

Patient trades hospital gown for cap and gown

HOUSTON (AP) — Karen Laughlin's cap and gown will be more than just clean for her college graduation today — they'll be sterilized, as is everything else in her virtually germ-free room at M.D. Anderson Hospital.

The 22-year-old dance major is living in a sterile room at the cancer hospital to guard against infection while her immunity is reduced as a side effect of chemotherapy for leukemia.

The increased risk of infection means everything around her must be as free of germs as possible. At graduation time, that means a sterilized diploma. It also means no one else will be in her room when she graduates, and no hugs or kisses will follow the ceremony.

She was to have received her bachelor of arts degree with her fellow students at the University of Texas at Austin on Saturday. But on April 6 she was diagnosed as suffering from acute myelogenous leukemia.

She was admitted to M.D. Anderson on April 28, two days after dancing in Washington at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as a member of the university's Dance Repertory Theater.

Plans were changed. Instead of her being in Austin, it was decided that university officials should be in Houston for her graduation. They include Bob Willis, dean of the College of Fine Arts; Charles Roeckle, assistant dean of student affairs; Coleman Jennings, chairman of the Department of Drama,

and Sharron Vasquez, director of the Dance Repertory Theater.

Hospital spokeswoman Lisa Long said the only people other than Ms. Laughlin allowed in her room are housekeepers who wear sterile clothing and use special chemicals to keep the room virtually germ-free.

"Special air filters reduce the incidence of airborne bacteria," Ms. Long said. "This room makes it possible for the patient to receive stronger doses of chemotherapy because the danger of infection is greatly reduced."

Her family can see her through a glass wall separating her room and a visiting area, and can speak to her with a telephone or speaker phone. The

wall on the opposite side of the room is plastic and is equipped with gloves to let nurses and physicians examine her.

Leukemia patients assigned to such rooms during chemotherapy generally stay there for 60 to 90 days, depending on how they respond to treatment, Ms. Long said.

"She (Ms. Laughlin) had one series of chemotherapy and will find out this week if she needs another," Ms. Long said.

Ms. Laughlin's is not the first graduation scheduled for a protective environment at the cancer hospital. In 1979, Ricky Guevara received his Rio Grande City High School diploma while in the hospital. He has since died.

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Reagan toughening his stand on budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan, displaying a toughening attitude toward Congress over the budget, says "it is time to draw the line" on defense cuts and greater domestic spending.

At a news conference Tuesday evening, he also had strong words for the Sandinista leaders in Nicaragua: "They're not minding their own business. They are attempting to overthrow a duly-elected government in a neighboring country," he said.

Reagan, after a three-month break in his formal news conferences, told the nationally broadcast session with reporters that Syria's Arab allies are urging the Damascus government to pull its troops out of Lebanon when the Israeli forces are prepared to leave.

"I can't believe that the Syrians want to find themselves alone, separated from all of their Arab allies," the president said, reaffirming his optimism that a Syrian withdrawal can be achieved. He also said he did not know how long the U.S. Marine contingent would remain in Lebanon, but it could "be there for quite a period."

In an opening statement, the president said he had tried supporting a proposed compromise to cut defense spending and raise domestic allocations for fiscal 1984, but this was "to no avail."

"It is time to draw the line and stand up for the people," he said. "I will not support a budget resolution that raises taxes while we are coming out of a recession. I will veto any tax bill that would do this."

Asked whether the anticipated budget deficit of approximately \$200 billion would drive up interest rates, the president predicted that "in the very near future, we are going to see a further drop in interest rates."

Reagan is doing battle with Democrats and Republicans as Congress tries to pare the anticipated deficits. So far, he has failed to muster a majority of Republicans to support his overall budget goal.

The Democrat-controlled House has approved a plan calling for a \$30 billion tax increase in fiscal 1984, to cut the deficit, while the Senate is trying to break a deadlock over the size of a new tax increase.

The president also stepped back

from previous threats to veto a repeal of withholding of income taxes from interest and dividend payments, saying that he would wait and see if a compromise is reached with congressional opponents of the withholding plan.

The president reserved some of his toughest language for discussion of his reason for not openly supporting the guerrillas fighting the Nicaragua government.

He said that the Nicaraguans were training and "supplying arms and everything else that is needed to guerrillas that are trying to overthrow" the government in El Salvador.

"All we've said to Nicaragua, and from the beginning, is 'become a legitimate American state. Quit trying to subvert your neighbors. And we'll talk all kinds of relationship with you,'" he said.

Reagan, who has said there were serious grounds for questioning Soviet compliance with arms control agreements as a result of possible new weapons tests, repeated his assertion that "we have reason to believe that very possibly they (the Soviets) were in violation" of the strategic arms limitation treaty.

Panel favors higher taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican-led Senate Budget Committee is drifting from President Reagan on a 1984 budget plan and is likely to approve higher taxes and a slower military buildup than the White House will support.

After weeks of seeking to keep Reagan's backing on whatever budget blueprint is approved, committee chairman Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., has turned to Democrats in hopes of forging a compromise spending and taxing plan that can get through the Senate.

But Reagan, reacting even before the committee's vote, declared Tuesday night he would oppose any budget that raises taxes while the nation is coming out of recession.

Although the president's signature is not required on the budget itself, his approval is needed for any spending or tax bills Congress passes later in the year. Appearing at a nationally televised news conference, Reagan threatened to veto

"any tax bill" that raises taxes, and added, "I will veto spending bills that would rekindle the fires of inflation and high interest rates."

"It is time to draw the line and stand up for the people," he declared.

Domenici's decision to turn to Democrats in search of a bipartisan budget compromise results from the inability of Senate Republican leaders to find a majority to vote for a budget compromise on the Senate floor last week.

After two weeks of debate, the Senate handed both Reagan and GOP Senate leaders embarrassing defeats and left the congressional budget process near chaos.

As a result, the committee was making a fresh attempt today to send a new budget plan to the full Senate for votes on Thursday.

During a committee meeting on Tuesday, Domenici said, "We might even do some things that the president wouldn't be willing to support."

Over the past few days, Reagan has harshly criticized Congress for its budget practices.

Sen. Lawton Chiles of Florida, the senior Democrat on the budget panel, said Reagan's accusations are "patently untrue...It's the president who did not abide by the budget."

Similarly, Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich., said the president "was blatantly and openly dishonest."

"It's the administration that's in here asking for higher spending and higher deficits," he said.

In one speech on Monday, Reagan portrayed his budget opponents as "deficit doctors" who want to "operate on your wallet."

"Deficits are the symptom," he said. "The disease is uncontrolled spending and the cause is an addiction to big government."

The effect of all that, said Chiles, is that Senate Democrats are less willing than they might be to join with Republicans to get a budget plan through the Senate.



That tickles!

Is it dermabrasion that keeps George Burns eternally young? A poster of the longtime comedian "laughs" as a workman peels away its advertising message on a billboard near Tampa, Fla.

Senate may 'withhold' debate on dividends, lobbyists

WASHINGTON (AP) — A lopsided House vote to repeal withholding of taxes from interest and dividends throws the issue back to the Senate and fuels a debate over the influence of lobbyists in Congress.

President Reagan, however, appears to be backing away from threats to veto the repeal legislation. The House vote Tuesday to kill

withholding makes it all but certain that 10 percent withholding will not go into effect as scheduled on July 1. The Senate is likely to delay until next week a decision over whether to follow the House and vote for repeal or to save face for the president by substituting some new measures aimed at catching tax cheats.

By a veto-proof margin of 382-41,

the House turned down appeals from Reagan and Democratic leaders and voted to kill the 1982 law. The Senate last month voted 91-5 to leave the law on the books but prevent its use. Senators now have another chance to consider outright repeal.

Reagan and other backers of withholding have accused the banking

industry of using deceptive advertising that scared many people — especially the elderly — into believing withholding was a new tax and that they would lose their savings.

However, Reagan refrained from using any harsh rhetoric on the issue Tuesday night during a nationally broadcast news conference and he declined to repeat the veto

threats he has made in the past.

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., whose Ways and Means Committee had freed the repeal bill for a vote after it was demanded by a majority of the House, criticized the banking industry, whose mail campaign was a major factor in the vote.

"We are distressed that the banking industry's campaign to combine

misinformation with sophisticated mass-mailing techniques will become the tactical guide for others who would gain their ends by deception," Rostenkowski said.

Rep. Norman D'Amours, D-N.H., leader of the repeal fight, said the 22 million letters received by Congress on the issue resulted from a grassroots movement.

Stanton woman dies in mishap

STANTON — Minnie Alice Bergstrom, 79, of Stanton was killed in a three-vehicle accident Tuesday afternoon.

Injured were her husband, N.E. Bergstrom, 76, listed in good condition with contusions and a concussion at Midland Memorial Hospital. The driver, her 51-year-old son Stanley Bergstrom, was treated for injuries at MMH emergency room.

The Bergstrom vehicle was east-bound when it collided with a west-bound vehicle driven by Mark Golubinski of Stanton. The impact resulted in a collision of the Bergstrom vehicle with one driven by Ted Stewart, who was on a cross-road, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Mrs. Bergstrom was pronounced dead at MMH by Midland County Peace Officer Charles Sprayberry. Golubinski and Stewart escaped injury.

INSIDE TODAY

Dreaded drought

Though there's no drought yet, May's lack of rain is creating fear of a dry summer for area cotton farmers and ginners like Hoot Leonard, pictured.

LOCAL — 1C

Midland's Downtown Optimist Club presents its annual law enforcement awards during noon ceremonies Tuesday.

