

## Hodel outlines effects of natural gas decontrol

By WILLIAM GARLAND

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's new bill to decontrol natural gas prices would be beneficial for consumers and slightly costly to producers, Secretary of Energy Donald P. Hodel stressed at a news conference Monday.

Hodel discussed details of the bill as the administration began a push on Capitol Hill for its passage.

Texas Democratic Gov. Mark White, who was in Washington for the National Governor's Conference, said Monday he had seen a briefing paper on the bill but had not yet formed an opinion of it.

Hodel predicted that the complex

administration package would create a 10 cent to 30 cent drop in the average price of gas at the wellhead, disputing predictions that consumer prices would continue to rise sharply under Reagan's plan.

"Natural gas prices would come down," he said, and consumers would not be threatened by price increases for at least three years.

He explained that no increases in gas costs, beyond the rise in inflation, could be passed through to the consumer until Jan. 1, 1986. If a pipeline company bought more expensive gas from a producer, the pipeline would have to absorb the increase, he said.

Hodel also said that natural gas pro-

From Our Washington Bureau

ducers and pipeline companies probably would go ahead and immediately renegotiate their contracts without waiting until the renegotiation became mandatory on Jan. 1, 1986.

Natural gas prices would be immediately decontrolled for renegotiated contracts as well as gas that was discovered after enactment of the Reagan bill.

Producers would be compelled to renegotiate in part because prices could fall below the current price in the contract. The Natural Gas Policy

Act of 1978 will not let the price of gas go below certain levels, but the new bill would ensure that current prices did not go higher than the current market-clearing level, determined by the average price paid by pipelines to producers for unregulated gas production.

Another factor would be that the producer might fear losing the pipeline to another supplier on Jan. 1, 1986 if a new contract had not been negotiated by that time.

Pipeline companies would be

encouraged to renegotiate for higher-priced contracts in some other cases for the same reason: They might fear losing a supply of gas in early 1986 when there might not be the current over-supply.

A key component of the decontrol plan would be the decontrol of prices on Jan. 1, 1986 for "old gas," gas flowing before April 1977.

Producers have lobbied persistently for removal of those controls, while the utility companies have advocated keeping them in place.

Old gas represents as much as 50 percent of all gas currently flowing to the

market and some of it sells for less than 50 cents per thousand cubic feet. That compares to an average wellhead price of \$2.75 per thousand cubic feet, as estimated Monday by Hodel.

A spokesman for the American Gas Association in Washington, the major utility company lobby, said his organization would continue to fight the lifting of controls on old gas. He added, however, that the utility company officials were pleased that Reagan introduced a bill, primarily because of the provisions that deal with natural gas contracts.

(See NATURAL GAS, Page 2A)

## About 74 killed in sweep

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Army soldiers may have slaughtered as many as 74 Indian men, women and children during an anti-guerrilla sweep of Sansonate province, a member of the government Human Rights Commission said. He gave no details of the killings.

In a separate conversation with reporters Monday, the head of a Salvadoran peasants organization said he also had reports of 74 deaths.

A U.S. Embassy official said American Ambassador Deane R. Hinton had expressed concern over the massacre reports Monday in a meeting with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana.

"It will be good if they (the government) take some fast action on the incident. If they don't, it will be just another problem in Congress," said the official, who asked not to be identified for diplomatic reasons.

Congress has made further U.S. aid to El Salvador contingent on improvement in the human rights situation.

President Reagan asked Monday for a \$60 million boost in weapons aid to the El Salvador, and a senior White House official said the administration is looking to increase the number of American military advisers above the 55 men already here.

Relatives and Sansonate authorities said Sunday that uniformed troops had seized 18 people from hamlets in the sugar-growing region 41 miles west of the capital, trucked them to the banks of the Cayuga River and shot them to death.

Cristobal Aleman, a member of the Human Rights Commission, said he was told about the additional victims by area residents but was able to document only two more killings because peasants were afraid to talk about the incident.



Crime scene

Sheriff Dallas Smith, upper left, and other investigators examine the scene where a young woman's nude body was discovered Monday afternoon in Midland County west of Air Terminal. See related photo, Page 1C.

## Body found; Man held

A Midland man is being held in connection with the death of a woman whose nude and beaten body was found about a mile west of Midland Regional Airport about 12:30 p.m. Monday.

Sheriff's Department investigators this morning said they were withholding the victim's name pending notification of relatives. She is believed to have been about 20 years old.

The suspect's name also is being withheld until formal charges are filed, possibly today.

The woman had been severely beaten "with some type of blunt instrument," Midland County Sheriff Dallas Smith said at the scene Monday.

A motorist on his way to work found the body sprawled face up on the south shoulder of the old West Bankhead Highway behind the equipment yard of Stewart & Stevenson Services Inc., according to investigators.

Other than a pile of clothes found next to the body and a set of tire tracks, there were no other clues, said Smith, who estimated the time of death to have been "in the early morning hours" Monday.

Investigators weren't sure if the woman had been killed at the site or if her body had been dumped there later. Justice of the Peace Robert Pine pronounced her dead at the scene.

No other details were available by press time.

## Reagan may expand role of Americans in El Salvador

Country's military situation 'deteriorating rapidly'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration may expand both the number and the role of American military trainers in El Salvador to meet what one congressman calls a rapidly deteriorating military situation.

An escalation of U.S. manpower in El Salvador would be in addition to the administration's request for a \$60 million increase in military assistance this year.

A senior American official traveling aboard President Reagan's plane to California on Monday told reporters the administration has been reviewing policy toward El Salvador for the past four weeks under orders from the president.

The official, who insisted on anonym-

ity, said Reagan has not yet made up his mind on what course to take, partly because he has been receiving conflicting advice from his subordinates.

Since March 1981, the administration has set a ceiling of 55 military trainers in El Salvador and limited their role to non-combat situations. The current number of trainers is 37.

The administration's reassessment of the situation appears to reflect dissatisfaction with the performance of the Salvadoran military in recent weeks.

Contrary to American advice, the Salvadorans have been mounting massive sweeps of the countryside rather than frequent small-scale patrols.

One theory for the Salvadoran tactics was offered Monday by Robert S.

Leiken of the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"Large-scale brigade size operations are more lucrative for the commanders," he told the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "They are able to skim off the top expenses for food (and) fuel. Small patrols mean that the pie is sliced in smaller portions."

Leiken said that "cronyism and corruption is rampant" in the Salvadoran army, which "is not under present circumstances capable of winning the war or of containing the guerrillas."

Presumably, the lifting of restrictions on the U.S. trainers would permit them to be present at the brigade and provincial command levels, thus giving them the opportunity to have more

direct influence over counter-insurgency operations.

A month ago, three American trainers were sent home after they had been involved in tactical operations against the guerrillas.

For the past several weeks, the administration has said publicly that the military situation in El Salvador had remained essentially unchanged despite an increase in guerrilla activity.

Secretary of State George P. Shultz altered that position somewhat on Monday when he told a Senate subcommittee that the battlefield situation had "stagnated" because of a decline in U.S. military aid.

However, Rep. Michael Barnes, D-

Md., chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on inter-American affairs, said Monday, "The situation is deteriorating very rapidly. The left has been able to do things militarily in the last couple of months that I don't think most people would have thought possible."

Barnes was one of a group of senators and House members who met with Reagan Monday morning to discuss the possibility of an aid increase.

The administration, recognizing the political sensitivity of any escalation of American involvement, appears intent on consulting fully with Congress before reaching final decisions.

"I think there are an awful lot of questions that members of Congress

are going to want to have answered before they vote for a big increase in military assistance to El Salvador," Barnes said.

The administration sees the additional \$60 million as a means of maintaining aid at the levels in effect last year. For this year, Congress has approved only \$26 million under a continuing resolution.

The administration is weighing a variety of options for obtaining the \$60 million, including the possibility of transferring that amount from aid now earmarked for other countries.

According to the senior official, Reagan's concern stems from his perception that the Soviet Union represents a major threat to the region.



