart Clayton guest house, both in the outdoor courtyard and in the indoor parlor.

Round Top is located on Route 237 between Austin and Houston. For more information call or write Lamar Lentz, P.O. Box 89, Round Top, Texas, 78954, 1-713-249-3129.

Ballet presenting world premiere

HOUSTON — The Houston Ballet will present the world premiere of "Peer Gynt," choreographed by Ben Steven-

son, Houston Ballet's artistic director. The performances set for today through Sunday mark the close of the 1980-81 season.

Sets and costumes were designed by Peter Farmer, with music arranged by John Lanchbery from the Edward Grieg score and lighting

by John B. Reed. Stevenson has been working on "Peer Gynt" for seven years. He initially began the project while at the National Ballet and it is his first original, full-length ballet created especially for the Houston Ballet.

Tickets are available by calling 1-713-227-2787.

Beatle Celebration set

HOUSTON — The Southwest's first official Beatles Celebration will be held in Houston June 13-14 from noon to midnight each day at the Galleria Plaza Hotel.

Since 1974, Beatleests have been held annually in New York, with Chicago and Los Angeles hosting Beatleests for the last five years. A Beatleest is the official convention of Beatles fans of all ages.

Entertainment will be continuous in six separate ballrooms of the Galleria Hotel. The complete concerts of the Beatles at Washington Coliseum in 1964, Shea Stadium in 1965, Tokyo in 1966, their feature films "Help," "Yellow Submarine," "Let It Be," "Magical Mystery Tour," promotional films such as "Hey Jude," "Revolution," "Penny Lane," "Strawberry Fields Forever," "Junior's Farm," "Instant Karma," "Crackerbox Palace," "Only You," "Mull of Kintyre," "True Love," "Hey Baby," "Silly Love Songs," "Ding Dong," "Beatles Cartoons," "Newsreels" and "Documentaries" will be shown during the two-day fest. The Beatles' first performance on the Ed Sullivan Show will also be shown.

Both evenings' entertainment will be highlighted by a live concert by Liverpool, a Beatles sound-alike band from New York.

Also included in the fest will be over 20 hours of Beatles video in three screening rooms, panel discussions, contests, sing-a-longs, a Beatles Flea Market and Beatles Museum.

Over the past seven years, Beatleest has raised almost \$20,000 for various Beatles chosen charities. This year, at each convention, the money raised will go to John and Yoko's Spirit Foundation. The money is raised through charity raffles and dealer donations.

Tickets are available through Ticketron for \$9 each day or \$16 for both days. Tickets may be purchased at the door the day of the show for \$9.50 daily. For more information call 1-713-789-6886.

The remaining conventions will be held Aug. 14-16 in Chicago at the Hyatt Regency Chicago; Sept. 25-27 in New York City at the N.Y. Statler; and Nov. 28-29 in Los Angeles at the L.A. Bonaventure. For more information about the remaining fests call 1-201-666-5450.

Jewels from Block estate be auctioned by Christie's

NEW YORK — Jewels from the estate of Mrs. Leigh Block of Chicago will be among the jewelry auctioned by Christie's of New York, 502 Park Ave. The two session sale, organized by Francois Curjel, Christie's vice president for jewelry, will take place at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The most important single stone to be auctioned is from Mrs. Block's estate. It is a rare diamond of the finest water which was probably mined in the now extinct Golconda diamond fields in India and is expected to bring over \$300,000. It is a unique example of the Cartier Panther series.

Among the other 38 pieces from the Block estate are three particularly fine sapphire and diamond pieces by Van Cleff and Arpels. The highest pre-sale estimate is for a ring set with an octagon-cut sapphire of 24.85 carats which is estimated to bring up to \$300,000.

This sale may be previewed Saturday from 10

a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday by appointment only and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Sunday a walk-around will be conducted by Curjel at 1:30 and 3 p.m.

Recent auctions in New York as well as Geneva, have shown a strong desire for Art Deco jewelry, particularly for pieces designed by Cartier. This auction will include several examples of this type of work.