LOCAL — 1C

Bridge.....13A	Editorial.....14A	Markets.....8B
Business.....7B	Entertainment.....12B	Obituaries.....2C
Classified.....4D	Horoscope.....12A	Solomon.....14B
Comics.....12A	Lifestyle.....3C	Sports.....1B
Word.....12A	Local.....1C	TV Schedule.....13A

Service

Delivery.....682-5311 Fair and warmer Thursday
Want Ads.....682-6222 with a high in the mid-80s. Details
Other Calls.....682-5311 on Page 2A.

Weather

Texas supplies about one fourth of millionaire House members

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas has lived up to its reputation as a land of wealth and swagger by sending the U.S. House nearly a quarter of its millionaires.

Of the 435 House members, 21 reported minimum assets last year of more than \$1 million. Five of the 21 were Texans, according to financial disclosure reports released Tuesday.

The reports also showed that at least six of the 27 Texas congressmen had income, not including congressional salaries, of \$50,000 or more last year.

And ten received more than \$5,000 each in honoraria — generally payments for speeches to interest or constituent groups.

The five Texans with more than \$1 million in assets are all Democrats: Sam B. Hall of Marshall; Ralph M.

Hall of Rockwall, Jack Brooks of Beaumont, Marvin Leath of Marlin and Tom Vandergriff of Arlington.

Sam Hall reported assets of at least \$1.56 million, Ralph Hall of \$2.14 million, Brooks of \$1.69 million, Leath of \$1.16 million and Vandergriff of \$1.52 million.

In each instance, the figure is a minimum tally of assets and the actual figure could range much higher.

Congressmen are not required to precisely disclose their financial resources, only to provide figures showing a minimum and maximum limit.

Assets of the five included stocks in a wide range of companies, land holdings, oil and gas royalties, or partnerships in various firms.

The five also reported rather extensive liabilities, ranging from at

least \$165,000 for Leath to at least \$1.27 million for Vandergriff.

Texas congressmen reporting liabilities of \$500,000 or more were Charles Wilson, D-Lufkin, at least \$605,000; Ralph Hall, \$815,000, and Vandergriff.

At the other end of the scale, two Texas congressmen, Kika de la Garza, D-Mission, and Henry B. Gonzalez, D-San Antonio, listed no assets on their financial disclosure reports.

The reports do not require disclosure of assets such as a personal automobile or home.

Texas reporting non-congressional income of \$50,000 or more last year were John W. Bryant, D-Dallas, at least \$306,000; Brooks, \$132,000; Leath, \$232,000; Kent Hance, D-Lubbock, \$108,000; Mike Andrews, D-Houston, \$112,000 and Vandergriff, \$332,000.

WEATHER SUMMARY

The Forecast For 8 p.m. EDT
Wednesday, May 18
High Temperature



Fronts: Cold Warm Occluded Stationary

Rain is predicted for parts of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri, according to the National Weather Service.

Pleasant temperatures continue

The National Weather Service menu calls for fair skies and pleasant temperatures today and Thursday, inviting Midlanders to get outdoors and drink in some sun. According to the NWS, tonight should be fair and cool with the low dropping near 50. Winds tonight should be light and variable switching to the southeast at 10-15 mph Thursday. Fair skies and warm temperatures are expected Thursday, when the high should reach the mid-80s.

Midland statistics Texas temperatures

Table with columns for High, Low, and Pop. Lists temperatures for various Texas cities including Abilene, Alice, Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, Childress, College Station, Corpus Christi, Dalhart, Dallas, Del Rio, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Houston, Longview, Lubbock, Lufkin, Marfa, McAllen, Midland, Odessa, San Angelo, San Antonio, Shreveport, Stephenville, Texarkana, Victoria, Waco, Wichita Falls, and Wink.

Texas forecasts

West Texas: Fair to partly cloudy through Thursday. Warmer most sections Thursday. Highs 87 Panhandle to 92 south and 92 Big Bend. Lows 41 Panhandle and mountains to 55 south and near 60 Big Bend. Highs Thursday 89 Panhandle to 94 south and 95 Big Bend.

Severe weather eases, after storms, snow hit heartland

By The Associated Press. Severe weather that pummeled the nation's heartland was easing today after hail, tornadoes, thunderstorms and up to 2 feet of snow hampered travel and left many towns without power. The National Weather Service said a spring blizzard in the central Rockies on Tuesday dumped 24 inches of snow in Wyoming near Wheatland and 23 inches in the Buckhorn Mountain of Colorado west of Fort Collins.

Reagan's veto threats fit re-election campaign theme

By WALTER R. MEARS AP Special Correspondent. WASHINGTON — President Reagan has posted a pair of veto threats as evidence that he means to stand up for the people against the taxers and spenders in Congress. He hasn't said he's running for re-election, but it would fit as a campaign theme.

Spring storm brings wintry weather

By The Associated Press

A "freak" spring storm brought rain and hail to the Great Plains today after dumping up to two feet of snow on Wyoming and Colorado, closing roads, leaving thousands of people without power and forcing some voters in Denver to cast ballots by flashlight.

The mid-May blizzard sent 86 mph winds whistling Tuesday through Fort Carson, near Colorado Springs, Colo., making travel impossible in some areas because of reduced visibility.

As much as 24 inches of snow fell near Wheatland, in southeastern Wyoming, and Interstate 80 between Cheyenne and Laramie remained closed early today because of heavy buildups.

The blizzard deposited 23 inches of snow on Buckhorn Mountain, 11 miles northwest of Fort Collins, Colo.

"It was a freak storm, an unusual storm for the amount of snow if brought at this time of year, but the worst is over," Hugh Crowther, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Severe Storms Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., said today. "It's moving in an easterly direction, turning to rain as it gets into the lower elevations."

The cold front was centered over central Kansas today, bringing heavy rain, wind and hail to south-central Oklahoma. Stockmen's warnings were posted today in western Nebraska and northwest Kansas.

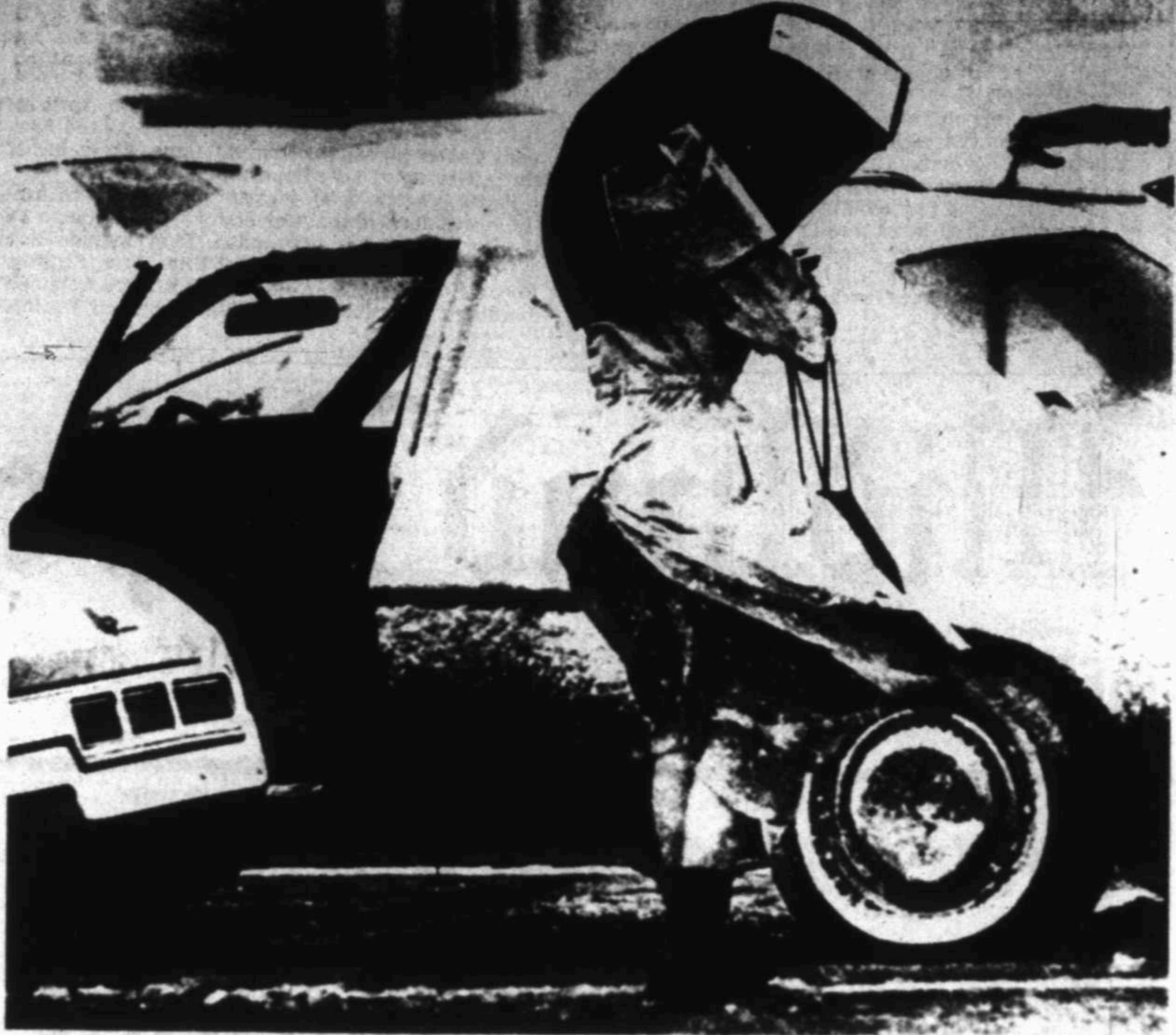
Winds gusting to 55 mph made driving difficult Tuesday in Denver, where 4 inches of snow glazed streets and closed two of four runways at Stapleton International Airport, delaying flights for an hour or more.

