

First lady to appear in Houston

First Lady Rosalynn Carter has scheduled a Labor Day appearance at a Harris County Democratic Party function and a reception on behalf of Rep. Bob Gammage, D-Texas, a spokesman said Monday.

Gammage aide Doug Zable said Mrs. Carter would arrive at 4 p.m. Monday and attend the party "Fun-fest" and then a Gammage fundraising reception and campaign workers' rally. Zable said Mrs. Carter will ap-

pear on behalf of Democratic candidates in San Antonio and Dallas before coming to Houston. Gammage is opposed by Republican Dr. Ron Paul, whom Gammage narrowly defeated in 1976.

Carter ends trip early

United Press International
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK Wyo.—President Carter is cutting his vacation by two days to assume command of an uphill battle to save his natural gas compromise legislation.

Press secretary Jodie Powell told reporters Sunday if the compromise — which is opposed by a powerful coalition of liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans — fails to win approval in Congress it will destroy hopes for a national energy program this year.

Meanwhile Carter planned more fishing and excursions Monday to outdoor wonders of his vacation site. He caught several trout Sunday and watched a herd of elk feeding at sunset.

There was a dramatic element in Carter's decision to trim his vacation and fly back Wednesday to a near-deserted Washington with Congress and much of the bureaucracy away for the Labor Day recess.

Powell said the president decided it was necessary to return to the White House to deal with "very crucial" domestic matters now before Congress.

"We view the fight on this natural gas compromise to be as difficult as any we have faced in Congress," Powell said. "It is in some sense a culmination of almost two years of effort to try to provide the country with a national energy policy."

"It has from the start been a difficult uphill fight. But it is a fight which we believe has a tremendous importance for the country and we don't intend to lose it if there is any possible way — anything we can do."

Powell said if Congress fails to act

it will mean natural gas will continue to be backed up in the intrastate market and there will be increased use of high-priced imported fuel.

Earlier this month a deal was reached that would phase out regulation of natural gas prices by 1985.

Supporters said increased revenues would lure gas companies into spending more money to drill new wells. But liberals from the North, vowing to defeat the compromise, said it would lead to higher consumer prices.

They propose instead a simple giving the president the power to allocate natural gas supplies in emergency.

"It is at best a cosmetic effort to make the American people think that if the Congress fails this natural gas legislation the actually done something as a alternative," he said. "This is not a alternative."

The president is also returning the White House to prepare for Middle East summit at Camp David that begins next Tuesday.

Mother survives

Wreck claims 3

A College Station woman remained in serious condition Monday night in Houston's Methodist Hospital after being injured in a three-car collision that killed her husband and daughter Saturday night.

Vera MacLean, 41, of 3003 Normand Drive, was transferred to the Houston hospital after treatment in Bryan's Saint Joseph Hospital.

James MacLean and Nicole MacLean, 8, were pronounced dead at the scene, as was William Kozak, 21, of Bremond.

Christine MacLean, 13, was listed in satisfactory condition at Saint Joseph Hospital. Ralph Eugene Hopcus, 22, of Bremond was in satisfactory condition at Methodist Hospital.

The accident occurred about 7

p.m. Saturday about a mile and a half south of the Texas Speedway on Highway 6.

A southbound vehicle driven by Charles Huffman collided with the MacLean car, which was behind Wilson, officials said.

Kozak's car then collided with the MacLean car, which was not injured.

Hopcus and Mrs. MacLean first taken to Saint Joseph Hospital and then transferred to a helicopter.

Funeral services for James MacLean will be Wednesday morning in West Keansburg. Services for Kozak were in Bryan at 10 a.m. today in Saint Catholic Church.

McCrory ends testimony in bond hearing of Davis

A Texas Ranger testified in the T. Cullen Davis bond hearing Monday that key prosecution witness David McCrory began a meeting with Davis on Aug. 20 with less than \$50 in his pocket and came away with \$25,000.

Prosecutors contend Davis paid McCrory the money in exchange for evidence that State District Judge Joe H. Eidson had been murdered.

Davis is charged with solicitation of capital murder and state attorneys contend Davis should not be released on bond.

McCrory, a former friend and benefactor of Davis, completed four days of testimony during which he described Davis' demands that Eidson and 14 others — including his estranged wife Priscilla — be killed.

During the final day of cross-examination by defense attorney Richard "Racehorse" Haynes, McCrory said Davis had told him to lie to friends and business associates about a Las Vegas gambling junket to provide a cover story for the laundering of \$50,000 of the millionaire's money.

