

What's inside

Midland College trustees reduce the tax rate by .2 cents, approve a \$9,430,327 budget.

LOCAL — 1C



Crab has become one of the most popular shellfish among American seafood fanciers.

LIFESTYLE — 8C



The Midland Reporter-Telegram begins a series of reports on area football teams with a look at Crane's Golden Cranes.

SPORTS — 1B

Beginning Sept. 1 a \$100 filing fee will be assessed each application for a drilling permit in Texas.

BUSINESS — 8B

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Galveston preparing to weather storm

Hurricane strengthens

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — Thousands of people along the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast fled today from the high waves, torrential rains and up to 95-mph winds of Hurricane Alicia, the first Atlantic hurricane of this year's season.

But thousands more in the Galveston area, forecast by the National Hurricane Center in Miami as the spot most likely to absorb the brunt of the storm, flocked to supermarkets for food and service stations for gasoline as they chose to ride out Alicia.

"We just hope they're out getting their canned food, their candles and their bottled water," Steve Harned, chief meteorologist of the National Weather Service in Galveston, said.

Air Force reconnaissance reports indicated Alicia "continues to strengthen and is moving slowly toward the west northwest," the weather service said.

While some 6,000 residents of lowlands in southwestern Louisiana and hundreds of workers on offshore oil rigs heeded warnings to leave, most of the 60,000 residents of Galveston — site of the nation's worst hurricane disaster when 6,000 were killed in 1900 — apparently chose to remain.

Three volunteers from the Midland Red Cross chapter left for Corpus Christi in the disaster relief truck at 11 p.m. Tuesday. According to Elvis Gurb, local Red Cross executive director, Red Cross chapters from several states probably will be sent to Texas and Louisiana communities along the Gulf Coast.

(See GULF, Page 4A)



Weather watch

Peering out into the Gulf of Mexico as a cloud bank approaches a Galveston Island hotel Tuesday is Robyn Andrus, 15, of Dallas. The teen-ager was vacationing with her family, which decided to check out and head home as Hurricane Alicia approached.

Rains could end drought

On Tuesday, 20 West Texas counties were declared disaster areas due to drought.

Now, Hurricane Alicia is headed for the Gulf Coast, and if it continues inland, that two-year dry spell plaguing farmers and ranchers could begin to be alleviated.

"Some of the heaviest rains I've seen here came as the result of tropical storms," said National Weather Service specialist Roger Mallory, who has been in Midland 11 years.

The five-day forecast issued by the NWS indicates a "significant" increase in the chances of rain for West Texas on Saturday, he noted, while the probability will decrease dramatically by Sunday.

Just how great the chances are for drought-ending rains depends largely on the strength of the tropical storm remnant when and if it reaches the area.

"If it continues moving west-northwest, it eventually will have some effect on West Texas," said Mallory. "But at some point they start to curve and stop moving west."

On occasion, he added, such storms fall even to reach as far inland as Dallas.

Mallory said in his tenure at Midland NWS station the heaviest rains all have been spawned by tropical storm remnants approaching from the Pacific.

"We've got the result of a tropical storm right now over Baja," he said, "but it's weak."

He added that West Texas stands as great — or as little — a chance to gain rainfall from a storm originating in the Gulf of Mexico as it does the Pacific.

Economists foresee strong recovery through 1984

By KINGSBURY SMITH
National Editor, The Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Economists within and without the administration foresee the unexpectedly strong recovery continuing for the rest of this year, probably into the summer of next year and perhaps until the end of 1984.

For your future financial plan-

ning, however, look out for 1985 and a few years beyond.

Unless the projected \$200 billion-plus federal budgets are slashed, there is widespread agreement among analysts that the recovery may be aborted.

In any event, it appears increasingly likely that federal and local taxes will rise sharply after next year's presidential elections.

For the immediate future, the economic outlook is good. President Reagan's recovery program is moving at a faster pace than he dared hope after Congress blocked his original plan for bigger welfare and tax cuts.

The growth in the gross national product (GNP), which represents goods and services produced, rose at an annual rate of 3.1 percent in

the first quarter of this year, compared with a decline of 9.106 of 1 percent in 1982. In the second quarter of this year, the annual growth rate was 8.7 percent, which President Reagan called a "vindication" of his policies. The rate is expected to average out for the year between 4 and 5 percent.

This remarkable GNP growth put jobless people back to work and

brought unemployment down from its 10.8 percent rate last December to 9.5 percent in July, the largest one-month decline since 1959. Although 10.8 million workers are still unemployed, the Labor Department reported that 2,270,000 new jobs were created in June.

Inflation has been brought under control. The annual inflationary rate is now running 5 percent compared

with 12.4 percent at the end of the Carter administration. While food prices are expected to continue to rise slightly as a result of the drought, the Wall Street Journal reported this week that no "dramatic" inflationary surge is foreseen through the end of 1984.

Short term interest rates may continue to rise slightly during coming months.

July sales tax rebate only slightly below last year's figure

By LANA CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Midland's sales tax rebate check received by the city earlier this week surged ahead of the past two months, indicating a possibility the economy may be easing its downward spiral.

Rebate checks for the month of July were mailed last Friday to the cities by the State Comptroller's Office.