Dave Scherer, a spokesman for the airport, said, "Conditions are similar, but not as intense as the Christmas blizzard." That storm closed the airport for 36 hours.

The heavy, wet snow tore down eight transmission lines in Denver, cutting off power over a total of more than 20 square miles in a dozen pockets, mostly residential areas.

The snowstorm also cut into the turnout for Tuesday's non-partisan mayoral election, although 60 percent of the city's 211,000 voters did make it to the polls.

"The turnout is higher than we expected with the bad weather,"



Fighting high wind and blowing snow is Denver parking lot during Tuesday's blizzard. The spring resident Joy Breeze, caught trudging through a storm also dumped hail on parts of the nation.

said Sylvia Dennis, head of the Denver Election Commission.

More than a half-dozen polling places were without light and heat, including Remington Elementary School where "we're voting by flashlight," said school secretary Shirley Thompson.

Three small towns north of Denver were totally blacked out and a spokesman for Public Service Co. of Colorado said there were 5,000 to 6,000 reports of outages affecting anywhere from a handful of homes

to an entire block. Some people were reported spending the night at Red Cross shelters.

Service had been restored to nearly all of the areas blacked out in Denver, although hundreds of individual homes and businesses were left without power late Tuesday.

Crews were working around the clock to handle "by far... the biggest problem the Public Service Co. has known for some time," said spokesman Don Blake.

All major highways were closed at

one point near Cheyenne, Wyo., where 7 inches of snow was on the ground by noon and wind gusts to 45 mph. A foot of snow was measured north of Cheyenne at Chugwater.

But a dispatcher for the Wyoming Highway Patrol said there were "very few accidents or problems" except for some people sliding off roads.

Schools, government offices and many businesses shut down in that southeast Wyoming city.

Syria won't meet with U.S. envoy

By The Associated Press

The Syrian government said today it will refuse to meet with U.S. special envoy Philip C. Habib, who is seeking to arrange the withdrawal of Syrian and other foreign forces from Lebanon.

A statement issued in Damascus through Syria's official news agency said the government would not receive Habib "because we have nothing to discuss with him, and especially because he is one of the most hostile American officials to the Arabs and their causes."

The harsh Syrian statement came one day after Lebanon and Israel signed a U.S.-mediated agreement calling for the withdrawal of Israel's 25,000 troops from Lebanon. The agreement will not be implemented until Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization withdraw their estimated 50,000 troops from Lebanon, and Syria thus far has rejected the accord.

According to the Beirut newspaper Al-Amal, which is affiliated with the Christian Phalange Party of President Amin Gemayel, Habib was to go to Damascus on Thursday but the visit was canceled by the Syrian government.

A leftist newspaper in Beirut reported today that Libya has recalled its ambassador from Beirut and is urging an Arab boycott of Lebanon to protest the signing of the withdrawal agreement.

The newspaper As-Safir said Libya also has asked the Lebanese ambas-

Reagan believes Syria will join Israel in withdrawal

WASHINGTON (AP) — With special envoy Philip Habib opening new talks on withdrawing foreign forces from Lebanon, President Reagan says he is confident Syria will overcome its reservations and join Israel in agreeing to a troop pullback.

But the Syrian government said today it would refuse to meet with Habib because "we have nothing to discuss with him."

Meanwhile, Reagan is giving strong signals that the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal agreement will lead to the long-delayed delivery of F-16 fighter planes to Israel.

Habib is resuming his Middle East mission to Lebanon today after Reagan told a news conference Tuesday night he is optimistic about a Syrian withdrawal because of pressure from other Arab nations.

"I can't believe that the Syrians want to find themselves alone, separated from all of their Arab allies," Reagan said. Except for Syria, Libya and South Yemen, Arab countries generally have supported the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

Reagan also recalled that Syria has promised repeatedly to leave Lebanon once Israel agreed to do so. Nonetheless, Syria has vowed to do everything it can to foil the agreement on grounds that it enables Israel to maintain "military domination" over Lebanon.

Within hours of Reagan's news conference, the Syrian government issued a statement through its official news agency saying it would refuse to meet with Habib "because we have nothing to discuss with him, and especially because he is one of the most hostile American officials to the Arabs and their causes."

withdrawal accord. There was no immediate comment from the Libyan Embassy in Beirut or the Lebanese Foreign Ministry on the report. But a high-ranking Lebanese official who requested anonymity in keeping with government regulations predicted that direct Syrian-Lebanese negotiations would begin next week despite the rebuff of Habib.

Also today, Lebanese police reported that Syria had relaxed a day-old blockade of road traffic between Lebanon and the rest of the Arab world.

Police in Beirut said the coastal highway linking the capital with Syrian-controlled northern Lebanon was reopened for normal traffic at daybreak today.

Local taxicab services in Beirut reported trips to Syria on the northern highway resumed. But they said travel on the main international highway through Syrian-controlled areas of the central Lebanese mountains remained suspended for a second straight day.

Syria and Libya, both allied with the Soviet Union, were the only Arab countries to react angrily to the signing of the withdrawal accord. Other Arab countries either have declared support for Lebanon or kept silent.

Habib's mission, which was to resume today, was endorsed Tuesday night by President Reagan, who told a news conference he is optimistic about a Syrian withdrawal because of pressure from other Arab nations.

GOP leader seeks Democrats' aid on budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — Unable to enlist enough votes from fellow Republicans to pass a compromise budget resolution, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici is turning to Democrats for help in forging a spending plan.

Now that Domenici has dropped efforts to win President Reagan's support for the spending blueprint, his committee is expected to approve higher taxes and cut the defense budget proposed by the White House.

The president, however, vowed at a news conference Tuesday night to veto any bill that raises taxes while the nation is emerging from a recession.

"I will veto spending bills that would rekindle the fires of inflation and high interest," Reagan added.

The decision by the New Mexico Republican to seek Democratic votes follows last week's defeat of a budget compromise bill that was backed by both the president and the Senate's GOP majority leadership.

The committee was making a new attempt today to agree on another budget plan in time for a full Senate vote on Thursday.

The Senate also faces another vote on whether to repeal withholding of taxes from interest and dividends. The House voted 382-41 Tuesday to repeal the measure, which Reagan says would reduce cheating by taxpayers.

range, are no less a problem in the current Senate stalemate over a new budget. And some of Reagan's fellow Republicans, among them Sen. Pete V. Domenici of New Mexico, chairman of the Budget Committee, are talking of tax increases bigger than Reagan wants.

In his own budget, the president recommended tax changes to raise \$2.3 billion in additional revenue in 1984, and \$4.4 billion in 1985. He has since agreed to increases that would raise a bit more, but not much more.

The House adopted a budget that would have required \$30 billion in new revenue, available only by scrapping the income tax cut that is due July 1. But the president won't

stand for that, and it is not a realistic prospect.

"I will not support a budget resolution that raises taxes while we are coming out of a recession," Reagan told the news conference. "I will veto any tax bill that would do this."

That doesn't leave much room for further compromise to get a budget resolution through the Republican Senate, let alone the House. But Reagan said he had tried compromise, to no avail.

The government isn't going to run out of money for lack of a budget resolution. The congressional budget sets ceilings; appropriations bills provide the funds.

Last month, senators voted 91-5 to leave the law on the books but prevent its use. Senate action on the House bill is expected to be delayed until next week.

William D. Ruckelshaus won unanimous confirmation by the Senate Tuesday to become the new head of the embattled Environmental Protection Agency, a job he held from 1970 to 1973. The 97-0 vote set the stage for today's installation of Ruckelshaus as the successor to Anne McGill Burford. She resigned in the wake of a half-dozen congressional investigations of EPA.

The House Appropriations Committee voted 30-25 Tuesday to free funds to develop and test the 10-warhead MX missile, prompting Reagan to predict swift congressional approval of the new weapons system.

"I look forward to prompt approval of this vital program by the full House and Senate," Reagan said several hours after the panel's vote.

The Senate, where the Appropriations Committee voted 17-11 last week to free \$580 million for MX development, may consider the bill on Friday. The full House is scheduled to debate it on Monday.

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business/energy

OPEC's effort to hold price line succeeding, experts say

By The Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

Although there are some signs that oil prices are drifting lower again, analysts and oil industry sources said Tuesday that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' efforts to support its official \$29-a-barrel benchmark level are succeeding.

Many analysts say they expect oil prices to hold at their current levels, but they caution that the future of oil prices will hinge on whether the budding worldwide economic recovery can rejuvenate worldwide oil demand, which continues to be stagnant.

"The whole key to everything is demand," said John Lichtblau, who heads the industry-sponsored Petroleum Industry Research Foundation in New York. "If it doesn't rise, OPEC is in real trouble."

The foundation predicts that demand will rebound somewhat during the second half of this year, but that worldwide consumption for all of 1983 will fall short of last year's.

Spot market prices for petroleum products, which rallied after the announcement in mid-March of an OPEC plan to limit supplies, have faltered somewhat in recent weeks. Gasoline, for example, was trading on the European spot market last week for \$33.19 a barrel, down from \$35.15 at the beginning of this month.

However, crude oil prices on the spot market averaged only 50 cents a barrel under official OPEC quotes, compared with as much as \$6 below OPEC's previous benchmark price of \$34 a barrel before OPEC's March meeting. Only a small percentage of all oil sales are made on the spot market, where individual cargoes of oil are traded, but its prices are widely watched as an indicator of the future direction of the market.

At its March session, OPEC abandoned its efforts to defend the \$34 benchmark in the face of a prolonged weak market and widespread predictions of a price collapse. Its strategy to defend the lower \$29 price has centered on holding its 13 members to a set of strict production quotas.