## Queen maintaining busy schedule

Related stories, Page 2A

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II zipped from an aerospace plant to a sparkling City Hall gathering, visited a British nursing home and dined with Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra in a wet, whirlwind visit to the nation's third-largest city.

Along the way Monday, she jokingly reminded Los Angeles residents that Sir Francis Drake had claimed the area for the British crown 400 years ago, but she was not here "to press that claim."

She also gave the first public speech of her West Coast visit, expressing Britain's gratitude for United States support during the war to recapture the Falklands from Argentina.

"The support of your government and the American people touched us deeply and demonstrated to the world that our close relationship is based on our shared commitment to the same values," the queen said in the City Hall speech.

The British monarch — who arrived in California on Saturday — left her yacht at Long Beach harbor in the southwestern tip of Los Angeles County and by the end of the day had motored to the British Home in Sierra Madre, 35 miles to the northeast. The tour was marred by intermittent showers, heavy at times, which also forced hasty revisions to plans for visiting President Reagan today.

The queen and Prince Philip began their only full day in Los Angeles by talking a simulated space flight

at Rockwell International's engineering and assembly complex in suburban Downey.

Wearing a deep blue dress and shawl, white hat and gloves, the queen looked somewhat ill at ease at the controls and after a brief stint in the commander's seat moved over to let her consort — who is a trained pilot — complete a simulated landing.

She then received a glass-enclosed souvenir model of the space shuttle from Robert Anderson, Rockwell's board chairman.

Several thousand employees waving small British and American flags lined the queen's pathway as she toured the complex. On leaving the assembly building she was greeted by 150 Downey schoolchildren, including two 5-year-olds who gave her a bouquet of flowers.

Then it was on to a tightly-secured City Hall, where she told Mayor Tom Bradley that her West Coast tour follows the route Drake took 400 years ago when he claimed the area for Queen Elizabeth I.

"But I want to assure you, Mr. Mayor, that I am not here today to press that claim," the queen said, smiling.

She said Britain went to war over the Falklands — called Malvinas by Argentines — to "defend the principle of self-determination."

### INSIDE TODAY

- IN THE STATE: Wendy Gramm is promoted to high-ranking FTC post... 3A
- IN THE WORLD: Pope John Paul II's trip to Central America one of his most difficult... 8A
- IN THE NATION: Leaders of National Governors' Association seek less defense spending... 7A
- IN THE NEWS: Viewers say goodbye to long-running TV series "M\*A\*S\*H"... 8B

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Classified	7C	Entertainment	5C	Sotomayor	4A
Comics	4A	Lifestyle	5C	Sports	1B
Outward	6A	Local	1C		

### Weather

Fair tonight. Increasing cloudiness and warm Wednesday. Details on Page 2A.

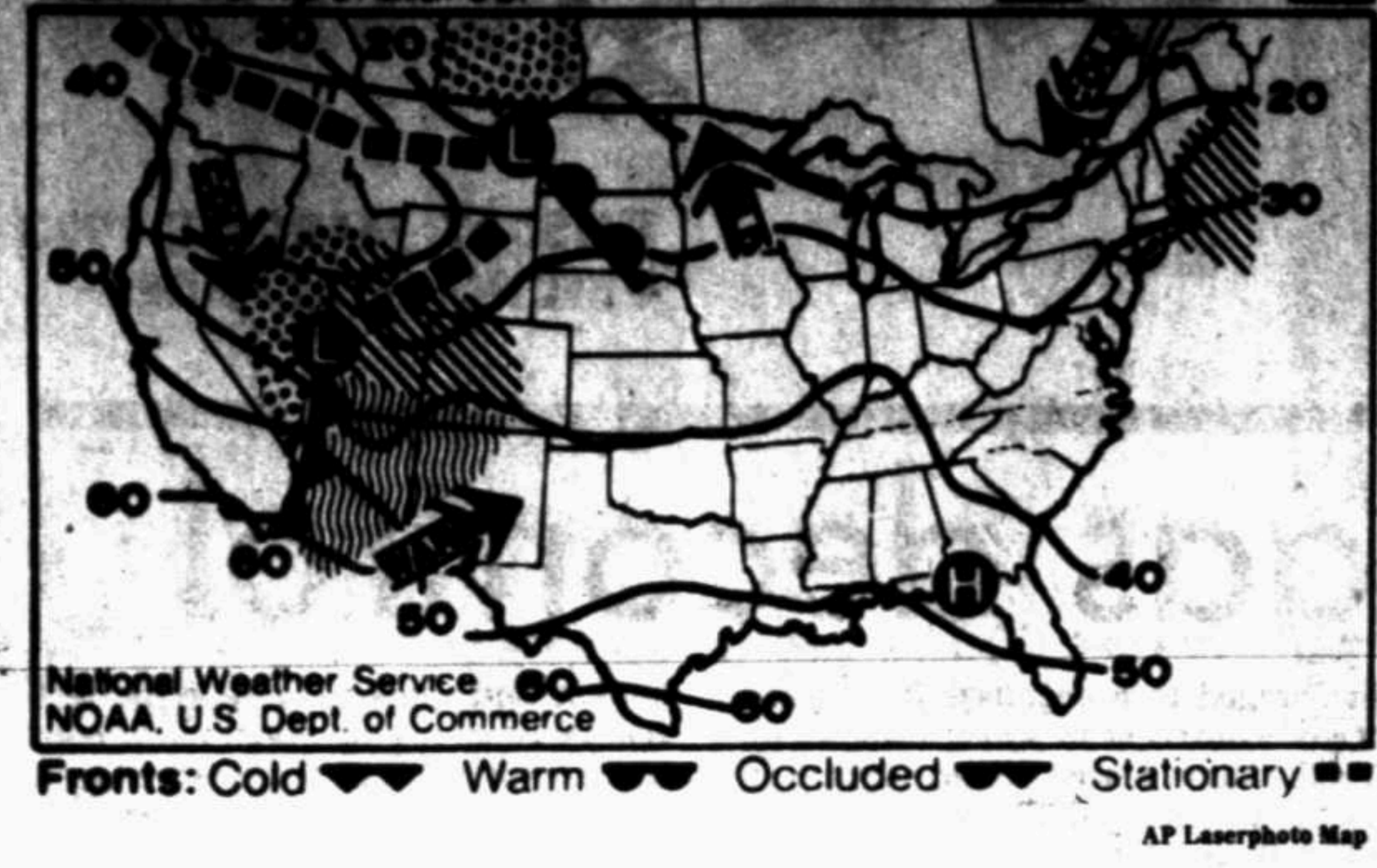
### Service

Delivery: 689-6311  
Want Ads: 682-6322  
Other Calls: 689-6311

Queen Elizabeth II examines a quilt given to her by Sheila Schnegg, resident of a home for women of British descent.

WEATHER SUMMARY

The Forecast For 7 a.m. EST
Wednesday, March 2



Rain, showers and snow are forecast for the Southwest through Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service.

Midland statistics

Table with columns for High, Low, and Precipitation (Pcp) for various locations including Abilene, Alice, Amarillo, and Austin.

Texas temperatures

Table with columns for High, Low, and Precipitation (Pcp) for various Texas cities including Abilene, Alice, Amarillo, and Austin.

High winds, floods of mud hit California

By The Associated Press

Storms pounding California with hurricane-force winds and floods sent residents of some communities scrambling to their rooftops today...



Violent Pacific Coast tides nibble at the coastline near Pacifica, Calif., forcing evacuation of the Pacific Skies Estates trailer park.

Heavy rains and high winds until at least until Thursday, said National Weather Service forecaster Kent Field.

The rain was expected to turn into heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada, where 5 feet of snow had fallen in three days...

Nearly 1 million gallons of raw sewage from two San Bernardino County communities were dumped into the rain-swollen Santa Ana River...

A state of emergency was in effect Monday in Rialto after temporary repairs were finished on the city's main sewer line...