Midland's rebate was \$977,000.39, only a slight drop off the \$1,004,414.92 recorded for the same month last year. For the calendar year to date, Midland has received \$4,872,615.21, a 25.11 percent decline from last year's total to date of \$6,506,271.16.

Odessa also saw a larger figure in its rebate check, which was made out for \$881,004.14. It was almost \$400,000 below last year's comparable monthly check of \$1,201,451.56.

For the calendar year to date, that city has received \$4,925,577.01, compared to last year's rebate of \$7,301,788.35. According to the comptroller's office, Odessa's rebates have dropped 32.54 percent.

Midland operates on a fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, which means the city will receive only one more rebate check this year. Looking at the past 11 checks, the city has received \$6,943,086. Finance Director Troy Gifford is hoping to get

\$325,000 for next month, which would close out the city's fiscal year with \$7.2 million.

A year ago, Midland City Council had estimated it would receive about \$11 million in sales tax this fiscal year. When the shortfall became evident in February, the budget was cut to avoid a large deficit by the end of the year.

Next year's budget shows \$6.65 million is anticipated. And if the economy turns upward, the sales tax

rebate could hit \$6.9 million, according to Gifford.

"Maybe at least we've reached the bottom," said Gifford. "I would hope we could say we've reached the bottom. Maybe the economy will be flat or we'll have some growth."

Explaining why fiscal year 1983 will end on a higher note than 1984 in sales tax, Gifford said the city received its larger amounts in the early part of that fiscal year before the economic downturn became visi-

ble. September's check will reflect sales made in July. "There are so many cyclical and seasonal trends, it's hard to say which ones will have an impact. Consumer buying is only one part of it," said Gifford. But he acknowledged that it does play a role because the February check normally is the largest of the year, covering December sales.

(See SALES, Page 4A)

Programs offer help, hope for drug abusers

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth of a five-part series on drug use in Midland. In cases where first names only appear, the names are fictitious. The people, however, are real.

By HALLYE JORDAN
Staff Writer

On the average, Midland high school juniors who indicated they were users of alcohol in a recent survey, said they were introduced to drinking in the ninth grade — users of marijuana said their introduction to that drug came a year later.

"I walked into one elementary school and was greeted by the principal and a few teachers," said Rod Seals, Outreach Supervisor at Teen Challenge. "They told me, 'We really don't have a drug problem here, but we appreciate you coming.'"

"I walked down the hall and smelled marijuana coming from the boys' bathroom. There was a group of sixth graders in there. It's there — it's even down to the elementary schools."

"In some affluent middle-class



families — I know of three or four sixth graders who have drinking problems," said Bob Savage, director of the Palmer Drug Abuse Program. "There is no such thing as social drinking at that age — it's abuse." Savage, pointing out that about 98 percent of the alcohol abusers PDAP sees began drinking at age 12, said Midland is into the so-called social or harmless drugs. He named alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and, primarily used by college students cramming for exams, amphetamines.

(See DRUG, Page 4A)



Counselors and clients pray during a group session at Teen Challenge.

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Weather

Slim chance for thunderstorms through Thursday. Details on Page 4A.

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state Galveston residents prepare for hurricane

GALVESTON (AP) — Tides were rising here and hundreds of residents were fleeing the feared arrival later today of hurricane Alicia, the season's first Atlantic hurricane.

The National Weather Service said tides were expected to rise by 4 to 6 feet by sunrise today with winds gusting up to 30 mph and that Galveston Island could be cut off if the tides exceeded that.

The storm quickly grew from a tropical disturbance Monday to a hurricane on Tuesday. Alicia's maximum winds late Tuesday had been clocked at 80 mph and weather experts predicted the storm would gain strength overnight.

Steve Harned, chief meteorologist for the National Weather Service described Alicia as a "minimal hurricane," saying it popped out of a thunderstorm unexpectedly. But people should still take it seriously, he said.

The Galveston area had a 35 percent chance of being within 65 miles of the center of Alicia by 1 p.m. today, weather forecasters said.

Galveston, 50 miles south of Houston, was the scene of the nation's worst hurricane disaster in 1900, when some 6,000 people lost their lives.

Harned said he hoped tides would not exceed the 6-foot level.

"If that happens, we're going to have serious problems," he said. "Once you get above 6 feet then we should start worrying about the island being cut off."

Galveston Island, home to 60,000 people, is accessible to the mainland by two bridges and a ferry. The main six-lane bridge, which carries Interstate 45 over West Galveston Bay and north to Houston, would be impassable if tides grew over 6 feet, he said.

A second bridge, over San Luis Pass at the western end of the island, has limited traffic because of a boating accident there several weeks ago. Ferries would be halted by high waves, officials said.

By evening, tides began rising. Several youths braved high waves on surfboards. Motorists parked along the Galveston seawall, watching the increasingly angry Gulf.

"We're leaving here at daylight," Jimmy Fox, who lives in the Spanish Grant subdivision on West Galveston Island, said Tuesday.

"I've boarded up the windows to my house and to two other houses. We're packing two pickups and the boat with our TVs, our stereos, our silver, anything that's small and valuable."

