

National briefs

NEW YORK — Only 21 percent of 1,493 Americans surveyed in the latest ABC News-Harris poll give President Carter any chance of winning re-election next year, and 56 percent doubt he even can win the Democratic nomination.

The poll, in which 70 percent foresaw no victory for Carter, brought his popularity to its lowest ebb since he entered the White House. Thirty-five percent predicted his renomination, and only 9 percent expressed no opinion in the survey, released Monday.

Carter's ability to inspire confidence as a leader sank even lower, with a 76-20 percent negative response.

CHEROKEE, Iowa — What is billed as the second largest circus in the world seems to be missing. The Circus Genoa failed to show up Monday for two scheduled performances, disappointing many youngsters and adults.

The trucks were due to arrive early in the day in Cherokee and set up a big top with animal acts. They never showed.

City officials contacted the circus' home office in Oklahoma and a spokesman said he had not been in touch with the circus trucks since last week.

The caravan was due in Flandreau, S.D., last Saturday, but didn't show up there either.

LITTLE ROCK — The rock group Black Oak Arkansas is suing the promoters of a Labor Day music festival, saying the concert was poorly organized and the promoters are basing the group's pay on an artificially low number of tickets.

The suit filed Monday in circuit court says Wizard Productions of Little Rock is trying to pay Black Oak Arkansas on the basis of 12,000 tickets when the "best estimate" of the crowd at the concert was 27,000. The group was to be paid 30 percent of the gate at the concert on a farm west of Little Rock.

The suit says the difference in the number of tickets sold and the number of people at the concert has resulted because Wizard Productions let people in free or by "inadequate and incompetent" sales and admissions procedures.

WASHINGTON — If Louisiana gubernatorial candidate L.D. Knox has his way, voters will really have a choice after all.

Knox, a farmer from Winnsboro, La., says he wants to amend the U.S. Constitution to allow voters to cast a vote for "none of the above."

"What would happen if 'none of the above' ran away with the election?"

"Well, that's exactly what you'd do," Knox said before a news conference Sunday at the National Press Club Building. "You'd have to call another election and call up more candidates and eventually we'd be drawing from a better group of public servants than what we're used to."

CHICAGO — A federal judge has been asked to order the Food and Drug Administration to reinstate the use of cyclamates, the artificial sweetener banned six years ago as a possible cancer-causing agent. Abbott Laboratories of suburban North Chicago filed suit Monday in U.S. District Court, seeking an order allowing cyclamates to be reintroduced to the market for use as a table sweetener and in dietetic foods and beverages.

RFK's son flees from compound

United Press International
NEW YORK — David Kennedy, son of the late Robert F. Kennedy, fled from a seedy Harlem hotel where bags of heroin were found, his father's attorney said Tuesday.

The 24-year-old Harvard dropout son of the late Robert F. Kennedy fled from the compound in his uncle, Stephen Smith, a day after the incident in the Shelton hotel in Harlem, the New York Daily News reported. Police said Kennedy told them he had been fined \$30 in the hotel.

The hotel is known as a narcotics hangout.

Following the hotel incident there were reports that young Kennedy had a hard drug problem. The News quoted a family source as saying the family "had been watching over David very carefully and he was taking medication to overcome his addiction."

The New York Post quoted an acquaintance of Kennedy as saying, "He's gambling with his life. He can't be thinking straight. It's not likely he can beat this thing on his own. The last time I saw him he was really out of sight."

Police in New York and Hyannis Port said the Kennedy family had not contacted them for help in locating Kennedy.

ACLU wants to ban carols from schools

United Press International
ST. LOUIS — The American Civil Liberties Union, with support from several religious groups, asked the U.S. Court of Appeals Tuesday to ban religious Christmas carols from public schools.

The ACLU has petitioned the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn a lower court ruling that allowed religious Christmas music to be used in Christmas assemblies at Sioux Falls, S.D., public schools.

Roger Florey, of Sioux Falls, filed suit against the city's school district after an assembly in which his son, Justin, 6, a kindergarten student, took part. He was joined in the suit by the ACLU and several Jewish and Christian groups.

The suit sought an injunction to prevent such carols as "Silent Night" from public schools on the grounds their use violated constitutional provisions guaranteeing separation of church and state.

But on Jan. 14, U.S. District Judge Andrew Bogue in Rapid City, S.D., refused to grant a permanent injunction in the case.

The judge said the songs neither advanced nor inhibited sacred beliefs and did not entangle the government with excess religion.

Lawmaker denies favoritism

United Press International
CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire statesman Norris Cotton, 79, says just because his name is on former Texas Gov. John Connally's national campaign committee list doesn't mean he is committed to any Republican presidential candidate.

