

what's up

Friday

FREE MOVIE: "Bambi" will be shown at 8 and 10 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Advance tickets are available at the MSC Box Office.

RING DANCE PICTURES: Can be picked up today and tomorrow at the Rudder Box Office.

COMMENCEMENT: The colleges of Agriculture, Veterinary Medicine and all advanced degrees at 2 p.m.; the Colleges of Architecture, Engineering and Science at 7:30 p.m.; both in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Saturday

COMMENCEMENT: The Colleges of Business, Education, Liberal Arts and Moody College at 9 a.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

FINAL REVIEW: Will be at 3:30 p.m. on the Drill Field in front of the MSC.

BASEBALL: Texas A&M will play University of Texas in a double header starting at 1 p.m. at Olsen Field.

Monday

FINAL EXAMS: Begin at 8 a.m. and continue through Friday.

Beer to sponsor canoe marathon

United Press International
HUTCHINSON, Kan. — Andy Warner may not have yet all the entrants he expects prior to the deadline for a 15-day marathon canoe race from Hutchinson to New Orleans, but at least he has the refreshments nailed down.

Only 33 entrants had paid the \$25-per-canoe fee as of Wednesday, Warner said, but he isn't too concerned because he expects more than a hundred more entrants before the May 15 entry deadline. And, he says, it doesn't hurt to say that a beer distributor has promised at least 40 cases of beer for every party scheduled for "The Great National Canoe Race of 1979," to begin May 26.

"We've got a lot of commitments — we've got at least 200 who are committed to go," said Warner, a 32-year-old insurance salesman. "And I've been told it's standard procedure among canoeists to wait until the last minute."

Warner said the 1,256-mile race is being sanctioned by the U.S. Canoe Association, and will be an elapsed-time race with all stops and camping sites along the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers pre-selected. Canoeists will travel at least 50 miles each day and often as many as 70 miles.

Warner said the idea for the race began last spring when a radio announcer friend doubted the trip was possible. The first trial of the route ended in May 1978 at Wichita for most canoes, but Warner and a friend went to Tulsa before they had to return for a funeral.

Two weeks ago, Warner said he and two other canoes tested the first day's route to Wichita, and found the river slower than expected. However, he said, Army Corps of Engineers officials have assured him there will be enough water in the Arkansas to allow the race.

Overnight stops are planned near the Kansas cities of Wichita and Arkansas City, near the Oklahoma cities of Tulsa and Sallisaw, near the Arkansas cities of Fort Smith, Little Rock, Pine Bluff and Arkansas City, and near the Louisiana cities of Lake Providence, Black Hawk, Baton Rouge, Donaldsonville and New Orleans.

Sponsors for the trip include a boat manufacturer, a softdrink maker, a grocery chain, a sporting goods manufacturer and Budweiser beer. Warner said Budweiser has arranged hats, start and finish banners, a police escort through New Orleans and 40 cases of beer for parties.

Oil prices canceling improving food costs

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Sharply higher prices for gasoline and heating oil canceled a dramatic improvement in food costs during April as wholesale prices climbed 0.9 percent — the fifth straight month of double-digit inflation, the government reported Thursday.

Food ready for sale to groceries declined by 0.3 percent last month, by far the best performance since last August. Food prices had climbed by at least 1.2 percent during each of the previous four months.

But fuel prices remained at discouragingly high levels, the Labor Department said in its monthly analysis of inflation at the wholesale level.

Gasoline prices shot up 4.4 percent, the largest rise since August 1975, and have now surged 9.8 percent during the past three months alone.

Furthermore, home heating oil jumped 6.7 percent to raise the three-month increase to almost 13 percent, a particularly gloomy statistic for northeastern states.

The heating oil jump was the biggest since an 8.1 percent in-

crease registered in June 1974. In fact, the cost of all products at the wholesale level other than food climbed by 1.3 percent, the biggest increase in that category since October, 1974 — a sure sign that inflation will remain a big concern for the next several months.

The overall 0.9 percent increase in the cost of goods ready for sale to retail outlets was the lowest since November's 0.7 percent rise.

But that was small consolation to inflation-weary Americans because if wholesale prices rose over the year at the same rate as in April it would mean an 11.4 percent inflation rate.

New dean selected

Dr. Robert H. Page, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at Rutgers University, has been named dean of the College of Engineering at Texas A&M University, effective Aug. 1.

Page was selected for the position after a nationwide search resulting in more than 100 nominations, including candidates from within the University as well as prominent leaders in engineering education throughout the country.

Page will succeed Fred J. Benson, who was promoted to vice president of engineering and non-renewable resources last year. Dr. Richard Thomas, associate dean, has headed the College of Engineering on an interim basis.

Texas A&M has the nation's largest engineering enrollment, which includes 8,070 students.

"I am looking forward to the challenge of providing leadership for the future development of the College of Engineering," said Page. He also said that he was extremely impressed with the attitude and quality of the students and faculty at Texas A&M.

Page has held teaching and administrative positions at Rutgers University, in New Brunswick, N.J., specifically as chairman of the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering. He said he will continue both teaching and research at Texas A&M.

Page's work at Rutgers, included the reorientation of the undergraduate curriculum to emphasize laboratory and classroom studies. Page said he felt that improving the relationship between lab and classroom work would be beneficial to students in helping them to use their time more efficiently.

Page, 51, is a Pennsylvania native and a 1949 graduate of Ohio University. He earned his master's in 1951 and doctorate in 1955 at the University of Illinois. That institution designated him a distinguished alumnus in 1973.