Traffic from the low-lying west end of the island moved out steadily but without panic late Tuesday.

Civil Defense authorities had asked residents to stock up on batteries, water and canned goods to prepare for the storm.

Ed Muncie, general manager of Stewart Beach Park, said the beach



AP Laserphoto

Members of the maintenance crew of the Moody House Retirement Community in Galveston board up windows in precaution against the hurricane threatening the Texas coast.

front businesses would not be boarding up "until the last minute."

"It takes about 12 hours to box and move everything. We've been through this drill in the past. We did it with Allen three years ago and it was a waste of time," he said. "Normally, we have a lot of spectators, people who are curious, driving down because they want to see a storm. As for me, I would never leave Galveston."

John Gretchen III of Galveston said he has been through three hurricanes — Allen, Beulah and Carla — and intended to go through a fourth one.

"Carla (in 1961) was the most fun. We went swimming in the streets and watched all of the roofs come flying off the houses," he said. "They (the authorities) said today that we should stock up on canned goods. So I went out and bought a case of beer. I'm going to stay right here (an apartment on Stewart Beach)."

Gretchen, a carpenter, said he planned to "hang around because afterward there's going to be lots of money to be made."

Operators of two gas stations said business was no heavier than usual on Tuesday. Beaches were crowded late in the day with sun bathers and tourists.

"We've been listening to the radio all day and from what we've heard this is just the standard stuff — the warnings and preparation," said Tom Willis of Richmond, Va. "I'll probably park my bones right here and stay. I've never seen a hurricane before so this should be lots of fun," he said.

Sides at odds over future Continental workers

HOUSTON (AP) — Negotiators for Continental Airlines and its striking machinists union met at the request of a federal mediator, but came away at odds over the future of workers hired to replace strikers, a company spokesman said.

Continental spokesman Bruce Hicks said during the 4½-hour meeting Tuesday the airline "made it clear that if there was to be a settlement, it would have to include job security" for the unspecified number of workers Continental began hiring Monday to replace striking mechanics.

"The strikers would not displace any people working today, but would go on a preferential hire list" in the event the airline hires more machinists, Hicks said. "We would assume, if the (union) plans to negotiate a contract, they would understand that."

But International Association of Machinists' spokesman Jim Conley said the union remains firm in its position that any settlement must permit all striking workers to return to their jobs.

"That is our position in every strike," said Conley.

Hicks said Tuesday's talks were requested by the National Mediation board and were not negotiations. But it was the first time representatives of both sides had met since the 2,000-member union walked off the job at 12:01 a.m. Saturday.

"We have nothing on the table. I

don't believe the (union) does either," Hicks said while the meeting was in progress.

Federal mediator Robert Brown said he would "be in touch" with airline and union representatives again today.

Also Tuesday, Continental said it plans to restore service Thursday to 11 of 17 cities whose routes were dropped when union machinists went on strike.

The restored flights would bring Continental to 98 percent of its regular flight schedule, Hicks said. The resumed service would add an average of 44 flights a day to the carrier's service, increasing its daily flights from 545 to 590.

Machinists are seeking a 36 percent raise for a 17-month contract, improved benefits and job security.

The company has proposed changing work rules it said would increase productivity and eliminate up to 120 mechanics' jobs and 60 other jobs in the 2,000-member union.

"The single primary issue is our job security, and having some jurisdiction over what type of work we do," Young said. "The company's proposal is to take some of our work and subcontract it to other types of companies."

Continental, with its contract proposal no longer in effect because it was rejected, has eliminated 800 jobs since the strike began.

About 600 of the jobs were for kitchen- and cabin-cleaning attendants.



AP Laserphoto

National Mediation Board representative Robert Brown met Tuesday in Houston with Continental Airlines and striking International Association of Mechanical and Aerospace workers in an attempt to forge a mediated settlement of the five-day old strike.

That work now is being done by The Houston-based airline, the Marriott Corp., under a long-term agreement. The nation's eighth-largest, employs about 12,200 workers.

Officials discuss island evacuation

AUSTIN (AP) — State officials have done practically all they can to prepare for a hurricane, but the director of the Texas Department of Public Safety warns "there's no perfect answer."

"If it comes in in a populated area, we are going to have major problems, and there's just nothing you can do to avoid that," DPS head Col. Jim Adams said Tuesday as Gov. Mark White activated the state's Emergency Management Council.

Adams and representatives of 11 other state agencies briefed White on efforts to prepare for Hurricane Alicia, the season's first Atlantic hurricane, which weather forecasters said could hit Texas as early as today.

Adams said it would take 26 hours to evacuate Galveston Island.

"But there's no way you can get everybody to evacuate. There's no perfect answer. The only thing you can do is plan to minimize the effects to reduce the damage, to reduce the casualties," Adams added.

The council told White that they were as prepared as possible for the hurricane.

"Everything that I understand could be done is being done," White said after the briefing. State Highway Department representative Tom Ohlendorf said there were four potential traffic problems in the coastal area of Southeast Texas, but he said there were alternate routes and in some cases traffic could be routed over the area under construction.

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Today's mid-morning markets report

Table of stock market data including NYSE, AMEX, and OTC listings with columns for stock symbols, prices, and changes.