The 20-foot waves and 55 mph winds that pounded Santa Barbara kept Queen Elizabeth II from docking the royal yacht at Santa Barbara Harbor...

The National Weather Service said 30- to 40-mph winds were headed for the west coast of Florida today...

Storm hits California

By The Associated Press

Heavy rainfall and high winds clobbered the California coast early today, while a storm system in the Southeast dampened the Atlantic Seaboard from Florida to Virginia.

Travelers' advisories warned of snow in California's northern mountains and northwestern Nevada. Rzn and snow fell in the Dakotas, northern Minnesota and upper Michigan.

Skies were cloudy from Tennessee through the Ohio Valley into New England, but generally clear from Texas into the mid-Mississippi Valley.

Rainshowers were forecast for later today from the Pacific Coast through northwestern New Mexico and western Montana. Showers also were expected from northeastern Florida into southern New England.

Temperatures around the nation at 2 a.m. EST ranged from 19 degrees in International Falls, Minn., to 71 degrees in Key West, Fla.

Elsewhere: —East: Atlanta 47 cloudy; Boston 38 cloudy; Buffalo 31 fair; Charleston, S.C. 52 rain; Cincinnati 40 cloudy; Cleveland 33 cloudy; Detroit 30 cloudy; Miami 67 hazy; New York 38 cloudy; Philadelphia 40 cloudy; Pittsburgh 39 partly cloudy; Washington 44 cloudy.

—Central: Bismarck 30 snow; Chicago 35 fair; Dallas-Fort Worth 57 fair; Denver 36 fair; Des Moines 41 cloudy; Indianapolis 40 cloudy; Kansas City 45 cloudy; Minneapolis-St. Paul 39 foggy; Nashville 48 cloudy; New Orleans 49 cloudy; St. Louis 37 fair.

—West: Albuquerque 41 partly cloudy; Anchorage 28 cloudy; Las Vegas 55 cloudy; Los Angeles 60 showers; Phoenix 61 partly cloudy; Salt Lake City 48 windy; Seattle 43 foggy.

—Canada: Montreal 28 fair; Toronto 27 foggy.

At least four killed in smoky accident

OCALA, Fla. (AP) — A cigarette tossed by a motorist may have started a fast-burning grass fire that sent a smokescreen across an interstate highway...

"I knew it was going to be bad," said Larry Battey of Crystal Lake, Ill., who said he was driving one of the first cars to be caught in the blinding smoke Monday afternoon along Interstate 75.

Witnesses said the fire started after a motorist flicked a cigarette butt into the dry grass, according to Marion Deputy Civil Defense Director Tom Renau.

Marion County Medical Investigator Keith Gauger said gasoline tanks exploded in the crashes and two couples were burned beyond recognition after being pinned in their wrecked vehicles near the U.S. 27 interchange in northern Florida.

The identities of the dead had not been determined by this morning, police said. Two others injured in the crash were reported in critical condition early today.

A pickup truck pulling a horse trailer and a tractor-trailer toting lumber rode up onto stopped cars and crushed them. Wood spilled onto the pavement and caught fire. Five horses were released and the terrified animals

Royal yacht weathering coastal storm

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — With her yacht bobbing in waves and his ranch awash in mud, Queen Elizabeth II and President Reagan were meeting at an airport today after weather fouled their elaborate reunion plans.

The new schedule, drafted Monday night amid severe weather conditions, called for the queen's party to fly today to Santa Barbara from the royal yacht, which will remain anchored about 150 miles south at Long Beach, Calif.

Reagan and his wife, Nancy, were to meet them at the Santa Barbara airport for an arrival ceremony. Initially, the yacht was to sail into the Santa Barbara channel.

The queen and her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, had planned to drive up through the Santa Ynez mountains to the Reagans' secluded 688-acre ranch. But Santa Barbara County Supervisor Bob Kallman said that was canceled, and the royal couple planned instead to lunch with the Reagans at a local restaurant and also visit the Santa Barbara courthouse.

Eric Rosenberger, U.S. press coordinator for the queen's visit, said, however, that plans for a royal visit to the Reagan ranch had not been canceled.

"The weather sure changed the transportation plans and they had to reconsider everything," said White House spokesman Anson Franklin.

The queen's plans were interrupted by what was described as the season's fiercest storm, with the National Weather Service forecasting waves of 25 feet to 30 feet. Weathermen predicted more heavy rains and strong winds for today.

The foul weather forced the president to cancel a horseback ride with the queen. The royal party is returning to the yacht tonight.

Also joining today's party were White House Chief of Staff James Baker III and his wife, and British Foreign Minister Francis Pym and his wife.

After Reagan's plane landed in California Monday, the president and his wife were forced to abandon the helicopter ride to the ranch and drive for 47 minutes through pea soup fog, around steep hairpin turns that swung riders from one side of the vehicles to another.

The seven-mile, winding road to the ranch was cut by gushing creeks that flooded the rutted road in six places. Aides stressed that Reagan's trip was a working one and said he would be delivering speeches and holding meetings as well as attending to ceremonial duties with the queen.

"He's only going to see her three times," said David R. Gergen, assistant to the president for communications. On Thursday night, Reagan is to play host at a black-tie dinner in the queen's honor at the ornate deYoung Museum in San Francisco.

Presidential yacht seized in dispute over fuel bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The former presidential yacht Sequoia, refurbished and valued at \$1.9 million, has been seized by U.S. marshals because of an overdue \$1,300 diesel fuel bill.

The 105-foot vessel was towed Monday from its berth at East Potomac Park here to the nearby Gangplank Marina.

The Sequoia is being held until its owner pays for more than 1,300 gallons of diesel fuel delivered last summer by Southeast Suburban Distributors, a local fuel oil company.

The vessel, declared a presidential yacht by Herbert Hoover and sold off by former president Jimmy Carter six years ago, is owned by the Presidential Yacht Trust, a non-profit, Republican Party-oriented organization.

Michael Doud Gill, the group's representative, said the fuel had not been paid for because of a disagreement over how much fuel was ordered. Gill said the fuel company delivered 600 more gallons of diesel fuel than had been ordered.

"We had told them we would be very happy to pay the bill, but that we wouldn't pay for the 500 gallons that went into the river," he said. Gill said he would post a bond Tuesday for release of the yacht.

Baker III and his wife, and British Foreign Minister Francis Pym and his wife. After Reagan's plane landed in California Monday, the president and his wife were forced to abandon the helicopter ride to the ranch and drive for 47 minutes through pea soup fog...

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On Friday, the Reagans planned to celebrate their 31st wedding anniversary with the royal couple at an intimate dinner aboard the yacht.

Meanwhile, Reagan will leave his ranch Thursday to fly to Los Angeles for a fundraiser for the U.S. Olympics, then go on to San Francisco for the official dinner.

Natural gas decontrol measure could benefit consumers, cost producers

(Continued from Page 1A)

The well-known "take or pay" provisions in those contracts, which require that pipelines buy gas at a high cost even if there is no immediate market to sell the gas, would be partially defused by the Reagan bill.

Spokesmen for Sens. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, and John Tower, R-Texas, said both the senators were still studying the new proposed law. Bentsen characterized an earlier outline of the bill as "moving us in the right direction."

Hearings on the bill have been scheduled in both the House and Senate energy committees.

Hodel said the administration might have better luck with another well-known foe of decontrolled natural gas, Rep. John D. Dingell, D-Mich., whose past view on decontrol of natural gas has been widely circulated.

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Afghan guerrillas launch attacks on government, Soviet facilities

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Afghan guerrillas launched simultaneous night attacks on government and Soviet facilities in Kabul last week and fired rockets at the Soviet Embassy...

The rebels hit a Soviet-built grain silo at Kote Sangi and the Taj Beg palace, a Soviet military compound on the city's northern outskirts, and pounded a military outpost at Fazel Beg, killing at least 12 in the garrison, said the sources.

The diplomats, quoting latest dispatches from Kabul, said guerrillas apparently inflicted little damage on the Soviet Embassy.