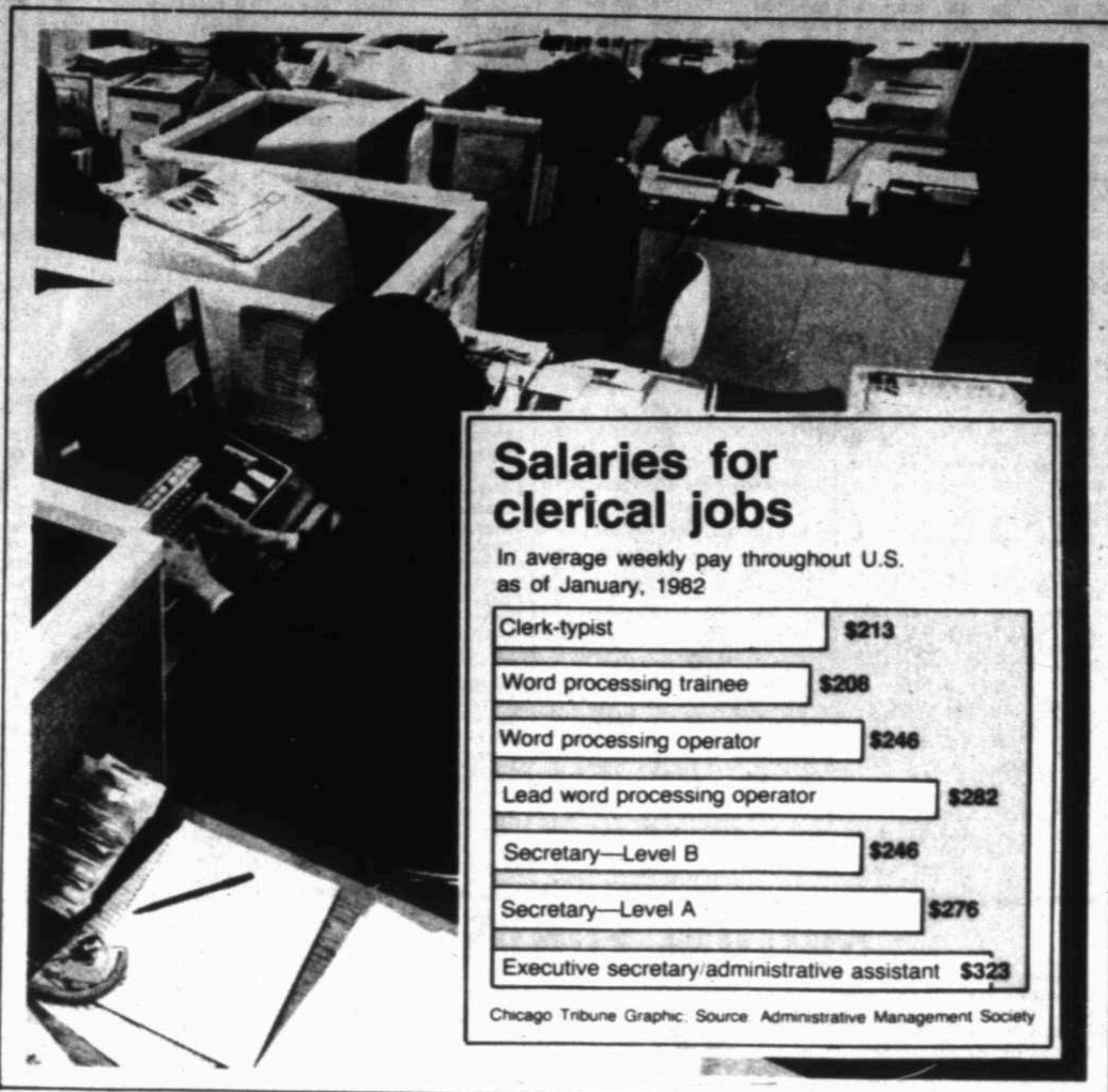
Published reports Tuesday said Iran has agreed to sell as many as 70,000 to 120,000 barrels of oil a day to Japan at a discount of as much as 50 cents a barrel from its official price quote. The exact value of the discount is difficult to determine, because it is woven into a complex barter arrangement.

Although the move appears to be the

first open breach of the 2-month-old OPEC agreement, analysts noted that the discount offered by Iran apparently was less than the \$2-a-barrel reduction that the Japanese had earlier demanded. They also noted that the Japanese had agreed to purchase only 70,000 to 120,000 barrels a day under the deal, which is less than half the amount that had been anticipated. Japan had been buying an estimated 350,000 barrels a day through March. (A barrel contains 42 gallons.)

W.D. Hermann, chief economist of Standard Oil Co. of California, noted that customers are leery of purchasing Iranian oil, because of the country's political disruption. Therefore, he said, the discount may be needed as "a way for the Iranians to keep their production (up) and to keep (their oil) moving." Hermann and other analysts said they do not believe the Iranians are selling more oil than allowed under their OPEC quota.

Constantine Fliakos, Merrill Lynch and Co. analyst, described the Iranian discount as merely a "leakage in the OPEC agreement." More significant, he said, are the sliding petroleum product prices, particularly at the onset of the summer driving season, when demand usually rises.



Salaries for clerical jobs

In average weekly pay throughout U.S. as of January, 1982

Clerk-typist	\$213
Word processing trainee	\$206
Word processing operator	\$246
Lead word processing operator	\$282
Secretary—Level B	\$246
Secretary—Level A	\$276
Executive secretary/administrative assistant	\$328

Chicago Tribune Graphic. Source: Administrative Management Society

Talking computer can pay your bills

By Susan Warfel Hearst Feature Service

LOS ANGELES — The first of the month is here again, and suddenly all your bills are due. You pick up your push-button phone and call your bank. The voice that answers is male, courteous and slightly effeminate. It asks for your account number. You provide it, along with information on how much money you owe and to whom. It repeats the information and thanks you for calling.

Congratulations! You have just dispensed with the messy task of bill paying. After a single call, your bank will handle the chore.

The voice that solves your payment problems is electronically produced by a computer that's part of a new telephone bill-paying service to be launched June 1 by Security Pacific National Bank. It is just one illustration of the many changes tak-

ing place in the banking industry as it evolves through the 1980s and becomes the bank of tomorrow.

Spurred by sweeping regulatory changes, a harsh economic environment and aggressive new competitors, traditional banks are developing new products and programs that in the next decade may completely transform the way consumers conduct their financial transactions.

Stephen T. McLin, senior vice president of BankAmerica Corp., the parent company of Bank of America, says banks will try to cope with new competitors who have been moving in on their turf — like Sears, Shearson/American Express and Merrill Lynch — by moving into some of those companies' businesses.

"Insurance and real estate brokerage are some of the more obvious services that seem to fit in with banking," McLin says. Other possi-

ilities are stock brokerage, financial planning, tax advice, and "portfolio management in the broadest sense — looking at people's total deposits and liabilities and making suggestions."

"I think the larger banks are going to have to have everything available, although they may subcontract part of it," he continues. "Market research shows consumers value their time and won't want to drive all over for financial services."

Jimmy Carter, a financial analyst for Merrill Lynch in New York, predicts that the number of financial institutions in the next decade will dwindle, and a small number of large companies will dominate the field. Because of their size, these institutions will have to offer a broad array of services on a national or multinational scale to people of all income brackets. At the other end of the scale, there will be some "boutiques" — very small financial

institutions — that will provide more personalized service to those willing to pay for it, says Carter.

Hank E. Koehn, vice president in Security Pacific's futures research division, compares the likely makeup of the banking industry in the 1990s to the retail food industry today. Some people, he says, will go to the bank equivalent of an expensive gourmet shop, where customers will be pampered in "a living room" atmosphere. Others will choose a financial supermarket with a full range of services, while still others will opt for something akin to a 7-Eleven, which would be "a fast strike, just (automated teller) machines."

While some banks currently are stepping up services for wealthy individuals, Carter doubts the large ones ever will be able to ignore the needs of the rest of the population.

"I seriously question whether there is enough business in this high

net-worth group to satisfy the lofty goals of all the banks who want to serve this group," he says. "I also wonder whether this group will be as attractive once competition really heats up."

Customers will still have to go to the bank when they have a problem, are applying for loans or lines of credit, buying money orders or exchanging money for foreign currency. But the branches are likely to be smaller in the 1990s, with fewer tellers and more automated teller machines, because routine transactions usually will be conducted elsewhere, says Donald P. Crivellone, executive vice president at First Interstate.

To deposit money and get cash, Crivellone says that customers will use automated teller machines, which will be located inside and outside branches, at special kiosks separate from branches. Many will be in

public places like grocery stores and airports. If a consumer wants to make a payment to a department store, utility company or even a family member, he or she could do so through a telephone or video banking system, he says.

The technology is already there. For example, with Security Pacific's telephone bill-paying service, all that the customer needs is a push-button telephone. Each customer is given an account number, security clearance number, and separate transaction code numbers for each person or entity to be paid through the program. A toll-free number is dialed and the computer verbally guides the customer through the necessary procedures. The customer presses the appropriate numbers on the phone when asked to do so. The bank will either write a check from the customer's account for each payment or electronically transfer money between the two accounts.

Feds arrest 18 indicted for \$15.6 million fraud

By The Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

A Utah-based fraud scheme, which allegedly took \$15.6 million from 3,800 investors in one of the nation's largest swindles, culminated Tuesday in the roundup of 18 of 21 persons indicted by a federal grand jury.

Federal authorities made the arrests in Utah, Colorado, California and Michigan after a two-year investigation, which involved 40 FBI agents working out of Utah and more than 1,100 interviews in 37 cities and eight foreign countries. One man was arrested in Denver; three of those charged are still at large.