A large part of Page's teaching and research experience came from Stevens Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois. He directed the Fluid Mechanics Laboratory at Stevens in the mid-1950s and served as a research engineer with the Esso Research and Engineering Co. in Linden, N.J.

He has held numerous posts in the American Society for Engineering Education, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Engineers Council for Professional Development. He also is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, a senior member of the American Astronautical Society and an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Page holds a patent for an electro-fluidic signal converter, which is a device that uses electricity for a switching function inside a gas flow system. He has also served on National Science Foundation review panels for eight years and has more than 150 professional publications, dealing mainly with gas dynamics and fluid flow problems.

"I feel that Texas A&M has a superb reputation along with a strong base in the Engineering college, and it is my goal to attempt to enhance the excellence of the program," Page said.

Handbag prices linked to oil, cattle

The oil and beef crises are hitting Americans in the pocketbook — literally.

A market research executive says the oil crisis is having "enormous impact on the cost of vinyls," including those widely used by American handbag manufacturers.

"Leather is going up very fast, too," says Edward S. Levy, executive director of the National Handbag Association. "Leather is a by-product of the beef industry, so when beef prices rise, so do leather prices. Leather is an international commodity. There is a shortage of leather world over."

"Since the vinyls we use to make handbags use petrochemicals, if those prices go up, ours do, too."

Levy said supply and demand will also help determine how much price tags increase on fall handbags.

This and the sporting look were newsmakers at the handbag industry's semiannual show in New York

City for fashion accessories reporters and editors.

Many bags have detachable shoulder straps, converting daytime styles for dressier occasions.

Some consumers appear ready — or perhaps, resigned — to the projected price increases.

Women questioned in the first segment of a three-part survey for the handbag industry said they do not consider up to \$50 an unreasonable price to pay for a purse these days.

In an interview, marketing consultant Marshall Dickman discussed the preliminary results of the study. It is part of an industry-wide recovery program funded by a grant from the Department of Commerce.

The researchers found women perceive imported handbags as better in quality, design and workmanship than American-made bags, and leather as superior to vinyl and fabrics.

Jury hears confession

United Press International
SAN FRANCISCO — Dan White, tears pouring down his cheeks, stared straight ahead without attempting to wipe the tears away Thursday as the prosecution in his murder trial played a 25-minute taped confession White made the day Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were killed.

The tape recording was made a little more than an hour after Moscone and Milk were shot to death in City Hall and White turned himself in last Nov. 27.

Homicide Inspector Frank Falone on the tape questioned White about the slayings, asking him why he did it.

"I've been under an awful lot of pressure — financial pressure, the job, family pressure," White said on the tape. "I have not been able to have any time for my family."

"When the pressure got too great I decided to leave, but after I left, my family and friends offered me help to allow me to go back to office," he said. "Since I felt responsible to the people who elected me, I went to Mayor Moscone. He told me I did an outstanding job as a

supervisor and that he would reappoint me, so I tried to set my personal affairs in order."

"THEN IT CAME OUT that Supervisor Milk and others were working against me. I was in the mayor's office when Harvey Milk called. I heard the conversation. I heard that he would try to prevent me from getting my office back."

White said Moscone told him his decision to appoint someone else.

After he left Moscone's office, he continued on the tape, he confronted Milk.

Feinstein, who became acting mayor after Moscone's slaying and later was elected to the office by the supervisors, told the jury she first thought White had taken his own life.

BUT WHEN she heard more shots follow the first, she realized White could not have killed himself. She said White had written a letter threatening to seize his seat physically at the Board of Supervisors' meeting.

"I knew Dan wanted to get his seat back," Feinstein said. "I wanted to find Dan to persuade him

not to try to take his seat."

She told prosecutor Thomas Norman on the morning of the shootings, she saw White in a City Hall corridor, stopped him and asked him into her office to talk, but he rushed past her, called Milk into his old office and she heard the shots.

A FEW MINUTES later, Feinstein announced in tears that Moscone and Milk had been shot to death.

Omholt, police officer and co-worker to White, said 10 spent cartridges and six live bullets were found in White's pocket.

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'Script' followed in inmate testimony

United Press International
HOUSTON — An inmate who testified Texas prison conditions are substandard has told state lawyers he lied or exaggerated some of his testimony to conform with an inmate "script," an assistant attorney general said Thursday.

David Roberson, who is serving a sentence for burglary, testified several weeks ago for plaintiff inmates demanding major prison reforms, but will recant some of his statements, Assistant Attorney General Harry Walsh said.

"Every witness that came in was given a script. They conducted a mock court in the evening, made changes in the script," Walsh said. "The lawyers didn't do this. The inmates were doing this. They were getting their stories straight."

Walsh said Roberson, expected to testify late Thursday for the state, is a diabetic who has "honest complaints" about the food "and he's not going to change that."

But Walsh said a summary of Roberson's expected recantation, filed with U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice, reverses or tones down earlier testimony about official use of inmate enforcers, beatings, toleration of homosexual abuse, harassment and denial of access to the courts.

Walsh said the state has filed no perjury complaints with the U.S. attorney's office, which would handle such cases arising in the non-jury federal court trial, but said the state's lawyers reserved that possibility.

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OrnaMetal Castings will be open Saturday, May 5th from 9:00AM till 3:00PM. Regular business hours are 8:00AM till 5:00PM Monday thru Friday.

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- Friday Deluxe seafood platter — 1 piece of fish, 2 fried shrimp, 2 fried crab rolls, tartar sauce, hush puppies, french fries and creamy cole slaw \$2.89
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