For collectors of more modestly priced jewelry a good range of cogarette cases, evening bags and jeweled watches will be offered. A yellow gold and diamond evening bag by Bulgari may bring up to \$15,000 while a rare art deco lady's gold and black enamel wristwatch by Cartier is expected to bring between \$8,000 and \$12,000.

This sale may be previewed Saturday from 10

Cubans on hunger strike

ATLANTA (AP) — Prison officials say four Cubans now are staging a hunger strike to protest their confinement at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary.

Another Cuban was added to the list Wednesday, said prison spokesman William Noonan. One man has refused food for a week.

Noonan said a detainee must refuse food for 72 hours before being considered on a hunger strike.

Music Teaching workshop planned by NTSU faculty

DENTON — "The Art and Craft of Instrumental Music Teaching," a workshop designed for elementary and secondary school band directors, will be held Monday through June 12 at North Texas State University.

Dr. Roger W. Warner of the NTSU music faculty and Dr. James O. Froese of the University of Michigan will conduct the workshop. They will introduce participants to new audio and visual teaching procedures and diagnose and assist in correcting problems in

instrumental music performance.

Fee for the workshop is \$60. Reservations and information can be obtained by contacting the University Center for Community Services at NTSU. For \$85, participants can earn an hour's extension credit for the workshop.

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A bubbling delight! Wonderful and witty! Evening of joy!
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For reservations call 682-4111

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Cheech & Chong's NEXT MOVIE (R) 1:45 5:45 9:45

THE BLUES BROTHERS 3:45 - 7:45

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME (R) 1:45 - 4:15 - 6:45 - 9:15

EXCALIBUR (R) 2:30 - 5:30 - 8:30

TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT (PG) 2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

Country Squire

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The creators of
JAWS and **STAR WARS**
now bring you
the ultimate hero
in the ultimate
adventure.

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of the
LOST ARK

KAREN ALLEN · PAUL FREEMAN · RONALD LACEY · JOHN RHYS-DAVIES · DENHOLM ELLIOTT
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The story of two enterprising young men
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selling ice cream.



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WRITTEN BY THOMAS CHONG & RICHARD CHEECH MARIN MUSIC BY STEVE SHELBY FIDDIS
PRODUCED BY HOWARD BROWN DIRECTED BY THOMAS CHONG

Dist. 8 files one final, three tests

One completion and three wildcats have been filed with the District 8 office of the Texas Railroad Commission for the counties of Andrews, Mitchell and Howard.

ANDREWS COUNTY TEST

Shell Oil Company has filed plans to amend the No. 4 University "J".

Originally drill as a 11,300-foot project in the Andrews South (Devonian) field, and found non-productive, the project will test the Andrews South (Bend) at 9,860 feet, a wildcat at 9,414 feet, the Andrews South (Wolfcamp) at 9,183 feet and the Ecken (Wolfcamp) at 8,571 feet.

Located 1,980 feet from the south and 980 feet from the east of section 27, block 1 ULS survey the site is 11 miles south of Andrews.

MITCHELL COUNTY WILDCATS

Sun Oil of Midland will drill the No. 1 James H. Nail Jr., Trustee "B" as a 7,300-foot wildcat in Mitchell County.

Located 2,400 feet from the south line and 2,400 feet from the west line of section 12, block 12, H&TC survey the site is 5 1/2 miles northwest of Silver.

The project is 8,000 feet northwest of the No. 1 Ellwood which was plugged dry and abandoned 5-18-78 at a total depth of 6,450 feet and 1 mile north of the Dixon field. The test is

also 8,000 feet north of a Mississippian discovery.

The No. 1 James H. Nail Jr., Trustee "A" will be drilled by Sun Oil of Midland.

The 7,250-foot wildcat is located 1,600 feet from the south line and 2,200 feet from the west line of section 11, block 12, H&TC survey and is 5.5 miles northwest of silver.

The project is 1 mile north of the Dixon field and located 500 feet northeast of a depleted Strawn discovery which was completed at a total depth of 6,400 feet.

HOWARD COUNTY COMPLETION

Blanks Energy Corporation of Midland has completed the No. 1 Cherry in the Hutto, South (Clearfork) field of Howard County.