The rockets hit a military jeep at Darul Aman, killing two Soviet and four Afghan soldiers, said the sources, who spoke on the condition they not be identified.

A mini bus carrying government employees was destroyed when it ran over a mine, killing six people including two Soviet advisers, the sources said.

As the insurgents struck, many of the people of Kabul raised banners reading Allah-o-Akbar (God is Great). Few businesses followed the rebels' calls for a total business shutdown on the anniversary.

The 1980 demonstration was to protest the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979. Western military sources estimate that 105,000 Soviet combat troops are still stationed in Afghanistan to help the Marxist government fight the widespread insurgency.

The upsurge in guerrilla action, which the diplomats described as the heaviest in weeks, led to the issue of bulletproof clothing for all Soviet military personnel.

Afghan troops set up road blocks throughout the city while Soviet forces continued house-to-house searches. The sources said increased security measures were taken following the embassy attack and discovery of a bomb near the television wing of radio Afghanistan in the city center.

The Midland Reporter-Telegram
Published by Midland Newspapers, Inc.
MAIL RATES IN TEXAS
MAIL RATES OUTSIDE TEXAS

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, likely a list of names or a sidebar.

New York Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Stock Exchange closed at 100.12 1/2, down 1/2 point from 100.62 1/2.

Table of stock prices for various companies including IBM, AT&T, and General Electric.

American Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — The American Stock Exchange closed at 124.12 1/2, down 1/2 point from 124.62 1/2.

Table of stock prices for various companies listed on the American Exchange.

IMF OKs loans for Brazil

WASHINGTON — In the biggest financial rescue effort ever mounted, the International Monetary Fund approved loans Monday of \$5.4 billion to Brazil to prevent a default on its foreign debt that could have jolted the world's banking system.

People look out for their interests

NEW YORK — Looking back the past couple of years prove again that if there is any consistency about economic matters it is in the way people act in the marketplace.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds with their names and performance metrics.

Additional listings

Table listing additional stock exchange listings for New York and American exchanges.

Gold futures

Selected world gold prices Monday. London morning fixing \$419.75, off \$420.00.

Cotton

NEW YORK (AP) — Cotton futures on Tuesday were mixed at midday dealings today.

Dow Jones averages

30 Industrial 1122.00 +1.94, 30 Transportation 62.00 +0.39, 15 Utilities 134.00 -0.14.

Nonferrous metal

NEW YORK (AP) — Spot nonferrous metal prices Monday. Copper - 29.40 cents a pound, U.S. Government.

Over the counter

Quotations from the NASD are representative interdealer prices as of approximately 11 a.m.

Bonds

NEW YORK (AP) — Bond futures on Tuesday were mixed at midday dealings today.

Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Stock Exchange closed at 100.12 1/2, down 1/2 point from 100.62 1/2.

Government debt not subject to tax

A tight monetary policy, the adoption of major spending or taxation measures and the recent depreciation of Brazil's currency will help to achieve these targets, the IMF added.

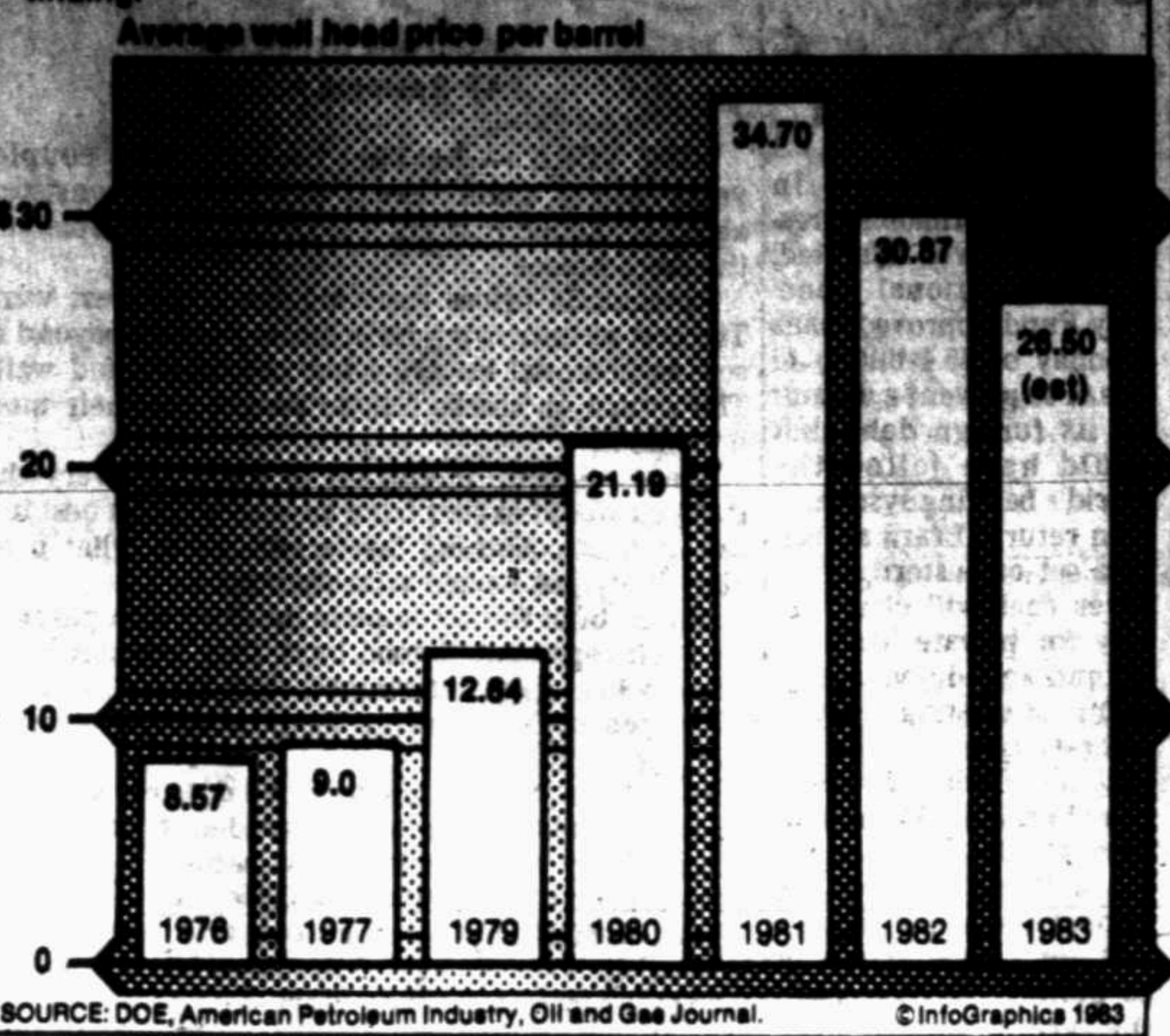
Investor's Guide

Table providing an investor's guide with various financial metrics and company names.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and an answer key.

## Oilly slide

The price of U.S.-produced oil has risen steadily since the late 1970s, when price controls were lifted. Now, under pressure from abundant production from the Alaskan north slope and most recently from the collapse of OPEC's pricing structure, the average U.S. price has slipped to the \$29.50 range, and the slide is continuing.



## Yamani says OPEC chiefs verging on price accord

PARIS (AP) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani said today OPEC ministers were on the "verge" of a price agreement and that they might meet "Saturday or next Monday."

"The solution is imminent," Yamani said in an interview broadcast on French television. "We are on the verge of reaching an agreement on this subject."

Earlier today, Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said OPEC members were making progress on deciding a new price structure that would reduce the cartel's \$34 base price by an unspecified amount.

They spoke after Mexico reportedly decided to lower its base price, and fears of an oil-price war sent the price of gold plunging.

Mexico is not a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries but has been courted for days by OPEC nations hoping to avoid a free-for-all among petroleum producers. Mexican officials would not confirm reports they were about to cut prices.