Charges include racketeering, mail, wire and bankruptcy fraud, extortion and perjury.

"This fraud investigation represents one of the largest of its kind in the FBI's history," Terry L. Knowles, special agency in charge of the agency's Salt Lake City office, said.

It is "one of the country's largest investment swindles ever," and the arrests "culminate the most intensive criminal investigations in Utah history," Brent D. Ward, U.S. attorney for Utah, said.

The scheme, generally known as Independent or Universal Clearinghouse, promised investors in a collection agency-type arrangement that they would almost double their money in less than a year.

Complaints began about four years ago in Utah, which has been plagued by at least 10 major frauds that preyed on the mutual trust of the state's close-knit Mormon com-

munity. The schemes may have fleeced investors of up to \$200 million, according to federal officials.

Officials say that they believe that the clearinghouse operation is by far the largest, and actually may have tapped investors for more than \$45 million before seeking federal bankruptcy protection in September 1981. The investigation focused on the 12 months before the bankruptcy filing.

"The thing feeds on itself," Knowles said Tuesday in a telephone interview. "Someone gets in early, gets 8.4 percent per month interest that is promised, and it becomes self-perpetuating, getting bigger and bigger and reaching out to some other locales."

Potential investors were told that they could put as little as \$1,000 into

the clearing house for nine months and get a high monthly interest payment, investigators said. Clearinghouse representatives said that they made money by receiving a service fee of up to 20 percent for on-time payment of debts owed to established companies such as Utah's telephone company and major department stores.

The indictments said that those company accounts never existed, and that income from new investors was used to pay interest to previous investors.

In the one-year period from 1980 to 1981, the clearinghouse operation took in more than \$32 million from more than 3,800 investors, according to five separate indictments, which were issued last Wednesday but sealed until Tuesday.

Those investors lost more than \$15.6 million, most of which allegedly was funneled into gold and silver coins, mining investments, expensive automobiles, trading commodities, oil leases, and even \$80,000 to post bail.

Of the investors, according to case documents, 1,754 were from Utah; 550 from California; 537 from Texas; 172 from Colorado; 170 from Idaho; 162 from Kansas; 143 from Missouri; 75 from New Mexico; and 67 from Nevada. The indictments did not identify the victims.

Almost half of those defrauded were from Utah. Ward noted that swindlers have employed "a marketing strategy ... targeted to take advantage of the mutual trust that members of the Mormon Church have in one another. To some extent, that was true in this case."

Individual investments ranged from the minimum \$1,000 required to get into the deal to \$500,000.

Investors' chances "of obtaining any more money than they have now are very slim," said Ward. "There are no shortcuts. There is no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

Racketeering charges, contained in an 88-page indictment and carrying the stiffest penalties of up to 20 years in prison, were aimed at 12 persons, 10 of them from Utah.

The indictments named a group of companies and trusts — Independent Clearinghouse, Universal Clearinghouse, Accounting Services Company, Business Consultants and Payable Accounting Corp. — which allegedly channeled investors' money into numerous bank accounts.

UAW prepares to elect president, officers

DALLAS (AP) — The United Auto Workers union readied for a historic changing of the guard today as delegates prepared to elect a new president and five other top officials.

President Douglas A. Fraser, 86, and the others are retiring because union rules prohibit re-election of officers over 65 years old.

They are the last leaders to have worked directly with the late UAW

President Walter Reuther in the union's earliest days. Reuther is credited with forming the 47-year-old UAW's policies.

Fraser's designated successor, selected late last year by the UAW's 26-member executive board, is Owen Bieber, 53, vice president in charge of the UAW's General Motors Corp. department.

Bieber said earlier this week he

was confident he would be elected. There were no other formal candidates, although traditionally dissidents nominate one or a few candidates on the convention floor the day of the vote.

Bieber's new role comes at a time of uncertainty in the union. The UAW faces dwindling membership — from 1.5 million in 1969 to below 1.1 million now, dissatisfaction among autoworkers on concession contracts, an auto industry whose sales still are not back at normal levels after a four-year sales slump and competition from imported Japanese autos, to name a few major issues.

"It's not that Owen bowled anybody over with his charisma," said a member of the union's top leadership who asked not to be identified. "He isn't charismatic. But he also

didn't offend anybody. I think we'd all agree that he's a good Christian gentleman who has integrity and can be trusted."

A convention delegate from Local 867 in Boston added: "He's not going to be a Fraser. (Fraser) was just a natural leader. I'm sorry to see him go."

Nevertheless, Bieber and Fraser say the union's goals will remain unchanged — to seek better conditions for the workers it represents and social justice for everyone.

Other retirees besides Fraser are: Martin Gerber, 67, vice president heading the organizing department; Robert "Buddy" Battle III, 65, director of Region 1A in Detroit; Bard Young, 67, director of Region 1E in Taylor, Mich.; Ken Morris, 67, director of Region 1B in Madison Heights, Mich.

Dollar down

LONDON (AP) — The dollar fell against all major foreign currencies in early trading today. Gold prices were little changed.

West German dealers said the market was affected by a flurry of sometimes conflicting comments from U.S. officials about whether interest rates would rise or fall. Higher rates would make the dollar more

attractive to investors.

In Tokyo, where trading ends just as Europe's business day begins, the dollar fell for a second straight session, finishing at 232.90 Japanese yen.

Later in London, the dollar weakened against the British pound, with sterling quoted at \$1.5620, up from \$1.5564 Tuesday.

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Today's mid-morning market report

NEW YORK (AP) — 11 a.m. national prices for New York Stock Exchange issues

PE Sales Last Chg.

ACF7.76	16 55 36%+
AMP5.00	200 18%+
AMCP	1357 28%+
ASAB	98 75%+
ASLab1	16 223 45%+
ASLab2	6 379 41%
ASLab3	13 192 42%+
Alak1.10	12 66 15%
Alca9.30	75 32%
Alp1.10	1 36%
Alp2.40	7 35 5%
Alp3.80	7 11 48%+
Alp4.10	11 309 48%+
Alp5.40	26 17%+
Alp6.70	8 7%
Alp7.00	12 118 64%+
Alp8.30	23 39 42%
Alp9.60	11 759 19%+
Alp10.90	14 910 88%+
Alp11.20	15 20 4%
Alp12.50	18 157 46%+
Alp13.80	13 107 6%+
Alp14.10	17 109 24%+
Alp15.40	18 32 27%
Alp16.70	18 15 15%
Alp17.00	17 109 24%+
Alp18.30	18 32 27%
Alp19.60	18 15 15%
Alp20.90	17 109 24%+
Alp21.20	18 32 27%
Alp22.50	18 15 15%
Alp23.80	17 109 24%+
Alp24.10	18 32 27%
Alp25.40	18 15 15%
Alp26.70	17 109 24%+
Alp27.00	18 32 27%
Alp28.30	18 15 15%
Alp29.60	17 109 24%+
Alp30.90	18 32 27%
Alp31.20	18 15 15%
Alp32.50	17 109 24%+
Alp33.80	18 32 27%
Alp34.10	18 15 15%
Alp35.40	17 109 24%+
Alp36.70	18 32 27%
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Alp38.30	17 109 24%+
Alp39.60	18 32 27%
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Alp42.50	18 32 27%
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Alp44.10	17 109 24%+
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Alp46.70	18 15 15%
Alp47.00	17 109 24%+
Alp48.30	18 32 27%
Alp49.60	18 15 15%
Alp50.90	17 109 24%+
Alp51.20	18 32 27%
Alp52.50	18 15 15%
Alp53.80	17 109 24%+
Alp54.10	18 32 27%
Alp55.40	18 15 15%
Alp56.70	17 109 24%+
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Alp59.60	17 109 24%+
Alp60.90	18 32 27%
Alp61.20	18 15 15%
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Alp63.80	18 32 27%
Alp64.10	18 15 15%
Alp65.40	17 109 24%+
Alp66.70	18 32 27%
Alp67.00	18 15 15%
Alp68.30	17 109 24%+
Alp69.60	18 32 27%
Alp70.90	18 15 15%
Alp71.20	17 109 24%+
Alp72.50	18 32 27%
Alp73.80	18 15 15%
Alp74.10	17 109 24%+
Alp75.40	18 32 27%
Alp76.70	18 15 15%
Alp77.00	17 109 24%+
Alp78.30	18 32 27%
Alp79.60	18 15 15%
Alp80.90	17 109 24%+
Alp81.20	18 32 27%
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Alp83.80	17 109 24%+
Alp84.10	18 32 27%
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Alp93.80	18 32 27%
Alp94.10	18 15 15%
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Alp96.70	18 32 27%
Alp97.00	18 15 15%
Alp98.30	17 109 24%+
Alp99.60	18 32 27%
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Bald4.20	8 45 30%+	
Bald5.20	6 214%+	
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CB93.90	9 33 23%+	
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CB95.90	835 13%+	
CB96.90	133 32%+	
CB97.90	20 23 14%+	
CB98.90	30 13%+	
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CB100.90	15 23 27%	