McCrory, who has testified he never planned to hire a paid assassin

to carry out Davis' requests Monday he had no idea what happened to that part of the money he did not gamble away while in Las Vegas.

Following the last of McCrory's testimony, Texas Ranger John Hogg was called and he began a detailed description of the meeting between Davis and McCrory. That meeting was held in the knowledge of law officer McCrory had told his story to agents. McCrory went to the meeting with Davis on Aug. 20 photo showing Eidson in the car.

Hogg testified that McCrory met with Davis and searched McCrory and found less than \$50 in his possession.

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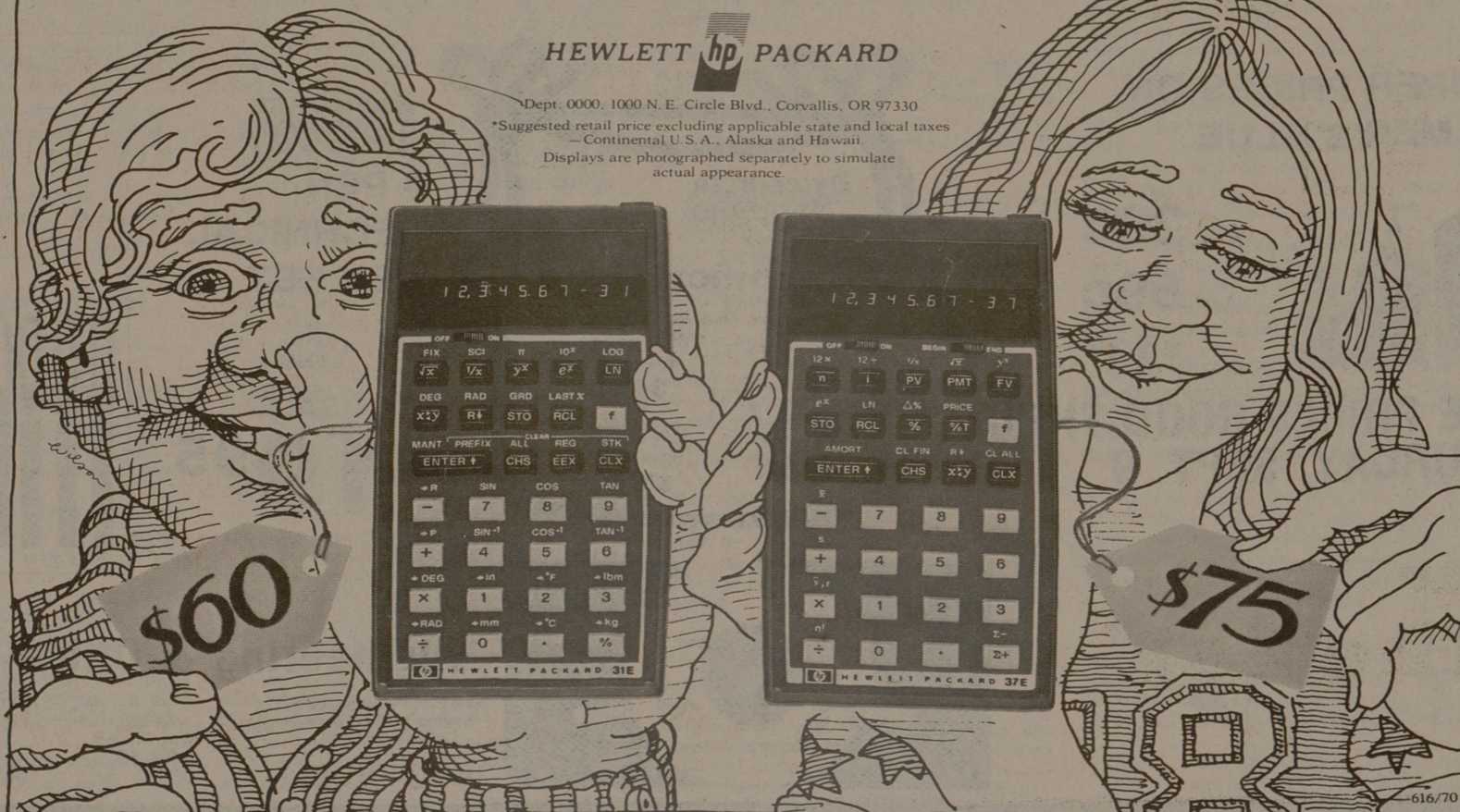
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