The well pumped 104 barrels of 41 gravity oil and 850 barrels of water on a 24 hour potential test through perforations at 4,458 feet to 4,469 feet which were acidized with 1,200 gallons.

Total depth of the project was 9,755 feet with plugged back depth at 5,282 feet and elevation of 2,590 feet. Casing of 5 1/2 inches was set at 5,348 feet.

The well is located 1,980 feet from the south line and 980 feet from the west line of section 24, block 32, T1N, and is 3 miles north of Big Spring.

Concho County gains dual oil discovery

Concho County gained a dual discovery, a Runnels field was re-opened and a wildcat was slated in McCulloch, according to reports filed with the District 7-C office of the Texas Railroad Commission, headquartered in San Angelo.

CONCHO COUNTY

North American Exploration Co. of Abilene, dually completed as a Fry discovery its No. 2 Morris Miller, recently completed Goen oil discovery in Concho County, 11 miles southwest of Eden.

Calculated, daily flowing potential is 360 barrels of 41 gravity oil, based on a six hour test, through a 10/64 inch choke from perforations at 3,954 to 3,960 feet which had been acidized with 500 gallons.

The gas to oil ratio is 1,850 to 1. It was finalized May 27 for a calculated, daily flowing potential of 720 barrels of 44 gravity oil, with a gas-oil ratio of 1,100-1 through a 14/64 inch choke from perforations at 4,052-4,062 feet.

Location is 467 feet from the south and east lines of section 34, block 8 of the H&TC survey.

RUNNELS COUNTY

Cross Cut san production was re-opened in the Norton field of Runnels County with the completion of Texark Exploration Co. Inc. of Dallas, No. 1 Leland Carlton, 3 1/2 miles northwest of Norton.

Potential to pump 25 barrels of 39 gravity oil, plus 30 barrels of water, production was gained through lower Capps lime perforations at 4,268 to 4,270 which had been acidized with 500 gallons and fractured with 10,000 pounds of sand. The gas-oil ratio is 660 to 1.

The well was drilled to 4,485 feet with 4 1/2 inch casing set at 4,482 feet and plugged back to 4,462 feet. Ground level elevation is 1,776 feet. Location is 940 feet from the north line and 2,800 feet from the west line of the M.H. Brian No. 272, abstract 49.

MCCULLOCH COUNTY

Chanco Inc. of Ozona will drill the No. 1 Chandler, a 1,000-foot wildcat in McCulloch County, one mile west of Mercury.

Location is 413 feet from the south line and 302 feet from the east line of section 280 of the M.Eubanks survey, abstract 1,547. Ground elevation is 1,474 feet.

The site is one location southeast of a 600-foot failure.

Tosco Corp. filing suit against Good

By JEFF BAILEY
(c) 1981, The Los Angeles Times
LOS ANGELES — In a letter to Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm, Tosco Corp. Tuesday requested a broad range of state documents as part of the company's widening battle with Kenneth M. Good, a Denver-based

ENERGY OIL & GAS

developer who has been buying Tosco stock.

"We just got it and our attorney is just beginning to evaluate it," Sue O'Brien, press secretary to Lamm, said of the seven-page letter. O'Brien said it itemizes 30 categories of papers and asks for them "to be available on June 4th at 10:00 a.m."

Meanwhile, Tosco filed affidavits in U.S. District Court here Tuesday, which claim that Good had conversations with Patricia Annison, a Tosco employee, and her husband Michael in which the developer allegedly said he planned to take over Tosco and remove its management.

In Good's SEC filing, made after the alleged conversation took place, he had said he had not yet determined whether he would try to take over the company or replace its management.

Good was unavailable for comment on the affidavits.

Tosco filed suit against Good and a group of his affiliates in federal court here last week accusing them of securities law violations and seeking an injunction against their further trading in Tosco shares. Good's group had revealed in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission that they had purchased 5.8 percent of Tosco's outstanding common shares. The filing also said the group may seek control of Tosco through more stock purchases.

Tosco's law suit alleged that Good received confidential information about the company through Paula Herzmark, director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Both denied the allegations. Good and Herzmark have been dating since last November.

Among the documents requested by Tosco through its Denver law firm, Holmes & Starr, were all communications — including press releases, notes, verbal statements and drafts — from O'Brien's office to the press since March 1, 1981.