D	DanCo1.80	28 42 37%+
DanCo2.80	11 722 70%+	
DanCo3.80	56 580 59%+	
DanCo4.80	156 85 12%+	
DanCo5.80	99 27 48%+	
DanCo6.80	7 44 18%	
DanCo7.80	105 36%+	
DanCo8.80	13 234 34%+	
DanCo9.80	8 138 14%+	
DanCo10.80	12 561 24%+	
DanCo11.80	210 28%+	
DanCo12.80	42 75 25%+	
DanCo13.80	33 43 11%+	
DanCo14.80	69 157 18%+	
DanCo15.80	8 25 40%+	
DanCo16.80	12 625 41%+	
DanCo17.80	136 37%+	
DanCo18.80	5 18 22%+	
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DanCo23.80	69 157 18%+	
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DanCo27.80	5 18 22%+	
DanCo28.80	20 752 118%+	
DanCo29.80	24 91 75%+	
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DanCo31.80	33 43 11%+	
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DanCo39.80	42 75 25%+	
DanCo40.80	33 43 11%+	
DanCo41.80	69 157 18%+	
DanCo42.80	8 25 40%+	
DanCo43.80	12 625 41%+	
DanCo44.80	136 37%+	
DanCo45.80	5 18 22%+	
DanCo46.80	20 752 118%+	
DanCo47.80	24 91 75%+	
DanCo48.80	42 75 25%+	
DanCo49.80	33 43 11%+	
DanCo50.80	69 157 18%+	

E	East1.00	576 88%+
East2.00	8 38 21%	
East3.00	12 1559 75%+	
East4.00	8 25 40%+	
East5.00	15 14 17%+	
East6.00	9 31 16%+	
East7.00	13 1293 59%+	
East8.00	15 316 21%+	
East9.00	10 4 66%+	
East10.00	21 19%	
East11.00	13 1293 59%+	
East12.00	15 316 21%+	
East13.00	10 4 66%+	
East14.00	21 19%	
East15.00	13 1293 59%+	
East16.00	15 316 21%+	
East17.00	10 4 66%+	
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East19.00	13 1293 59%+	
East20.00	15 316 21%+	
East21.00	10 4 66%+	
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East24.00	15 316 21%+	
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East27.00	13 1293 59%+	
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East29.00	10 4 66%+	
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East32.00	15 316 21%+	
East33.00	10 4 66%+	
East34.00	21 19%	
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East38.00	21 19%	
East39.00	13 1293 59%+	
East40.00	15 316 21%+	
East41.00	10 4 66%+	
East42.00	21 19%	
East43.00	13 1293 59%+	
East44.00	15 316 21%+	
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East47.00	13 1293 59%+	
East48.00	15 316 21%+	
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UTPB battle turns into statewide issue

By HALLYE JORDAN
Staff Writer

The battle over four-year status for The University of Texas at the Permian Basin has progressed past the point of being just a Midland-Odessa conflict, according to the president of Midland College.

"This is a major educational issue in the state," Dr. Jess H. Parrish, MC president, said.

In his report to trustees during a meeting Tuesday afternoon, Parrish said the best thing that has come out of his frequent lobbying trips to Austin is "as we've managed to move this from a local issue to a state issue, realizing just how many allies we have."

The bill, which has passed the Senate and has been assigned to the Calendar Committee, is expected to reach the floor of the House sometime early next week, Parrish said. The day it hits the floor, each legislator will receive a packet with copies of editorials from newspapers across the state, information on costs of expanding the upper level university, source of students for UTPB

and impact the legislation will have on other institutions, Parrish said.

The bill calls for expanding the Odessa university into a four-year school starting in 1986. It also emphasizes teaching energy-related technology programs.

According to materials in the packet, the expansion would cost \$18 million in operating costs in 1986, compared to the current expenditures of \$6 million.

—UTPB WOULD BE the first of 10 upper level institutions in the state to be granted four-year status, the documents stated. "The trend would be set and the state in a few years would have 10 additional, but unneeded four-year, free-standing colleges.

—The destruction of the effectiveness of Junior Colleges would begin," according to the material. "The best students would be drawn away, ending years of effort to develop a robust junior college program. Fewer students will mean less financial support for junior colleges throughout the state.

—There are no unserved students. Any enrollment would come

MC teachers get cash awards

Seven Midland College instructors were granted salary supplements of between \$1,500 and \$2,000 for the 1983-84 year during a regular meeting of the MC trustees Tuesday afternoon.

The Exceptional Performance Recipients must apply and a committee examines portfolios and documents before selecting the

recipients. Receiving the one-time cash award were David Fralley, Eileen Piwetz, Jack Scarbrough, Edwin Poulter, Wayne Young, Charles Klein and Betty Morris.

In other action, trustees approved rehiring Main & Hurdman as the auditing firm and reshuffling budget amendments.

from schools students are presently attending, damaging their funding and programs," the report stated.

According to the packet, Texas has five upper-level universities located close to junior colleges. They are UT-Dallas, UT-Tyler, UTPB, the University of Houston at Clear Lake City and Corpus Christi University.

"In addition, there are upper-level centers which share campuses with community colleges, including Texas A&I Laredo, UH-Victoria Center, ETSU-Texarkana Center, PAU-

tions into four-year programs would overexpand (sic) state supported lower division programs," the report stated.

The bill authorized continued state funding according to the formulae for the state's upper-level institutions. UTPB currently receives \$5,430 yearly for each student as opposed to \$3,357 for four-year schools. Those figures increase about 6 percent each year, according to the documents.

A \$7.5 million library and an \$8.7 million health and physical education building would be necessary. Source of funds would come from general revenue, documents indicated. Also, extra costs would be involved in remodeling existing facilities to accommodate additional classes, the document indicated.

THE DOCUMENTS also pointed out the need for additional faculty to be hired and equipment, furnishings and course development established before the starting date.

The documents, which cited the success of degree programs in science — especially the earth sciences, business administration and related

areas such as computer science — stated: "The proposed legislation calls for concentration in the area of energy related technology. To further expand science and engineering classes in the state would have a detrimental effect on the programs of many other schools.

"Science and engineering classrooms are an expense to maintain and keep abreast of technology. Currently, the Coordinating Board has identified \$35 million in critical needs in engineering equipment. The LBB has only \$10 million in its budget document and the reality is that it will probably be removed entirely. Lack of funds are hampering current programs and further demands by expansion of UTPB would place an added burden on already suffering programs."

The packet also includes editorials from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and the Waco Tribune-Herald opposing the bill.

Parrish said newspapers in Brownsville, Texarkana, Longview, Lorenzo and various other cities across the state also have taken a stance against the bill.



Nursery isolettes

Midland Memorial Hospital's clinical nurse specialist Raquel Beard, left, shows March of Dimes representatives, Shelly Mook, center, and Bruce Brenneman how one of the new nursery isolettes

operates. The March of Dimes donated \$36,000 in October for the hospital's eight isolettes.

Local farmers are praying for rain

By ED TODD
Staff Writer

Said the young farmer to the cynic: "You think it's going to rain today?"

"I don't imagine," replied the cynic, who has given up farming. "These little 'ordinary rains won't do any good. We need a rain."

By rain, he meant a good drenching — enough moisture to soak the sub-surface soil so when cottonseeds are planted the roots can hone in on the life-supporting moisture and soil.

"Usually, you get your rain in April — rains that start you off. Then you need your planting rains," which, according to West Texas farmers' hopes, are supposed to come in mid-May. "We haven't had a rain since I don't know when."

It's been a dry year, for the last good rain which visited Midland came Jan. 20 when rain, sleet and snow generously fell on the plains. It was a beginning.

But Midland officially has

recorded only 1.67 inches of moisture so far in 1983; most of that — 1.14 inches — fell in January. The normal rainfall though May is 4.75 inches. According to records kept by the National Weather Service, May usually is a "wet" month with an average of 2.16 inches of rain dropping on Midland area soil then.

SO FAR, May has been a scorcher. And a dry May automatically leads a farmer to fear, to humor and to prayer: He's motivated by one, spirited by another and sustained by what often turns out to be the last resort: pray for rains.

"Paying the wrong preacher?" suggested Valley View farmer Mike Denny, who, like other farmers waiting for rain, stop by the coffee shop at Midland Farmers Co-operative cotton gin.

"Naw," said Pete Bryant. "I'm paying the right preacher, but I don't think he's turning it in."

What farmers and ranchers pray doesn't happen is another prolonged drought, which during a seven-year