Stock market loses

By CHET CURRIER AP Business Writer NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market posted a moderate loss Tuesday in a session marked by weakness in many technology issues.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund data including fund names, assets, and performance metrics.

Over the counter

Table of over-the-counter stock listings with columns for stock symbols, prices, and changes.

Additional listings

Table of additional stock listings with columns for stock symbols, prices, and changes.

American Exchange

Table of American Exchange stock listings with columns for stock symbols, prices, and changes.

Investing

Investing in the 1980s: The following quotations are supplied by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. The prices at which these securities could have been sold last week are shown in parentheses.

Over the counter

Over the counter: The market showed little response to the government's report that industrial production rose 1.8 percent last month on top of increases of 1.1 percent in June and 1.3 percent in May.

Additional listings

Additional listings: The following lists of New York and American stock exchange listings are not reported in the Reporter-Telegram's regular daily postings for the exchanges.

American Exchange

American Exchange: The following lists of American Exchange stock listings are not reported in the Reporter-Telegram's regular daily postings for the exchange.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and an answer key.

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Pee Wee want a cracker?

Polly may chatter but Pee Wee's patter is preceded by a pause as owner Sadynna Grantham tries to teach the 1½-year-old Amazon Parrot a new word. Sadynna, 11, is the daughter of Teresa Clark of 4506 Erie.

Staff Photo by Ron Jeap

MC board decreases tax rate

By HALLYE JORDAN
Staff Writer

Although assessed values were lower than preliminary estimates made in June, Midland College trustees axed the tax rate from 10.4 cents per \$100 valuation to 10.2 cents for 1983-84.

According to Bob Phillips, MC vice president of fiscal affairs, the tax rate for the 1982-83 year was 10.4 cents per \$100 valuation. With the unanimous approval of a 10.2 cent tax rate, the split will be made with 7.6 cents going for maintenance and operation and 2.6 cents reserved for debt service.

In other action, trustees approved the 1983-84 budget, amendments to the 1982-83 budget, the appointment of a financial advisor for the possible construction of a \$1.7 million Health Sciences Building, a resolution honoring the retiring assistant to the president, the promotion of one instructor and the appointment and resignation of other staff members.

According to Phillips, Midland College's \$3.85 billion tax base is less than preliminary estimates made in June. The 1983-84 budget was approved at \$9,430,327 and a "conservative" 91 percent collection rate was made because of economic conditions in the area.

"Hopefully, we will do better than that," Phillips said.

Trustees also approved amendments to the budget for the current fiscal year, which ends Aug. 31. With most income items increasing because of the growth in enrollment, the college realized \$96,071 more in revenue than expenses.

Looking at the time schedule for construction of the proposed health sciences building, Phillips recommended the appointment of Bob Davis of Kidder Peabody & Co., Inc., to act as financial advisor.

Phillips emphasized the college was not issuing any revenue bonds as of yet and the appointment of a financial advisor was necessary "to make sure we do things legally."

(See MC, Page 2C)

CWA members worried divestiture might affect jobs

By GAIL BURKE
Staff Writer

When the Communications Workers of America union's contract was signed three years ago, divestiture was just another word in the dictionary.

Webster's Dictionary defines divestiture as the compulsory transfer of title or disposal of interests (as stock in a corporation) upon government order.

Local union members and management personnel agreed this week that the upcoming breakup of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. is an issue shadowing the recent CWA strike against AT&T.

"It's a big shadow," said Tommy Haislip, local president Midland's CWA local 12127.

"The main problem is that nobody knows what's going to happen to our jobs."

On Jan. 1, 1984, Ma Bell will divest her 22 Bell Operating Companies



Jay Allen



Tommy Haislip

(BOCs). AT&T will split into a national company and seven regional holding companies.

Each BOC will become part of a holding company, including Southwestern Bell which will be known as Southwestern Bell Holding Co. The slimmer, restructured AT&T will be out of the local phone service business, shedding about 75 percent of its \$145 billion assets.

Almost a million people work for Ma Bell in its current structure. Some 675,000 CWA union members opted to strike AT&T this month, instead of accepting Ma Bell's 3.5 percent wage increase for each of the next three years.

Yet, wages aren't the only issue. According to Haislip, in addition to more money, "divestiture and givebacks on our medical benefits are the underlying cause of the strike. Wages are the big issue that are easy for the public to understand. These issues (divestiture and medical benefits) are complicated and hard to understand."

CWA's three-year contract expired this month. Divestiture is scheduled for Jan. 1, 1984. The timing of the two is coincidental, according to Jay Allen, public relations manager for Southwestern Bell in Midland.

But they are connected, he said. "It is an issue that is definitely on the employees' minds, not only the union, but also management," Allen said. "Divestiture is apparently an issue in this strike. But there's so much uncertainty."

Assistant District Attorney David Joers told the three-man, nine-woman jury that Rice drove up to Johnson's house and honked twice. Johnson walked out of the house, down the porch, and smiled, he said. Rice then shot him twice with double-ought buckshot from a 12-gauge shotgun in the chest and face, Joers told the jurors.