Also requested were all memos and documents to and from Herzmark, Lamm and Monte Pascoe, Colorado director of natural resources, concerning Tosco, Good or any affiliated entity or person, and several other subjects relating to Tosco's oil shale interests in the state.

Crockett files wildcat, confirmer, seven outposts

A wildcat, a confirmer and seven outposts were scheduled and a confirmer and an extender were finalized in Crockett County.

J. Cleo Thompson of Dallas will drill the No. 3 University 29-25, a 9,500-foot wildcat, 1 1/2 miles southeast of the opener of the proposed University 29 (Strawn-Detrital) field, 23 miles west of Ozona.

Location is 1,980 feet from the north and east lines of section 28, block 29 of the University Lands survey.

Estoril Producing Corp. of Midland will drill the No. 2 M. Elliott "A" as a 1/2 mile north outpost to the current two-well Ellenburger gas producer in the Crockett County portion of the Buckhorn multipay field and 14 miles northeast of Ozona.

Location is 1,150 feet from the north line and 2,500 feet from the east line of section 13, block AB of the D&SE survey. Contract depth is 8,500 feet.

The Pike Peak Draw (Canyon) field gained its tenth producer and a 1/2 mile north extension with the completion of Joe McGuire of Midland No. 1 Joe Bean, North, 14 miles north-

west of Ozona. Potential for a calculated absolute open flow of 760,000 cubic feet of gas daily, production was gained through perforations at 6,190 to 7,148 feet which had been acidized with 2,500 gallons and fractured with 40,000 gallons and 104,000 pounds of sand.

Location is 1,980 feet from the north and east lines of section 34, block UV of the GC&SF survey.

Oil production was extended 1/2-mile south in the Crockett portion of the Farmer (San Andres oil and gas) field with the completion of Warren American Oil Co. of Midland No. 2 University of Texas-235, 14 miles southeast of Big Lake.

The well was potential to pump 16 barrels of 30.3 gravity oil plus two barrels of water through perforations at 2,032 to 2,306 feet which had been fractured with 40,000 gallons and 90,000 pounds of sand.

Location is 330 feet from the north and west lines of section 4, block 46 of the University Lands survey.

Brushy Creek Drilling Co. of San Angelo will drill six outposts to the

Simpson field, 29.36 miles northwest of Ozona.

All projects are scheduled to 2,500 feet.

The No. 1 Blaze "A", 1 1/4 miles northwest, is 660 feet from the north line and 996 feet from the west line of section 12, block 1 of the GC&SF survey.

The No. 1 Blaze "B", 1 1/8 mile northwest, is 1,004 feet from the north line and 2,343 feet from the west line of the same section.

The No. 1 Blaze "C", 3/4 mile northwest, is 1,004 feet from the north line and 995 feet from the east lines of the same section.

The No. 1 Blaze "D", 3/4 mile northwest, is 1,004 feet from the north line and 331 feet from the east line of the same section.

The No. 2 Blaze "X", 2 1/2 miles south, 2 1/2 miles south, is 1,011 feet

from the south line and 999 feet from west line of section 1, block 1 of the GC&SF survey.

The No. 1 Blaze "X", 2 1/2 miles south, is 1,011 feet from the south line and 333 feet from the west line of section 1, block 1 of the GC&SF survey.

Harrison Interests, Ltd. of Houston will drill the No. 24 University Land "20-33" as a 5/8 mile southwest outpost to the Pennsylvanian production and as a Canyon test, 3/4-mile northwest of the nearest Canyon production in the Howards Creek multipay field and 16 miles southwest of Ozona.

Location is 1,120 feet from the north line and 1,980 feet from the east line of section 20, block 33 of the University Lands survey. Contract depth is 9,000 feet.

12,450-foot Dawson test planned

Earl M. Craig Jr. Corp. of Midland will drill the No. 1 Thunderbolt as a 12,450-foot wildcat in Dawson County.

The project is 467 feet from the north and 1,320 feet from the east of section 10, blk 0-1 W.H. Godair survey 16 miles west of Lamesa. Ground level elevation is 3,018 feet. The primary objective is the Fusselman.