Mexico now charges \$32.50 for a 42-gallon barrel of oil — below the OPEC benchmark price but higher than the newly reduced prices set by two other non-OPEC nations, Norway and Britain; and by OPEC member Nigeria.

## Bank board announces approval of mergers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Home Loan Bank Board today announced it has approved the merger of banks in Ohio and Missouri.

Bob Moore, spokesman for the bank board, said it approved the merger of United Savings Association of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Gem Federal Savings and Loan Association of Norwood, Ohio, into Gem Savings Association of Dayton, Ohio.

He said the combination will give Gem Savings of Dayton approximately \$1.474 billion in assets and a total of 33 offices.

In a separate action, he said the board approved the merger of Carondelet Savings and Loan Association of St. Louis, Mo., and First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Moberly, Mo., into Community Federal Savings

and Loan Association of St. Louis.

He said the combination will give Community Federal approximately \$3.361 billion in assets and a total of 44 offices.

Moore said that to facilitate the Ohio transaction, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. will provide a cash contribution of \$7.35 million to Gem Savings of Dayton plus coverage for capital losses on real estate, service corporations, and undisclosed liabilities.

He said that to facilitate the Missouri transaction, the FSLIC will provide financial assistance over the next 10 years to Community Federal, consisting of a cash contribution of \$50 million plus the purchase of income capital certificates from Community Federal in amounts sufficient to cover capital losses on real estate.

## Supreme court to decide TMI issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court, after hearing arguments today, will decide whether psychological damage to the community must be considered before a nuclear reactor at Three Mile Island is allowed to reopen.

People Against Nuclear Energy, a Middletown, Pa., citizens group, is opposed to restarting the plant, where the nation's worst commercial nuclear accident occurred in 1979.

The group is asking the court to uphold an appeals court ruling that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission must weigh "fears of recurring catastrophe" when it decides whether to re-license the plant.

But the Justice Department and the

Metropolitan Edison Co., the plant operator, maintain that requiring the psychological stress survey would delay licensing of other nuclear plants and have an "onerous" effect on federal decision-making.

The Unit 1 reactor at TMI, located on the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg, was shut down for refueling on March 28, 1979, when a stuck valve caused the adjacent Unit 2 to lose cooling water, overheat and leak radiation into the atmosphere.

At the time, Gov. Dick Thornburgh recommended that pregnant women and preschool children leave the area surrounding the plant and thousands of other people decided on their own to

leave. When the reactor was brought under control nearly two weeks later, part of its radioactive core had melted and hundreds of gallons of contaminated water had flooded its basement, necessitating a nearly \$1 billion cleanup still in progress.

Unit 1 was not damaged, but the NRC ordered that it stay closed while the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board held re-licensing hearings on TMI management, plant safety, operator training and emergency planning.

The commission ordered the board to exclude testimony on psychological damage to nearby residents from its restart proceedings. But a U.S. Circuit

Court of Appeals in Washington ruled 2-1 last year that federal law required such consideration.

The appeals court said the aftermath of the TMI accident falls within the scope of the National Environmental Policy Act.

It said the act applies to "post-traumatic anxieties accompanied by physical effects and caused by fears of recurring catastrophe."

In its Supreme Court brief, the Justice Department said every federal activity from operating an airport to building a federal prison generates psychological impacts, and the environmental act was never meant to apply to such cases.

# GRAND OPENING

Win a free trip to Hawaii, a \$500 Savings Account, or a \$250 Savings Account.

Prepare yourself for a warm reception and a great send-off when you join us March 3, 4, and 5 for the Grand Opening of First Federal Savings' new Midland office. Stop by 4300 N. Midland Drive, just off Loop 250, from 9 am to 5 pm Thursday, 9 am to 6 pm Friday, or 10 am to 4:30 pm Saturday.

Meet our staff, enjoy refreshments, and register for a free trip for two to Hawaii. Spend 8 days and 7 nights on a delightful Hawaiian adventure via American Airlines from Midland.

In addition to the great send-off, we're giving away as second prize a \$500 savings account, and as third prize a \$250 savings account will be awarded.

First Federal has been serving the Permian Basin since 1935 and currently has offices in Odessa, Big Spring, and Snyder. From these offices, First Federal has served Midland with home loans, construction loans and residential land development for many years... and now, with a new full service facility located here, we'll provide all of the financial services available at our other locations.

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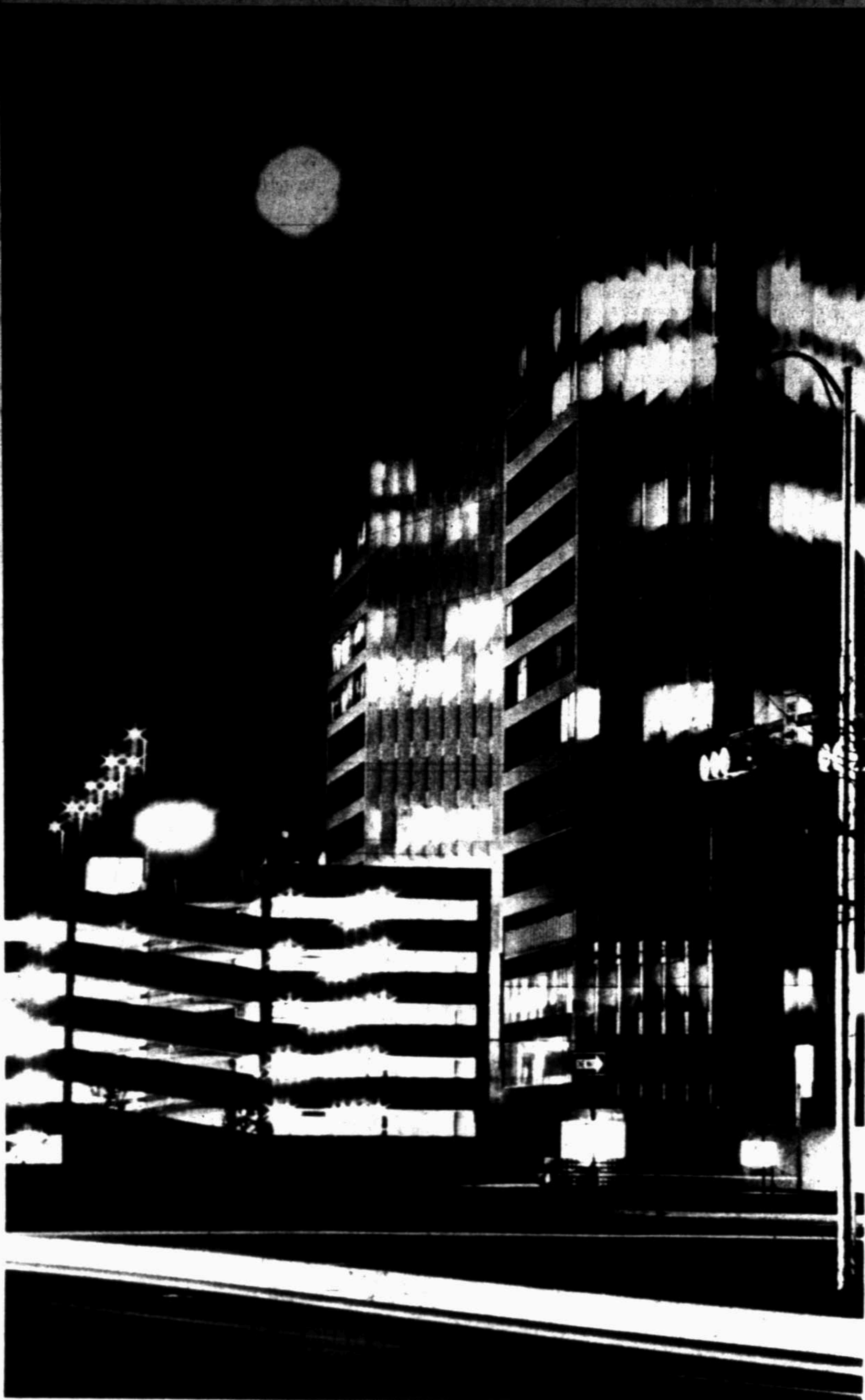
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By the light of the moon

A nightscape of a portion of downtown Midland is almost as bright as daylight with illumination from offices, cars, street lights and a full moon. The shot was taken Monday night near First City National Bank's offices and parking garage.