Joers said witnesses to the shooting said Rice was "very calm" afterward and asked "Is he — dead?" Rice displayed a "gleeful, boastful, proud attitude," Joers said.

"He was glad the son of a bitch was dead," Joers quoted witnesses. "I really fixed him...I really took care of him."

Joers disallowed self-defense, which he said Rice had held as an excuse for killing Johnson. Johnson

Damaged cable not strike-related, spokesman says

By GAIL BURKE
Staff Writer

A damaged telephone cable wire which resulted in the loss of phone service at a Pepsi Cola bottling company Tuesday was not strike-related, according to a Southwestern Bell spokesman.

According to John Piowaty, regional manager of Consolidated Bottling Pepsi Cola in Midland, a 100-foot crossover street cable was "apparently snagged, ripped loose and dragged off the side of the road."

Piowaty said the damaged line, which was connected to the warehouse, was discovered early Tuesday and the company was without service most of the day.

Telephone company management personnel have been mending switchboards and making

repairs since Aug. 7 when the Communications Workers of America union opted to strike against the American Telephone and Telegraph Co.

While strike-related reports of vandalism and violence sweep the nation from California to New York, Jay Allen, Bell's public relations manager said the incident Tuesday was not strike-related. He added that Midland has not had "any problems."

"Something did happen, but it's not unusual. It happens all the time," Allen said.

"We don't need people to call everytime a wire is down, implying that it is an act of vandalism related to the strike," he said.

Allen said the damaged line, a six pair drop wire, was a temporary wire that "probably was pulled up by a tractor-trailer."

"It's connected," Haislip said. "Security '83 was our theme for our 1983 bargaining."

Haislip added that U.S. District Judge Harold Green, who ruled on the divestiture decision, "didn't want a strike in the first place. He wants us to get back to work so he can give the go ahead with the plans for divestiture."

Under the terms of the decision, AT&T has until late February 1984 to complete the breakup.

Allen said there's been no word — from the top to the bottom — "The answers aren't there. Nobody knows what's going to happen."

Haislip said he's worried and he's got a lot of questions.

"Are we going to be retrained?"

"We have not had any strike-related incidences of vandalism or violence," Allen said. "People don't need to start seeing shadows. This is a time that people need to keep a cool head."

"Cables are cut in different ways everyday, either accidentally or from vandalism," Allen said. "If this would have happened in June instead of August, nobody would care."

Although Piowaty did not say he thought incident was strike-related, he noted, "it is evident that someone pulled up the line. It wasn't an accident."

Allen said there were two other out-of-service phone reports Tuesday, but they were caused by a power failure and a faulty phone. Allen added that repairs are only being done in the case of emergency.

Are we going to have a job? With the new equipment (technology) are we going to be retrained or are college computer whizzes going to be brought in?"

"We want a chance to retrain," he said. "We've had a lot of experience. When we took these jobs, like any body else, we knew that you've got to do a good job to keep them. We

just want to know there's going to be a place to earn our living.

"We're not fly-by-night employees. We don't stay six months and move on. We go in as long term employees. People who have put in 35 years want to know there will be a return on their investment."

Allen said management is sympathetic. "We're in the same boat," he said. "I think about it (job security) personally."

He noted that although he would "never say never," concerning layoffs, AT&T received the nickname Ma Bell during the depression.

"She did not lay anybody off," Allen said. "As far as I know, Ma Bell did not lay off anybody. I understand, however, that when divestiture begins, jobs will be eliminated through natural attrition."

But this doesn't reassure the CWA.

"The company has changed a million times over since then," Haislip said. "This isn't really any reassurance. We need some kind of commitment from the company. We know, or understand from what we've heard, that we will follow the company when the company spins off from AT&T. But we don't know what we'll be doing."

"We need some good contract language pertaining to training and retraining. This is one of the reasons to hold out. Security was one of our bargaining items submitted nationally. The company has failed to address this."

Jury sentences disabled worker 20 years for murder

By ED TODD
Staff Writer

A 60-year-old disabled oilfield worker who was charged with shooting a "bully" to death on Sunday morning last spring was found guilty of murder Tuesday in Midland's 238th State District Court.

The jury which convicted the man, Henry Dirl Rice, of killing Foy Johnson, 60, outside of Johnson's house at 509 S. Weatherford St. April 17 gave him a 20-year prison term. He could have been sentenced to life in prison.

Evidence in the 1½-day trial in Judge Vann Culp's court indicated that the slaying ended a feud which began in a bar five years ago when Rice kicked Johnson out of the bar operated by Rice's wife.

supposedly had his hand in his pocket, and Rice "thought he had his hand on a gun." Even so, Rice had "time to retreat," Joers said. He said the killing was cold-blooded.

Defense attorney Tom Hirsch of Odessa said Johnson's death ended "five years of violence, threats, harassment my client has undergone."

Though he conceded that "It's not nice to talk about somebody that's dead," Hirsch said that Johnson's mother, sister, the "lady he was living with," and two women he had previously lived with had not come to court to testify "what a sweet man he was."

Hirsch said Johnson was a "bully." "It appears Mr. Johnson picks on small people...There's something

town did absolutely nothing to protect Rice from Johnson," Hirsch charged. "I don't know if they didn't care or if they liked Mr. Johnson...They chose to do nothing, and this is the consequence of what happens when you have no laws, and this is the equivalent of having no law."