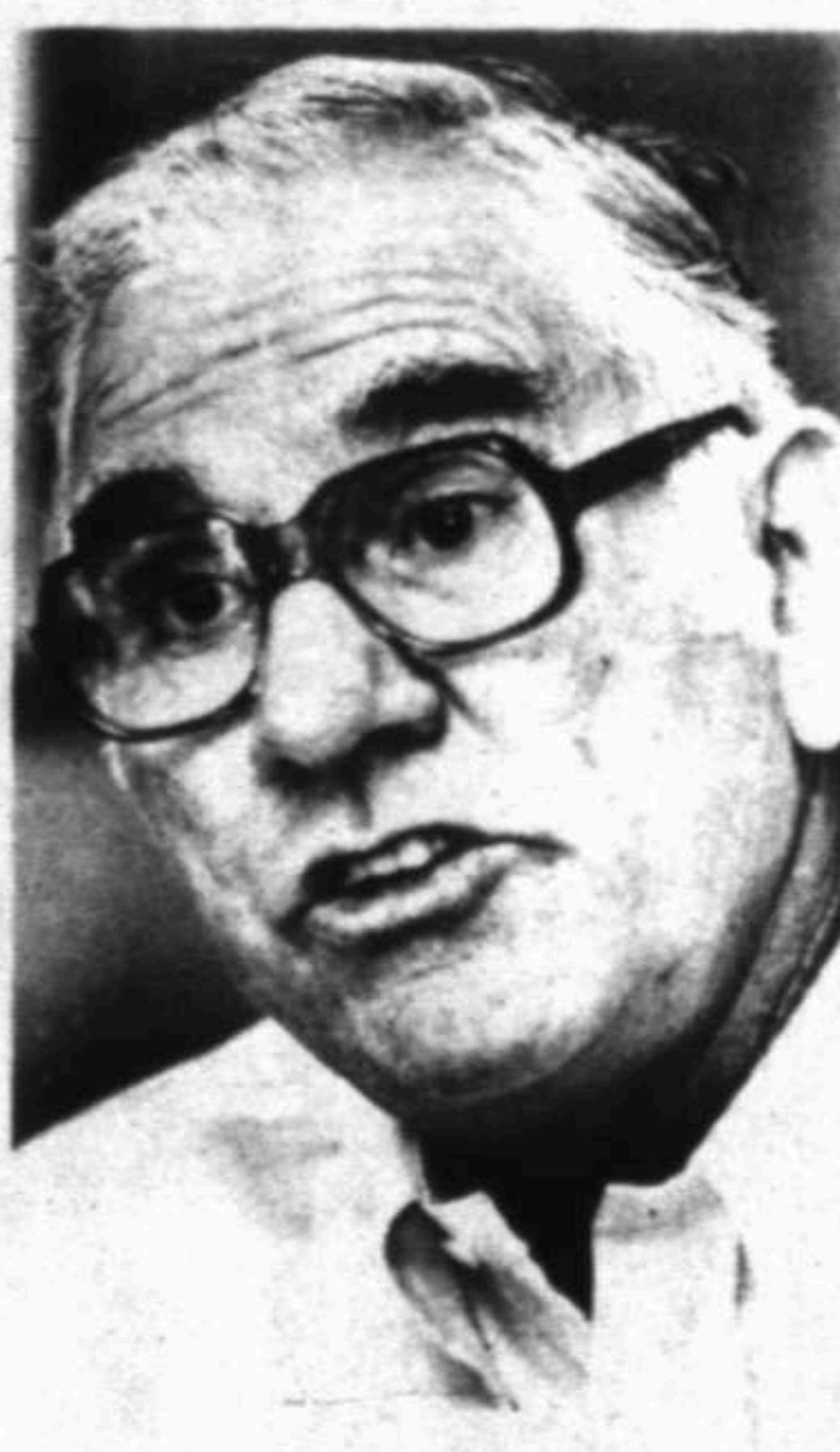
period in the 1950s put a damper on farming and drove many farmers and ranchers out of business. Among those who weathered the drought were farmers who went to work in the Spraberry oil field, which, by a quirk, opened up about the time the drought set in.

THERE'S NO drought yet — just talk of it.

"We've had years that looked like this," said young farmer Guy Leonard, "and turned out to be good years." He cited 1979, which was a year for an ample crop and profitable cotton, which sold for about 70 cents a pound.

Outside the co-op, Midland County Agricultural Agent Earnest Kiker noted that mid-June is about the latest dryland farmers can hold out for a good planting rain. A May planting rain is preferred.

(See LOCAL, Page 2C)



Hoot Leonard

West Texas winds send medical records flying

By GAIL BURKE
Staff Writer

A shower of confidential medical documents sprinkled on a portion of the Tall City's downtown area Monday evening when human error was combined with West Texas winds.

Medical records from Odessa Women and Children's Hospital were strewn throughout the alley south of Wall Avenue between Loraine and Colorado Streets about 6 p.m. when an employee of Energy Plus Inc. — a microfilm company at Wall Towers West — opted to take the records directly to the incinerator before shredding them.

"Somebody was a little careless," said Amy Stewart, president of Energy Plus, adding that the employee has been terminated.

"It's very hard to estimate (how many blew away) — a couple of hundred, tops," she said. "We retrieved a vast amount. Obviously, some got away in the wind."

According to Women & Children's Hospital's assistant administrator Andrew Radoszewski, this is the first time the Odessa hospital has used a microfilm company's services.

"We've been using Energy Plus for a year," Radoszewski said. "They pick up the records, copy them, bring back the film and then shred them (records). Nothing like this has ever happened before."

But Radoszewski said he isn't sure how old medical records will be handled in the future.

"The best route is to do it in-house," he said. "But the capital expenditure for equipment is about \$20,000. Then you need a person to do it. It is capital budget time. I may look into the equipment. But at this time, I don't know which way we're going to go."

Radoszewski said when he heard about the mishap, his first concern was whether or not the records had been duplicated on microfilm.

According to Ms. Stewart, all rec-

ords had been duplicated. She said the records had been returned to Women & Children's on microfilm.

"Secondly, I was concerned about the information on the records," Radoszewski said, explaining that these medical records are confidential.

"But from what I was told after they were retrieved, the original boxes (the records came in) were refilled," he said, explaining that Ms. Stewart assured him that "a vast amount of the records had been retrieved."

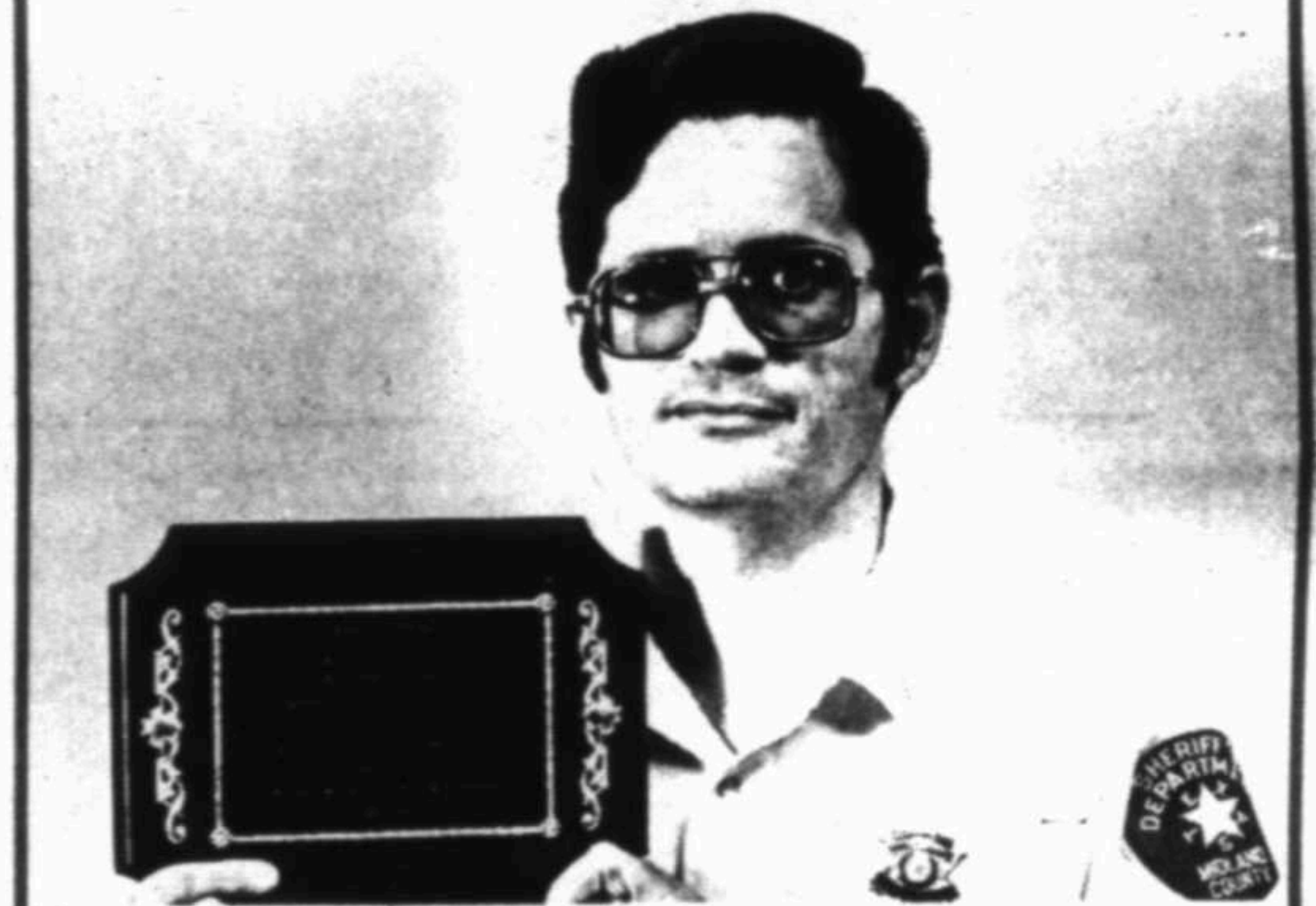
Women & Children's is not the only hospital in the Midland/Odessa area that contracts services with a microfilm company.

"(Microfilm) companies usually check the records with the microfilm duplicates and then destroys the originals, but I like to double check them myself," said Nancy Eaker, director of medical records at Parkview Hospital.

"Southwest Microfilm in Midland,



Capt. Victor Kuykendall, Midland Police Department



Lt. Bill Decker, Sheriff's Office



Lt. Jimmie Rhoads, Department of Public Safety

Optimist Club honors law enforcers

By RICHARD ORR
Staff Writer

Two Midland law enforcement officers and one area law enforcement agency were honored by the Downtown Optimist Club during noon ceremonies Tuesday.

Named as Outstanding Law Enforcement Officers of the Year were Capt. Victor Kuykendall of the Midland Police Department and Lt. Bill Decker of the Midland Sheriff's Department.

The agency chosen to receive the award was Region IV of the Department of Public Safety, which is headquartered in Midland.

The club had sought to name a DPS trooper as officer of the year. But DPS Major Ira Dees told Optimist Director Karl Reagan that it would be difficult to single out any one individual.

"So, we as Optimists are honoring the entire Region IV of the Texas Department of Public Safety," said Reagan. Lt. Jimmie Rhoads accepted the award on behalf of the DPS.

Kuykendall is a veteran of World War II who joined the police force July 1, 1953. He rose through the ranks and is now in charge of all uniformed personnel of the department, according

to Assistant Chief of Police Sid Corley, who presented the plaque to Kuykendall.