# Card players' shootout goes before grand jury

ODESSA (AP) — A weekend shootout at a poker game that killed three people will be referred to a grand jury, even though a police investigator says "the guilty ones are already dead."

The card players began shooting at each other about 3 a.m. Sunday at the La Costa Apartments on the west side of the city, said Odessa Police Sgt. Jerry Smith.

Investigators found \$5,000, three pistols, scattered playing cards and pools of blood in the apartment.

"Right now it doesn't make much sense except that we got three people dead over a poker game," said Odessa Police Lt. Rusty Baker. "It's all still very confusing. Sometimes it doesn't take much to cause a shooting."

Baker said at least seven people — six men and a woman — were in the apartment when the shooting started. A man and the woman escaped injury.

Two men were killed in or near the apartment, one was killed after breaking into a nearby house, a fourth was seriously wounded and a fifth was slightly injured, officers said.

BAKER SAID the case would be presented to a grand jury, but police did not expect charges to be filed.

"From what it sounds like, the guilty ones are already dead. They more or less shot each other," he said.

Baker said witnesses told investigators that earlier in the evening there had been an argument among the players. He did not say what the dispute was about.

"But the argument ceased, and it seemed like things were going along pretty good. Then, I understand that when the first pistol was drawn they all jumped up and pulled their guns. One person didn't do all the shooting."

Police said they found three pistols — a .380-caliber, a .38-caliber, and a .44-caliber — in the apartment, and more than \$5,000 cash they said could have been part of the game stakes. Playing cards were scattered on the ground near the back door of the first-floor apartment.

BAKER SAID A .45-caliber pistol also was fired during the melee, but

police had not been able to find the gun.

Police said Douglas Blevins, 43, was found dead in a pool of blood on the kitchen floor. He had been shot four times. Outside the apartment, 10 to 15 feet from the door, was the body of a man identified as Robert Notley, 42, of Odessa, said Baker. Notley had been shot five times.

The third dead man, who has not been identified, was shot once at the game with a .45-caliber pistol. He ran from the apartment, apparently pursuing someone, Baker said.

Witnesses told police that none of them knew the man, Baker said.

The man was shot fatally after he went to a nearby house and broke in, the officer said.

"WE DON'T know why he picked this particular house, because the people there didn't have anything to do with the game," Baker said. "He just broke down the door at 3-something in the morning, said he was looking for so-and-so, and started threatening the lady of the house."

# State doesn't plan stricter epileptic driver regulations

Illinois concern raises questions

By GAIL BURKE  
Staff Writer

While Illinois officials seek stricter controls over epileptic drivers, Texas Department of Public Safety has no plans to make its rules more stringent.

Although there may be public indifference about issuing a driver's license to an epileptic, a driver who has a seizure and kills someone can cause outrage.

That's what happened in January, when a 36-year-old epileptic Illinois man was involved in a collision which resulted in the deaths of four members of a family. The man, who was injured, apparently suffered an epileptic seizure while driving.

To spur public discussion and stricter state controls over epileptic drivers, the Cook County medical examiner ruled the death a homicide.

Statistics in Texas on accidents involving epileptic drivers are not available, but, according to Vernon Cole, DPS manager of driver improvement in Austin, "since 1970, the DPS has referred 25,894 individuals to a medical advisory board with 5,497 licenses denied."

Organized in 1970, the Texas Medical Advisory Board for Driver Licensing reviews about 15,000 applicants per year. Guidelines influenced by the American Medical Association were established in 1975 and were revised,

incorporating medical advancement, in 1976.

This board recommends whether an epileptic or any other person with medical limitations should be issued a driver's license. But the final decision to grant, revoke or restrict a license rests solely with the DPS.

"The main problem we see here," said John Relaford, executive director of West Texas Epilepsy, "is there is no way the DPS can detect whether a person has a seizure. It's up to the individual to report this."

Relaford said the 17-county epilepsy organization encourages and counsels persons to report their condition.

"In most cases, 50 percent of seizures can be controlled," Relaford said. "But many people (epileptics) don't want to be known. From their experiences in the past, people shun them; employees won't hire them."

"If you had to give up your driver's license in West Texas, it would be very difficult. There is no public transportation other than MidTran here."

Relaford said many seizures are due to a lack of control and education.

"Most people think of medication as a cure. This may be a way of denying their seizures," he said. "Most people we counsel ask 'should I go ahead and get a license?' We talk about the moral consequences — what if they had a seizure — and would they be willing to take responsibility if someone was

killed?"

Teen-agers are more difficult to counsel, said Relaford. "It's an important question to teen-agers. You've got to put yourself in their shoes. How would you feel if someone told you you can't drive?"

According to the Medical Advisory Board's "Guide for Determining Driver Limitation," operation of private vehicles is dependent upon the following conditions:

—"Currently under a physician's care to assess control by anticonvulsant medication, drug side effects, seizure recurrence and any neurological or medical changes in condition.

—"No evidence of clinical seizures in a one-year observation period prior to medical review.

—"Specific recommendation from patient's physician regarding patient's reliability in taking medications, avoiding sleep deprivation and fatigue and avoiding alcohol abuse.

—"Applicants with only nocturnal seizures (only while asleep) should be allowed to operate private vehicles and be re-evaluated annually.

—"If an applicant has a well-controlled seizure disorder on medications proven by time and then has a seizure when his physician makes a medication change, he should be allowed to drive when returned to his previous medication regimen."

# Commissioners agree to take over upkeep of some Greenwood roads

By ED TODD  
Staff Writer

They might really rather have hard-topped roads, but, said Midland County Commissioner C. Wallace "Wally" Craig, households in Greenwood Acres "are happy with caliche roads."

"The people don't want pavement."

Craig, now just into his third month as the Precinct 2 commissioner, on Monday was presenting his case to have his fellow commissioners go along with him in changing the road-maintenance rules and thereby allowing the county to take over maintenance of County Roads 90 and 95 East and County Roads 1127, 1128 and 1129 South in the Greenwood area.

The commissioners agreed to do so.

But in so doing, they had to make another exception to their own rules and regulations.

In 1977, the commissioners passed rules mandating that roads in housing subdivisions be paved.

In 1979, the commissioners revised those rules. Roads in subdivisions of less than two acres and within the city's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction — areas outside Midland city limits but within five miles of the city — would be paved. But ETJ roads in subdivisions of more than two acres at the very least would be lined with caliche.

Were they to so choose, developers could pave.

"We went from more restrictive to less restric-

tive," noted Craig.

"Charlie championed that cause," Commissioner Win Brown said of former Commissioner Charlie Welch, whom Craig defeated in the November general election.

In between the rules changing, developers Gilbert Bates and Tom Canton in 1978 put in Greenwood Acres. Rather than pave, as the rules called for, the developers laid down caliche.

"They should have known the rules," said Craig. "Since the rules weren't followed, the county never took over maintenance of the roads. But the residents there want their roads maintained, said Craig, who noted the commissioners previously had made exceptions to the rules under similar circumstances.

"If we can make one exception, we can make another for the welfare and convenience of those people," Craig reasoned.

"I have no problem (with the exception)," said Commissioner Win Brown.

The commissioners were unanimous in going along with Craig's proposal.

"People are living out there, and they (roads) need to be maintained," Craig said. "People use them."

"Outside the ETJ," he said later, "the court can do whatever it thinks is appropriate" on roads in subdivisions.

# Courthouse roof's fate undecided

By ED TODD  
Staff Writer

When it rains, the jail's roof leaks. But the Midland County Commissioners on Monday opted to do nothing about it until after April 23.