Hirsch said Rice was distressed over the threats.

"He walked the floor at nights. You don't have to live that way."

"He had been under a heck of a strain for five years," Hirsch said, "and something has been done about this strain."

Contrary to the prosecutor's version of the April 17 incident, Hirsch said he doubted that Johnson smiled at Rice. "That doesn't make any sense."

Another program featured Ann Richards, state treasurer, who conducted a training session on how to run for office.

Another meeting featured a panel discussion by Judge Barbara Culver of Midland and Judges Jan Fisher and Carol Glegg of Odessa.

"Indirectly, we had a hand in getting some of these newly-elected women to offices and into appointed positions locally. That's what we're looking at strongly this year — getting a number of women in

elects and appointed offices," Ms. Oatman said.

She said the organization wants to set up a clearinghouse for qualified women. When an appointed office is open, that organization can turn to the Permian Basin Caucus for names of women who would be qualified and interested in serving.

In addition, the caucus will be publicizing the proposed change in garnishment of wages that will appear on the November ballot, she said.

(See JURY, Page 2C)

Krueger plans to attend political caucus fund-raiser

By LANA CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

ODESSA — Former U.S. Rep. Bob Krueger — an announced Democratic candidate for U.S. senator against Republican incumbent John Tower — will appear at the Permian Basin Women's Political Caucus fund-raiser here Thursday.

The event will run from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Odessa Holiday Inn mini-dome with about 200 persons expected. Tickets are \$10 each and

may be purchased at the door. More information may be obtained by telephoning Nancy Hart, 687-1624.

Also slated to appear are Cecilia M. Burke, comptroller of the Texas Women's Political Caucus, and a representative from the office of Lloyd Doggett, also a Democratic contender for the U.S. Senate.

Reasoning for the fund-raiser is twofold, said President Tamra Oatman. The money is needed to carry out some projects planned this year

and to set up a fund to pay the state and national dues of people who would like to join but can't because of the cost.

Membership is \$40 per year with \$10 of that going to the local group. The rest is sent on to state and national offices.

"It takes every penny of that (\$10) just to send out the monthly newsletter," said Ms. Oatman. "We hope to have a fund for people who can't afford the full membership."

The fund-raiser is a celebration of

the organization's first anniversary in the Permian Basin and to mark a successful year, she said. "We're trying to increase membership and to make people aware of us."

The Permian Basin Caucus has 50 members from Midland and Odessa "with a good distribution of Republicans, Democrats and Independents. Our goal is to be multi-partisan," said Ms. Oatman.

Last year's projects included hosting several receptions for local candidates in Midland and Odessa.

Another program featured Ann Richards, state treasurer, who conducted a training session on how to run for office.

Another meeting featured a panel discussion by Judge Barbara Culver of Midland and Judges Jan Fisher and Carol Glegg of Odessa.

"Indirectly, we had a hand in getting some of these newly-elected women to offices and into appointed positions locally. That's what we're looking at strongly this year — getting a number of women in

DEATHS

Houston Roberts

HEREFORD — Houston A. Roberts, 70, of Hereford, father of Ronnie Roberts of Midland, died Tuesday in a Hereford hospital after a sudden illness.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Central Church of Christ here with Bob Wear, minister, officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery, directed by Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

He was born Sept. 28, 1912, in Pecos. He married Lora Shannon Oct. 6, 1934, in Crosbyton. They came to Deaf Smith County in January 1964 from Kress. He was a farmer and a member of Central Church of Christ.

Other survivors include his wife, a son, three daughters, a brother, four sisters, 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Ophelia Ingram

CRANE — Services for Mrs. G.B. (Ophelia) Ingram, 83, of Crane, were to be at 11 a.m. today at the Tabernacle Baptist Church here. Burial was to be in Crane County Cemetery, directed by Richard W. Box Funeral Home.

She died Sunday in a Crane nursing home.

Mrs. Ingram was born Oct. 15, 1899, in Cottonwood. She married Green Berry Ingram June 26, 1931, in Carlsbad, N.M. She was a member of the Rocky Creek Baptist Church in Brownwood.

Survivors include her husband, seven sisters, two brothers, a daughter, two sons, 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

M.A. Calicutt

ODESSA — Services for Mary Ann Calicutt, 60, of Odessa, mother of Carrie Gilbert of Midland, were to be at 2 p.m. today at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home with the Rev. Love Hambrick officiating. Burial was to be in Odessa Cemetery.

She died Friday in an Odessa hospital.

Mrs. Calicutt was born May 13, 1923, in Gonzales County. She married Morris Calicutt in Odessa in 1976. He died in 1979. She was a maid and a member of the Bethel Holiness Jesus Name Church.

Other survivors include a daughter, a sister, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Edith Hatchett

BIG SPRING — Services for Edith Hatchett, 81, will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with burial in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She died Tuesday in Lubbock.

Mrs. Hatchett was a member of the Baptist church, a former Big Spring resident and a retired bank official.