"He's been an inspiration to the department," said Corley. "I'm extremely proud of him as a friend and a fellow officer."

Chief Deputy G.W. Thompson presented the honor to Decker, a Vietnam veteran and former Glasscock County deputy who joined the Midland sheriff's department as a patrolman in June 1980. He was promoted to lieutenant and works in the jail division.

The honorees were chosen by their peers, said Reagan, noting that the club has been making the awards annually since 1965.

Basic goals of the Optimist law enforcement program, according to Reagan, are to combat public apathy toward crime and criminals; encourage public participation in the dispensation of justice; promote public cooperation with law enforcement officers; better acquaint the public with the duties of law enforcement officers; and honor outstanding services rendered by law enforcement officers and agencies.

"Ninety-five to 98 percent of the police do an outstanding job, but often bad publicity is all we hear," said Reagan. "Police don't get the credit they deserve."

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Answer to today's Crossword Puzzle

DEATHS

M.E. Newcomb

CRANE — Services for Marvin Edward Newcomb, 61, of Breckenridge, were to be at 10 a.m. today in Atkins-Satterwhite Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in the Crane County Cemetery with Doug Chrane officiating.

Oscar V. Boze

Services for Oscar V. "Pappy" Boze, 77, of Route 6, Box 422 A, are pending with Fuqua-Everett Funeral Home in Texarkana. Local arrangements are being handled by Newbie W. Ellis Funeral Home of Midland.

John O. Scott

McCAMEY — Services for John Owen Scott, 43, of Charleston, S.C., and formerly of Iran, will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday in the First Baptist Church of Iran. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery in McCamey directed by James Dennis Funeral Home of Iran.

Death Row inmate granted new trial

HOUSTON (AP) — Ruling that a juror was improperly excused, a federal judge has ordered a new trial for a Texas prison inmate sentenced to death in the 1976 execution-style slaying of a wealthy electrical contractor.

Loal P. Brown

COLORADO CITY — Services for Loal Plez Brown, 65, of Loraine, brother of James Alvin Brown Jr. of Midland, are pending at Kiker-Seale Funeral Home in Colorado City.

Minnie Wheeler

BIG SPRING — Services for Mrs. Charlie C. (Minnie) Wheeler, 85, of Abilene and formerly of Big Spring, were to be at 11 a.m. today in Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with burial in Trinity Memorial Park.

F. Montgomery

BIG SPRING — Services for Frank Montgomery, 76, of Big Spring, will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with burial in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Celestino Villa

BIG SPRING — Rosary for Celestino L. Villa, 58, of Big Spring, will be recited tonight in Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday in St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial in Mount Olive Memorial Park here.

Local farmers praying for rain

(Continued from Page 1C)

"We're losing valuable time," Kiker said. A late planting would mean that an early frost this fall would kill off the maturing cotton and would destroy the crop.

"We usually have moisture in May — May rain, planting moisture," said Kiker. "If only we had some rain, we'd be in good shape."

Kiker grew up on a West Texas farm during the drought of the 1950s. His predecessor, retired County Agent Charlie Green, was into his first decade as the Midland County agent.

"It's really a bad year for agribusiness," said Green, who was the county agent here from 1948 until his retirement in 1982. Green, who is trying to sell cottonseed, has run into a lean season due to the possible drought and to the cotton surplus. It means farmers won't need much planting seed because they're planting about half what they planted last year.

The farmers and ranchers recouped after the '50s drought but eventually were beset by a barrage of economic ills, such as catch-all inflation, rising interest rates, high cost of fuel and equipment, and relatively low returns on their labor — their cotton crop.

As Green noted, farmers keep trudging along and hoping for a better crop and favorable prices next year.

"They have a lot of faith and grit (considering)...all these minus factors they've been looking at."

DESPITE THE starkness of a possible dry season, many farmers may be spared an economic drought by the government's role in the cotton surplus, which, according to the law of supply and demand, led to depressed cotton prices. To lessen the surplus and eventually to bolster cotton prices, the federal government is experimenting with PIK — Payment In Kind. To qualify, farmers set aside 20 percent of their production acreage and let that land rest or grow in a cover crop. Beyond that acreage, farmers may be paid in cotton for cotton they didn't plant and produce.

"Essentially, that's what they (the government) are trying to do — give the farmers their old cotton back."

That done, the farmers theoretically can begin anew by trying to find a market for their cotton and somehow return to the supply-demand cycle.

Essentially, about half of Midland County's 43,000 acres of cotton land is either in the set-aside or PIK program.

As a result, only about 22,000 acres is to be planted in cotton this year. Some of the county's biggest cotton producers, including Ray Graham and Alan Spinks, have taken their acreage out of cotton and will reap benefits of the PIK programs.

Others put about half their acreage in the federal program. One farmer, Denny, opted to plant cotton. "It wouldn't pay to mess with it," said the farmer who didn't want his full name used.

He decided to take another chance on a good crop and profitable returns if the planting rains come in time. Otherwise, he'll just watch the sand blow.

"The city people are going to see a lot of sandstorms coming," Denny said.

Drought or no drought, suffering as well will be the co-operative cotton gin, which will turn out fewer bales. Hoot Leonard, who manages the co-op, is hoping for at least 8,000 bales.

"Just hope for better days — a bumper crop next year," said Leonard.

At the co-op's coffee table, retired farmer Frank Satterfield made the observation which is troubling farmers and ranchers: "Dry. Need a rain bad."

Said the young farmer, Marc Traeweck, to the old anonymous cynic, "The farmers know as their 'disaster consultant: 'Well, let's go plow some sand.'"

"We could dry plant some and take a chance in getting a little of rain to ruin your cotton," said Traeweck. "We need a 3-inch rain to get it up."

Advised a retired farmer-friend of the cynic: "Just don't get involved in anything that depends on the government or the weather."

"How do you do that?" asked Traeweck.

"I just got out of it (farming)," said the old ex-farmer. "Farming hasn't been good for the past four or five years."

"Well, when do you think it's going to rain," the ex-farmer asked the cynic.

"Hope it doesn't," he replied and explained that any rain probably wouldn't be enough to do any good. It would raise hopes and then dampen spirits.

Then the cynic reflected on the weather and the forecasters.

"That's the only job I know of where you can be wrong most of the time and still keep your job."

"Except," said Traeweck, "farming."

Company bails out school's activities program

MAGNOLIA (AP) — A school district faced with cutting its music and athletic programs after a tax-rollback election is getting \$100,000 from an energy development company to help save the extracurricular activities.

Officials of the Magnolia Independent School District had planned to eliminate the activities after voters last month passed the tax limitation referendum.

The decision prompted about 30 high school students to walk out of classes and several parents to picket the school. The students were given suspensions ranging from three to six days.

On Tuesday, Mitchell Energy & Development Corp. offered a \$25,000 challenge grant and called on local residents and businesses to match it. It also offered to pay \$75,000 on \$387,000 in taxes due January 1985.

Nick T. Bogner, president of the school district's board of trustees, said officials would probably decide to save the \$75,000 and spend the interest.

"This is for one year only," Bogner said. "Industry will help this year, but this can't be an annual thing. They're willing to help us on this thing, but there aren't any free lunches."

That will leave the school district about \$105,000 short of being able to fund a \$200,000 budget for extracurricular activities which it passed at a Monday night meeting. The new budget drops the boys' baseball program and cuts an administrative position and eliminates five of 19 coaching positions.

Bogner said a legislative bill allowed taxpayers to petition for a tax rollback if a school district raised its tax rate by more than 8 percent in a

school year. "All that said to us was we were going to lose \$980,000," Bogner said. He said the district had a 13 percent growth in enrollment last year and a

22 percent increase in its budget. Edward P. Lee Jr., president of The Woodlands Group, a division of Mitchell, said the donation is a one-time contribution.

Mildred's ... IN ODESSA Annual Progressive Sale. 1/2 PRICE TABLE All Giftware (excluding Waterford & Lalique) Thursday, May 19- 20% Off Friday, May 20- 25% Off Saturday, May 21- 30% Off. Saturday Only, 10th Street Store Boehm, Kaiser, Carren Porcelains 20% OFF.

Grand Opening Antiques & Art. Thanks to you we have outgrown our old location. . . . We Have Moved! Open House. Legacies Unlimited J.W. Parks Fine Arts Gallery 1108 N. Big Spring New Art Arriving Daily From Around The World Representing All Mediums Large Shipment of English Antiques Recently unpacked For Father's Day or Graduation, give a Legacy of art or an antique treasure to last forever. Mon.-Sat. 10-5 687-3528

Purina Dog Chow Is Searching For The Great American Dog! It Could Be Your Dog! GRAND PRIZE—\$25,000 CASH! PLUS THESE OTHER GRAND PRIZES: Your Great American Dog with you or your child on the front of 2 million Purina Dog Chow packages. Plus your winning story on the backs of packages. Four-day trip to New York City for you, your dog and your family, all expenses paid, over the 1983 Thanksgiving Holiday and one year's supply of Purina Dog Chow. SPECIAL HONOR! The Great American Dog™ with his/her owner will appear in the 1983 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on the Great American Dog Float provided by Purina Dog Chow. FOUR FIRST PRIZES—\$5,000 CASH! Four-day trip to New York City for you and your family, all expenses paid, and one year's supply of Purina Dog Chow. 495 SECOND PRIZES—Free bag (any size) of Purina Dog Chow. Easy to Enter—Just send us a snapshot of your dog with you or your child, and complete the statement, "My dog should be The Great American Dog of 1983 because..." in 100 words or less. Use the entry form below, or look for specially marked packages of Purina Dog Chow. Be sure to include a Purina Dog Chow weight circle (any size) and read the Official Rules on the back of the Entry Form.