"The roof is leaking badly," County Judge Bill Ahders said in speaking for Sheriff Dallas Smith, who was handling a homicide investigation.

The roofer who last repaired the roof recently said the Midland County Courthouse is "woefully in need of a new roof," said Commissioner Durward Wright. "He said it needs a new roof badly."

But the commissioners decided to wait until outcome of the county's April 23 bond election to determine how they will approach the leak. The

county's \$10.76 million bond proposal calls for building a courthouse addition, to include a 225-inmate capacity jail, on the north side of the courthouse, and renovating the 1929-30-built courthouse.

The courthouse was expanded and a fifth floor — the jail — was added to the building in the early 1970s under a \$1.95 million bond issue.

The commissioners did give the sheriff's chief deputy, G.W. Thompson, their approval to replace a \$1,400 hand-held radio which in 1976 was "lost or stolen in a narcotics raid," Thompson said.

"I did it (lost it)," Thompson admitted. "It was in my hand."

(See COURTHOUSE, Page 2C)



Sheriff's Department investigators search for footprints and other clues at the scene where an unidentified woman's body was found Monday afternoon in west Midland County.

The body was found about 12:30 p.m. on the south shoulder of the old West Bankhead Highway west of Air Terminal.

# MC adds seven continuing education courses

Seven more courses will be offered by the Midland College Department of Community Services beginning the week of March 14. Included will be Bookkeeping Fundamentals II, Cake Decorating II, Sign Language II, Fundamentals of Being a Travel Agent, Self Hypnosis I, Drawing I and Tole Painting II.

Bookkeeping Fundamentals II is a continuation of Bookkeeping I and will include combination journals, general and subsidiary ledgers, payroll systems, inventories and an introduction to automated data processing. The class is limited to 30 students and will meet from 7 to 10 p.m. Mondays for eight

weeks. Fee is \$36.

Doris Muehlbrad will teach Cake Decorating II on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. for six weeks. Included in instruction will be intricate flowers, lily cup flowers, color-flow method, garlands, roping and setting up wedding cakes. Cake Decorating I is a prerequisite. The class is limited to 20 students and the fee is \$18.

Kay Teegarden will teach Fundamentals of Being a Travel Agent from 7 to 9 p.m. March 15. Included in the class will be instruction on the basic principles of dealing

with travel agents on booking airline reservations, hotel accommodations and car rentals. Fee for the class is \$6.

Self Hypnosis I will be taught by Betty Brannen on Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m. for six weeks. Instruction will emphasize assertiveness, building ego strength, leadership proficiency, problem solving, decision making and improving communications. The class is limited to 20 students and the fee is \$28.

(See SIGN, Page 2C)



Amber McCann came prepared to do some bike riding behind her mother, Jennifer. Monday afternoon's sunshine brought many West Texans out for

some exercise. The warm temperatures are expected to continue today.

## PUC reorganization under study

AUSTIN (AP) — Senate consideration of widely different plans to reorganize the Public Utility Commission, a hot subject of last summer's politics, shifted to a subcommittee today.

Sen. Ray Farabee, D-Wichita Falls, chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee, said at Monday's lengthy public hearing that a subcommittee would give the 10 bills about two more weeks of hearings and consideration before reporting back to the full committee.

"We hope to come out with one vehicle that will move through the Senate quickly," he said.

The proposals, explained by nine different authors, concerned mostly appointed or elected commission members and the addition of a public counsel to represent utility consumers in rate cases.

"We believe the PUC should be abolished, but that may not be practical," said James R. Matz of Harlingen, who said he represented a group seeking local control of utility rates.

Matz recommended a nine-member elected commission, instead of the three Members currently appointed by the governor, who "would be subject to recall every two years." He also urged an independent public counsel appointed by the governor.

Josephine McLean of Brownsville called for appointed commissioners from different parts of the state and regional hearings on rate cases.

"We have never had anyone from our part of the state represented and we can't drive up here for every hearing," she said.

Ray Clymer of Wichita Falls, vice chairman of the Texas Industrial Commission, warned that drastic changes affecting utility companies could affect the future economy of the state.

"We must leave utility companies with room to plan for the future," he said.

George Grenadas, a Houston City Council member, said he was concerned because none of the bills offered help to cities that want to keep

local control of utility rates and services. He suggested that cities get together and decide rate cases. Then the utility companies could appeal the decisions to PUC, instead of starting with PUC at the beginning.

"We cannot act as consumer advocates for our people without some help from Austin," he said.

Highlights of some of the general overhaul bills included:

—A measure by Sen. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin, which he said came from the Senate subcommittee on consumer affairs, that calls for an expanded elected commission of six members and a public counsel in the attorney general's office.

—A measure by Sen. Kent Caperton, D-Bryan, who said it incorporated recommendations of the Sunset Commission, for three commissioners elected statewide. A separate bill by Caperton would set up a public counsel supported by a levy on gross receipts of public utilities.

## Two Midlanders honored

ODessa — Thirty-two Midlanders were among about 100 students listed on the dean's honor list at the University of Texas at the Permian Basin in Odessa.

Students listed are from the College of Art and Education, the College of Management and the College of Science and Engineering who ranked in the top 10 percent of their respective colleges.

Midlanders in the College of Arts and Education Honor List include Pat H. Bingham, senior psychology major; Barbara H. Bolden, senior history major; Judy Lynn Bryant, post baccalaureate teacher education certificate; Joseph H. Chancellor, senior mass communications major; Arthur S. Chappell, senior psychology major; Frances Collins, junior psychology major; Judy A. Criser, junior mass communications major; Deborah Luann Gatlin, senior psychology major; Heidi Maria Goebel, senior Spanish major; Albert W. Grindstaff, graduate of behavioral science major; Anne Muir Hulke, post baccalaureate psychology major; Russell Joe Manning, junior literature major; Dana Lee McFarland, junior literature major; Sharel W. Sims, senior psychology major; and Donald L. Quarles, senior art major.

Honor students from the College of Management are Gary Wayne Chappell, junior accounting major; Craig Lee Reese, senior accounting major; Muneeshwar Singh, post baccalaureate accounting major; Cynthia Nossler, senior management major; Bret Grove, senior criminal justice major; Reba V. Parsley, senior accounting major; Pamela Kaye Taylor, junior accounting major; Barbara J. Faigle, junior accounting major; Denise S. Thrift, junior accounting major; Jalene Shook Jones, senior criminal justice major; W. Patrick Fuller, senior criminal justice major; Gary Paul Aymes, senior management major; and Loretta F. Robins, senior management major.

Midlanders on the College of Science and Engineering honor list are Glenda J. Bevel, senior earth science major; Mark Jeffrey Bolton, post baccalaureate engineering major; John D. Campbell, senior life science major; Robert W. Daniels, senior geology major; Sharon S. Foley, post baccalaureate earth science major; Vital J. Pal, graduate accounting major; Daniel Lee Price, post baccalaureate earth science major; Cathy Lynn Spert, post baccalaureate earth science major; Mary Jean Taylor, post baccalaureate earth science major; Carol Ann Flynn, post baccalaureate engineering major; Michael J. Walker, junior engineering major; and Beverly McGuire Isenberg, junior life science major.

## Fugitive no longer wanted by officials

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A fugitive apprehended in West Texas was one of several people once wanted for questioning in connection with the attempted assassination of a federal prosecutor, but authorities here say they no longer think the man was involved.

Danny O. Armstrong, 34, of Austin was sought four years ago for an appearance before a grand jury investigating the 1978 assassination attempt. U.S. Attorney Edward Prado confirmed Monday.

The investigation into the attempt on the life of former assistant U.S. attorney James Kerr is continuing, but Armstrong is not believed to have been involved, Prado said.

"We don't think he had anything to do with it now," Prado said. "We absolutely have no desire to talk to the man."

Kerr narrowly missed death here on Nov. 21, 1978, when his car was riddled with 19 bullets from an automatic rifle.