Claude Morris

BIG SPRING — Services for Claude Morris, 58, of Big Spring, will be at 4 p.m. Thursday in Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with burial in Trinity Memorial Park.

He died Tuesday in Big Spring.

Morris was a Big Spring Police Department captain and a Baptist.

Music raises man out of poverty

along with 17 other innovators in their respective musical fields — was honored with a \$5,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

HE WAS flown to Washington, D.C., to perform at the Smithsonian Institute's annual Festival of American Folklife.

Likewise, he was a featured performer at the Frontier Folklife Festival in St. Louis, another prestigious gathering of the masters of folk art.

The most flattering part of his success, says Martinez, is the fact that he is still asked to play in "my style" — and his discovery that a crowd of people as sophisticated as one might expect to find in the nation's capital is moved to dance as easily as those in Valley neighborhood gatherings of a half-century past.

Self taught, Martinez developed his appealingly sharp, snappy style performing at the impromptu get-togethers of farm workers in the La Paloma-San Benito area in the late '20s.

An older brother owned an accordion, but young Narciso was to call the instrument his own by the age of 17.

"HONESTLY, I don't even know how it all got started," says Martinez, who will be 72 in October.

Most vivid are the memories of poverty.

"Those were hard times," he says. "There were eight in our family and we all had to work."

The family was so poor, he says, that at times there was "no soap for



AP Laserphoto

Musician Narciso Martinez has made his mark with the accordion. The 71-year-old artist is shown with the awards he received in Washington, D.C., in recognition of his musical contributions.

the women to wash" clothes.

"There wasn't any electricity; there wasn't any radio," says Martinez, whose exposure to music, other than the neighborhood parties, was in the fields.

HE WOULD, he says, learn new songs by memorizing the tunes he

heard the field hands whistle while they worked.

The great respite from hard labor was the neighborhood party.

After all the family necessities, groceries and clothing and the like, were provided for, "money was set aside" for the parties, says Martinez.

The tradition was 5 cents a dance, and Martinez remembers well how he would urge nickels from his labors in the cotton fields to buy dances from the young ladies of the community.

Tradition also held that of each dime earned, the women would keep 5 cents and give the other nickel to the musician in payment for his services.

THUS, TO play a style of music that would urge the dancers to their feet was financially rewarding for the musician.

Martinez prides himself on the fact that he could earn as much as \$10 a weekend playing his accordion at community gatherings.

Word of Martinez' popularity spread, and in 1936 the accordion aficionado was urged by Valley furniture store owner Enrique Valentin to record.

Valentin, who also is credited with coining the Martinez nickname El Huracan del Valley (The Hurricane of the Valley), took the performer to San Antonio to record.

Martinez and friend Santiago Almeida, playing accompaniment on the bajo sexto (12-string guitar), recorded 20 songs the first day.

Ranchers will finally get federal support

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — From the withering rangelands of West Texas, where tumbleweeds splash through dried-up arroyos, ranchers calling for federal support finally got some relief Tuesday.

Officials with the U.S. Department of Agriculture notified the two Texas senators and Hunt Rep. Tom Loeffler that 20 drought-stricken counties, including Midland and Ector, have been declared disaster areas.

"It has been a long time coming," said Claiborn Crane, agriculture specialist for the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations. "They're already reducing cattle, sheep and goat herds out there because of lack of grass and feed."

Most counties submitted claims in early July. Midland County, where damage is estimated at \$795,015, turned in its claims July 14.

From a billion-dollar fund, the Farmers Home Administration can make loans to alleviate an estimated \$11.1 million in drought-related damages.

Ranchers who show dollar losses in rangeland, pastures or grazing areas of 30 percent or more, and an inability to get credit from other sources, are automatically eligible for emergency 8 percent loans, the FmHA announced.

They can apply for the loans through their local FmHA agents.

Ranchers with those losses who can still get outside credit are also eligible for FmHA loans, at 13.75 percent interest, said Morris Monesson, deputy director of the FmHA emergency division.

"There's plenty of money (\$1 billion), and we're not going to use it all," Monesson said.

The FmHA deferred a ruling on



disaster assistance in connection with stunted cash crops, including cotton and sorghum grain, until after harvest in November.

Monesson said the FmHA had not approved any emergency feed provisions and has no plans to do so.

"That program is inactive," he said.

As the drought continued through June and July, numerous ranchers contemplated selling their stock if they failed to gain emergency feed.

In early August, Agriculture Secretary John Block turned down a request for emergency feed from Democratic Texas Gov. Mark White.

Although the emergency declaration grants ranchers a one-year exemption from taxes on drought-caused sales of cattle, sheep and goats, Monesson said there is no other livestock-directed aid.

"If they (ranchers) choose to sell their livestock, that's a management decision; there's no loss as far as we're concerned," he said.

Loeffler issued a short statement through his Washington office announcing the declaration, but was unavailable for comment later in the day.

OC denied certification of criminal justice program

From staff and wire reports

AUSTIN — Odessa College has been denied permanent certification for its criminal justice program, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards has announced.

In denying OC's request for permanent certification, commissioners said no deficiencies were found in the college's basic 336-hour peace officer course planned for this fall.

Instead, according to commission Director Fred Toler, the denial was based on a feeling that certification of another police academy in the area would be a duplication of services.