"I don't want to say I've repudiated Connally's statement, but on the other hand, I haven't entirely identified myself with anyone," Cotton said in an interview.

Connally, who has done little organizing so far in the first state with a GOP presidential primary, plans a two-day campaign swing through New Hampshire later this month.

His campaign recently released a list of politicians it said would serve on his national campaign committee. Cotton, a New Hampshire senator for 21 years, was the second name on the list.

Despite Cotton's statement, Connally press secretary James Brady said Monday that on June 6, Cotton spoke with Connally campaign manager Winton "Red" Blount and agreed to serve on the committee. But Brady added, "I can't disagree with what he's said to you."

Cotton said he is an "old friend" of Connally's and has talked presidential politics on the telephone with him several times. But Cotton said he hasn't endorsed anyone in the GOP race because so many of his old friends are running.

"I don't enjoy it much because many of the candidates are old friends of mine," he said. "I served with (Tennessee Sen. Howard) Baker and (Kansas Sen. Robert) Dole. I was close friends with (former CIA director George) Bush's father, and I know him very well."

Cotton, 79, said Connally is a "helluva speaker with special talents. In five minutes he can bring an issue right down to the man on the street." But he feels Connally has a hard road ahead in New Hampshire.

Campus names

Charles E. Estes has been named head of the Department of Architecture in Texas A&M University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Estes holds bachelor and master degrees in architecture from Texas A&M, and is a member of the Houston Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The Board of Regents formally designated the \$9 million entomology center, the Henry J. Reinhard-Van A. Little Entomology Center and approved the naming of the soil and crop sciences center located in the same building for R. D. Lewis.

The board also named the newly-constructed 500-student modular dormitories for women, M. J. Neely Hall and the Ella McFadden Hall.

Dr. John T. Demel and Alan D. Kent of Texas A&M University's engineering design graphics faculty are co-winners of the Oppenheimer

Award given at the recent American Society for Engineering Education conference.

They received the Oppenheimer Award as authors of the best paper given in the engineering design graphics division.

Texas A&M University's vice president for agriculture and renewable resources, Dr. Perry L. Adkisson was honored for his innovative work in the field of plant protection, at the 9th International Congress of Plant Protection held recently in Washington, D.C.

Adkisson was also recently honored for his April election to the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Morris E. Bloodworth and Dr. P. Wayne Gosnell have been named directors of international programs and international services respectively for Texas A&M University's expanded effort to share its agricultural and technological expertise abroad.

Professor Page Morgan of Texas

A&M University's plant science department was named president-elect of the American Society of Plant Physiologists in August and will assume his duties as president in Oct. 1980.

Eighteen Texas A&M University students will receive the first Certificates of Outstanding Achievement in the University Honors Program.

The award recognizes outstanding academic performance in honors courses and will be bestowed each year on all University Honors Programs participants who earn at least 12 credit hours of "A" grade in honors courses during a given academic year.

Initial recipients of the awards are Krystal K. Moses, sophomore biochemistry major; Andrew S. Khouw, sophomore, premed; Sharon A. McMillin, sophomore, microbiology; Terry L. Quirk, sophomore, biology; and Steven N. Roper, junior, biology. All are from Dallas.

Others include Lance J. Wright, sophomore, biology; Michael R. Bertram, sophomore, mechanical engineering; and Elizabeth A. Myhill, sophomore, general studies, all of Houston, along with Lauren A. Snyder, sophomore, wildlife and fisheries sciences, and James M. Giltner, sophomore, aerospace engineering, both of Corpus Christi.

Also to receive the citations are David J. Bizzak, sophomore, mechanical engineering, from Crane; John W. Bradbury, sophomore, electrical engineering, from Lufkin; William D. Quonn Jr., sophomore, mechanical engineering, from Irving; Keri J. Wilkes, sophomore, bioengineering, from Hurst; Christopher J. Landry, sophomore, economics, from Portland; Victoria L. Luquette, sophomore, history, from Alvin; David T. Witzel, sophomore, political science from Bryan, and Angel K. Fulgham, sophomore, premed, from Big Spring.

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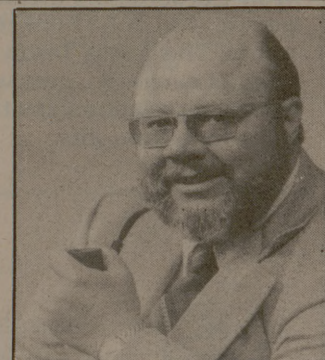
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