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, in a copyrighted story Sunday, quoted an unidentified federal source as saying Armstrong was a "prime" figure in the assassination investigation.

The attempt on Kerr's life was followed here seven months later with the May 29, 1979, assassination of U.S. District Judge John H. Wood Jr. Both men were known to be tough

on drug defendants, earning Wood the nickname "Maximum John."

Armstrong had been a fugitive since May 22, 1978, when he failed to appear in federal court in Del Rio to face charges of conspiracy to import marijuana and possession with intent to distribute marijuana. He was scheduled to appear before Wood.

"He was one of the many defendants who failed to appear before Wood," U.S. Marshal Bill Jones said here Monday. "At one time, he had made a comment that he didn't think he had a chance. He surely could have anticipated a strong sentence."

Armstrong, who eluded authorities for 10 years, was taken into custody Feb. 15 and is being held at a Bastrop correctional facility on \$300,000 bond. He had used his own name when admitted to Lubbock's Methodist Hospital on Jan. 26 for a back operation.

Jones said marshals eventually would bring Armstrong back here to face the pending narcotics and bail jumping charges, but Prado said the U.S. attorney's office had no desire to interview the Austin man about the Kerr case.

No one ever has been charged in the shooting of Kerr, who was hit only by some flying glass.

Four people have been convicted of charges stemming from Wood's slaying.

## Sign language, self-hypnosis among continuing ed courses

(Continued from Page 1C)

Sign Language II, taught by Phyllis Price from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, will include a study of vocabulary, idioms and beginning interpretation theory. The class is limited to 20 students with a prerequisite of Sign Language I or knowledge of basic signs and finger-spelling. Books may be purchased at the MC Bookstore. Fee for the six-week class is \$18.

Judy Morrison-Griffin will teach Drawing I from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays for six weeks. The class will introduce fundamentals of drawing, basic

techniques, figure proportion and perspective. Fee for the class is \$18.

Tole Painting II, taught by Louise Reynolds, will meet from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays for six weeks. The class is designed for students who have experience in tole painting. The course will include a review of basic painting procedures and advances to painting more difficult designs and objects. The class is limited to 15 students and the fee is \$27.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Midland College Department of Community Services at 684-7851, extension 147 or 216.

## DEATHS

### Dortha Webb

Services for Dortha Webb, 74, of 1110 Austin were to be at 1:30 p.m. today in the Calvary Assembly of God Church with Pastor Gayle Reeves officiating. Burial was to follow in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Webb died Saturday evening in a Midland hospital.

She was born Nov. 30, 1908, in Eros, Ark., where she grew up. She married Loyd Melton Webb Aug. 11, 1928, in Eros. They moved to Fort Smith, Ark., in 1940, and to Roswell, N.M., in 1958. They moved to Andrews in 1971 and to Midland in 1980. She was a member of the Calvary Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include her husband of Midland; a son, Ralph Webb of Midland; a sister, Alma Shipman of Arkoma, Okla.; and four grandchildren.

### Louie H. Thomas

Memorial services for Louie H. Thomas, 92, of 2800 W. Illinois Ave. were Monday in the First Presbyterian Church chapel with Dr. F. Ray Riddle Jr. officiating. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home.

He died Saturday in a Midland retirement home.

Thomas was born Feb. 4, 1891, in Hamilton, Ill. He moved to Midland in 1976. He was a former employee of the Dairy Products Inc. in Kingsville.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. John D. (Marion) Stone of Midland and Mrs. H.O. (Madge) Francis of Asheville, N.C.; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

### Amelia J. Wheeler

Amelia Jane Wheeler, 69, of Odessa died Friday in a Midland hospital.

### Frances Newsom

Frances Newsom, 58, of 2007 N. C St. died early Saturday in a Midland hospital following a brief illness.

Services were Monday in the First Christian Church with the Rev. Steve Edwards officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Frank Houghton, Scotty Alcorn, Joe Cleary, Bob Lampkin, Archie Holland and Frank Rasure.

### Mary T. Wilson

Services for Mary T. Wilson, 84, of 502 S. Dallas St. were Monday in Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. Bob Porterfield of West Kentucky Baptist Church and J.E. Barrington of Primitive Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park.

She died Friday in a Midland nursing home.

Pallbearers were Elton Holloway, Edward Wilson, Randy Henson, Robert Barton, Troy Lesley and Alan Lesley.

### Lawrence DeWees

PECOS — Lawrence Warfield DeWees, 61, father of Debbie Almon and Sheila McCasland, both of Midland,

died Sunday night at his residence in Mentone.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Pecos Funeral Home chapel. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery in Pecos.

He was born Aug. 22, 1921, in Delhi, Okla. DeWees served with the U.S. Army in World War II and was a prisoner of war. He lived in this area about six years and had been with Rowan Drilling Co. for 34 years.

Other survivors include his wife, a daughter, a stepson, four stepdaughters, his mother, 12 grandchildren, a great-grandchild, three brothers, a sister, three stepbrothers and three step-sisters.

### Cardia Covington

PECOS — Services for Cardia Sims Battle Covington, 60, of Pecos, mother of Shirley Kelly of Midland, were to be at 2 p.m. today at Faith Baptist Church in Kermit with the Rev. H.L. Lewis officiating. Burial will be in Griffin, Ga., directed by Cooper Funeral Home of Kermit.

Mrs. Covington died Saturday in a Midland hospital.

She was born Dec. 15, 1913, in Griffin, Ga., and was married to Foster Lucas Covington April 17, 1944, in Gallatin, Tenn. She had lived in Pecos 10 years.

Other survivors include her husband, four sons, four daughters, four brothers, three sisters, 28 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

### Mrs. J. Crittenden

BIG SPRING — Mrs. Johnnie Marie Crittenden, 64, of Big Spring died Monday afternoon in a Big Spring hospital. Services will be at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home's Rosewood Chapel with burial in Trinity Park.

## Register for baby, toddler Y classes

The Alamo YMCA is taking registration for Toddler and Gym Babies classes which begin March 14.

Gym babies, for six months to walking, will be held from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Saturday. Parents will participate in various activities with their babies under the direction of qualified instructors.

Toddler I, walking to 24 months, will be held at 9 to 9:45 a.m. Wednesday. Parents also will participate in this age level.

Toddler II — 24 to 30 months, will be from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Friday. This class will introduce various motor skills, according to the children's ability.

Tiny Tumblers, 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 years, will present activities which build on the fundamental movements explored in toddler classes.

## Auction sales off

HOUSTON (AP) — Purebred auction sales at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo have dipped slightly from a year ago, a show spokeswoman says.

Totals for the 16 auctions conducted through Sunday are off only about one percent, or \$3,523, from the same shows a year ago, show spokeswoman Mike Nathanson said Monday.

The 16 auctions this year have totaled \$2.67 million, while the 18 last year paid \$2.88 million. The Holstein dairy cattle and hereford beef cattle sales were not held this year.

Nine auctions of breeding animals were down while seven others were up, but some of the latter showed large increases, show spokesmen said. At this time a year ago, the auction total was off about \$417,000 compared to 1981 figures.



Shawn McCarter, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Dale McCarter of 1703 Bedford, recently received his Eagle Scout Award. A member of Troop 152, he plans to attend Texas A&M University.

## State gets new area code

DALLAS (AP) — Houston and about 30 nearby towns will keep the "713" area code, but long-distance callers to 180 other towns in East and Southeast Texas will have to use a different number on March 19.

Beaumont and Galveston are among the cities served by Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. that will get a new area code, 409, company spokesman Herb Bowen said Monday. The change is necessary because of record growth, Bowen added.

## Courthouse roof's fate undecided

(Continued from Page 1C)

The sheriff purchased the radio in 1977 with funds from a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) grant.

"The deal is," observed Commissioner C. DeWayne Davis, "if you lose something of that nature, you have to replace it or send the federal government the money."

The sheriff decided to replace the radio. "If you have the money in your budget," the judge told the chief deputy, "go ahead and buy it. If you don't, come back and see us."

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