The site is 4,000 feet south and slightly east of the No. 1 Belev plugged and abandoned June, 29, 1968 and 2 miles east of the Lindsey field.

Solar energy boom in soggy Oregon

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Soggy Oregon is hardly a place where Ole Sol could be expected to warm homes, heat water and fry potatoes.

"This is more like the rainbelt," says Dan Merkle, owner of the Sunworks company in Portland and founder of the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association.

HL&P officials failed to investigate firing

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Lighting & Power officials have acknowledged they did not check a contractor's statement that a nuclear project quality control inspector was fired during an investigation of charges that he took a bribe.

But HL&P Executive Vice President George Oprea Jr. told a Nuclear Regulatory Commission hearing Tuesday that he agreed with chief contractor Brown & Root's decision to fire Dan Swayze in 1978.

Swayze later appeared on national television to charge that the project's reactor walls were riddled with flaws because of poor concrete pours. He also said he was fired to intimidate other inspectors.

A three-member NRC board is hearing claims from opponents of the

Yet, solar energy in recent years has become a multi-million dollar industry here in the Pacific Northwest, where it rains 200 inches a year in some places.

There are solar housing projects in Portland, a solar-heated goat milking barn in Bend, and on the coast, where rainfall is the heaviest, motels are

using the sun's rays to heat their tapwater.

The solar boom has been encouraged by federal and state tax credits, the popularity of environmentally safe energy and the push to replace dwindling gas and oil supplies with renewable energy sources.

Also, the Legislature and several cities are working on "right to light" proposals. Officials want to assure Oregonians that once they invest in solar energy their access to the sun will be protected from new buildings and tall trees.

"The thing that is unique about Oregon is it is not a place where the solar industry grew up, like Florida, New Mexico and California," says Rich Gallagher of the Oregon Department of Energy. "You'd expect them to be in the forefront."

But Gallagher said solar energy works here because the state has a mild climate and about 70 percent of the sun's infrared rays penetrate even on cloudy days.

Additionally, Oregon offers tax incentives to those who take advantage of solar energy. Residents who install a solar system that supplies at least 10 percent of a home's energy requirement are eligible for a state income-tax credit of up to \$1,000.

The Department of Energy has received about 3,500 applications for the credit since the program started in 1979. Applications now arrive at the rate of 100 a week, Gallagher says.

The state has a similar program for business and commercial buildings, which has attracted about 130 applicants so far.

State energy officials say commercial solar projects include nursing homes, motel chains and taverns with solar water systems.

A potato processing company in eastern Oregon is switching to solar power to produce 2,000 pounds of steam per hour to heat the cooking oil used to fry more than 4 million pounds of french fries per day.

Merkle started his business in 1979.

Working alone, he did about \$230 worth of business the first month, building solar water heaters and systems for greenhouses.

He now employs nine people and does about \$250,000 in business a year. He says the state solar industries association has about 150 members and is the second largest in the nation, next to California.

"Oregonians are very receptive to solar because they are aware of the energy and environmental implications," says Merkle, a chemical engineer. "Solar power can reduce our dependence on foreign oil."

Merkle says owners of solar equipment need to be assured that sunlight will fall on that equipment.

"We've gone from 30 solar houses in 1974 to 3,000 in 1980 and people don't know if they have solar protection," says Republican state Sen. George Wingard, a Eugene builder. "I believe that people who have built solar homes ought to be protected from the problems of somebody growing trees in their way in the future."

The state Senate this month passed a bill that states that all applications for building permits must certify that passive solar energy was considered as a source of heating.

The small towns of Woodburn in the Willamette Valley and Ashland in southern Oregon already have adopted "right to light" ordinances. City planners say the measures don't mean someone can be ordered to cut down their trees or knock down a building to give their neighbors access to sunlight. However, existing trees and buildings must be kept at the present height if growth or additions would block the sun.

"Most people who are installing systems are careful about what is on the south-facing lot," says Margie Harris who helped draft a solar access proposal recently presented to Portland officials. "The city is preoccupied with encouraging people to install solar systems. It also needs to concentrate on maintaining solar rights."



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