Currently, law enforcement recruits receive their training at the Permian Basin Law Enforcement Academy at Midland Regional Airport.

The lack of permanent certifica-

tion will not affect anyone taking the OC course, according to commission legal counsel Alfredo Villarreal, who said the college has received temporary certification for the course: "A person taking it will receive full credit that will be honored by any law enforcement agency."

Permanent certification "is just more prestigious," he added, and would have kept OC from having to seek certification on an ad hoc basis every time the school offers a law enforcement training program.

The 336-hour course is limited to 25 students and is geared primarily for persons who have no experience in law enforcement, according to school officials.

While this fall's program has a full contingent of students, the school plans to offer the course again next fall.

Big Spring Holiday Inn robbed

BIG SPRING — Approximately \$360 was taken in the aggravated robbery of Holiday Inn at 2:58 a.m. today.

According to a police detective, a man walked in with a shotgun in hand and demanded the money from the clerk. He was described as a Hispanic in his late 20s, five feet nine

inches in height, weighing 160 pounds, with brown hair and wearing a blue jump suit and tennis shoes.

The man went out the front door and fled north on foot, said the detective.

Police also were looking for a light blue four-door Chevrolet possibly used in the robbery.

Phone company employee promoted

Jay Allen, Southwestern Bell's public relations manager, has accepted a departmental promotion with the company.

Allen left today to his new position in Tulsa, Okla. He came to Midland from Dallas in January 1981. In addition to his news media relations, community relations and employees

information responsibilities for the Midland-Odessa-Abilene areas, Allen also has been active in the community, including his work with the United Way.

Allen's duties will be assumed by Sam Ogletree, Bell's community relations district manager in Midland.

MC board of trustees lowers tax rate for 1983-1984

(Continued from Page 1C)

"We are under no obligation to pay anything until we actually issue the bonds if and when we do it," Phillips said.

"It seems to me we're kind of putting the cart before the horse," Trustee Reagan Legg said.

"It's not too early to start our preliminary work," Phillips said.

"That's what I'm getting at," Legg said. "I don't think we've authorized any of this — why have that expense now?"

According to Phillips, there would be no expense until bonds were issued. Davis would

advise them when to sell the bonds and work with bond rating companies.

"We've used Bob (Davis) on all of our other bond issues," Phillips said. "I recommend that he do the advisory work again. There will be additional costs at the appropriate time as far as getting the bond through the state and authorized."

Dr. David Norton, assistant to the president since Aug. 1, 1974, was recognized for his service to the college and the community with a resolution and plaque, presented by Kenneth Peeler, president of the board.

Norton's resignation is effective Aug. 31.

Trustees approved the promotion of Dr. Joe Blumentritt, MC chemistry and math instructor

for 10 years, to chairman of the scientific studies division.

In other action, trustees accepted the resignations of Leon Taylor, machine technology instructor, and Julius Haye, data processing.

New appointments to the staff included Debbie Allmon, data processing; Dr. Elise Brinkley, Associate Degree of Nursing; Kathy Davenport, real estate; John Davidson, Emergency Medical Technician/fire science; Ann Doyle, office education; Bruce Elsom, data processing; Terry Gilmore, respiratory therapy; Clara King, CPA, accounting; Dr. Pamela Howell, English; Joe Williams, physical education/tennis; and Dr. Lynn Laiko, chemistry.

Jury sentences disabled worker 20 years for murder

(Continued from Page 1C)

"He's got a bullet hole in his hat band. He thought he was a pretty mean actor (who) lived behind Koko Lounge" on East Front Avenue.

"But he found somebody who was tougher. He (Johnson) wasn't afraid

of Mr. Rice."

Bruneman noted that there was "some bad blood between them...Had Johnson wanted to kill him, he had plenty of opportunity. He kind of bugged him a little bit, and that was his error."

The prosecutor noted that Rice held that "Johnson was running at

him, cursing him and threatening to kill him" after Rice had honked. "It's tailored testimony," Bruneman charged.

"I believe there was trouble between them," Bruneman said. "Law enforcement for five years wouldn't do anything about it," he

said. "The grand jury chose not to believe him (about Johnson alleging shooting at Rice)."

"He (Rice) was put down by Foy Johnson long enough," Bruneman said. "He was bad; he was tough. I suggest you send a message out to this bully that you can't get away with murder."

MISD 1981-1982 budget provided \$2,701 per student, report says

AUSTIN — The Midland Independent School District's budget for the last school year provided \$2,701 per student based on the 14,855 students reported in average daily attendance in 1981-82, according to figures released by the Texas Research League, a nonprofit educational cor-

poration. School budgets adopted for 1982-83 called for spending an average of \$2,610 per student statewide.

MISD's tax levy was increased by 24.3 percent during the last school year, compared to a 14.8 percent

increase for the average school district, the report stated.

The average school property tax rate in 1981-82 was \$0.591 per \$100 of market value, the report says, noting the school tax on a property selling for \$100,000 was \$591 in an average

district. The tax rate in Midland on market value was \$0.609 in the district.

The school tax would be less if the property were owned by a senior citizen because of the various exemptions, the report notes.

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