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# the state

## Economist says U.S. worker key to the American dream

United Press International  
HOUSTON — To Nixon-era wage and price enforcer C. Jackson Grayson, the reasons for the nation's soaring inflation rate and slumping productivity are as simple as too much government and as complex as the effect of cartels and common markets on the American dream.

But more than he wants to impress or influence his economist colleagues, Grayson wants to reach the American worker — blue collar, white collar, male, female, college graduate or high school dropout.

He wants them to understand the factors that have, during the last decade, caused them to work harder for a smaller real wage.

He wants them to realize that in many cases their response was to compromise their own standards, in both management and labor, because they perceived someone else getting something for nothing, primarily through government.

He wants them to know that others, particularly West Germany and Japan, rapidly are displacing the United States as the world's economic powers.

Finally, he wants American wage earners to know they can reverse the slide, and the time to do so is now.

"I hear this over and over from taxi drivers, steel workers," Grayson said. "It's what the president has labeled the malaise. The malaise is we're working our tails off and people say we're not getting anywhere."

"One measure of that in statistics is that real wages in the United States have not risen by more than just a fraction in 13 years. That means real money, the real level of spending, has not increased in 13 years. Boy, that's a society that's flat."

"But people don't want to stay flat. You want to improve your life and so do most people. So what we did was continue to turn to government. Not everybody, but enough people did, and the politicians heard that and said, 'OK, you want some more clean air, some more unemployment insurance, some more roads built, some more foreign aid, you want to win a war in Vietnam, you want to go and save the Middle East and suddenly government started to do all of this and the percent of government activity just went up, up, up.'"

On these points, Grayson watches his step and his words. The last characterization he seeks is that of a mossa-backed proponent of big business, insensitive to the needs of the poor, undereducated or unemployed.

But he sees the need for a pace to progress. If you want something, you work for it. If you don't have it, you can't spend it. If government doesn't have it, they shouldn't spend it either.

"There are about 535 people up there and they're easy to laugh at and blame and shout at and if we don't like it we turn 'em all out at the next election. But they are the collective voice of what we're telling them to do."

## state briefs

**Priscilla Davis slander suit dismissed**

United Press International  
AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court has dismissed a \$2.5 million slander suit against Priscilla Davis for a remark Cullen Davis' wife made during the industrialist's murder trial.

Sally Ann Gaither sued Mrs. Davis after Davis' murder trial in Amarillo in 1977. At that time Mrs. Davis, while testifying, said, "Well, Sally Gaither is a thief."

State District Judge Charles Murray of Fort Worth granted summary judgment for Mrs. Davis, and a court of civil appeals affirmed the ruling.

Gaither contended the remark was false and was not privileged because it was not relevant or material to the issue of guilt.

Court records revealed that the remark by Mrs. Davis was made Aug. 23, 1977, when Davis was being tried for shooting his daughter, 12-year-old Andrea Wilborn. The millionaire industrialist was acquitted.

**Grain blast victims hit GE with suit**

GALVESTON — Ten persons injured in the December 1977 explosion of a grain elevator and the survivors of two persons killed by the blast have filed a \$20 million damage suit against General Electric Co.

The suit blames a spark aboard a General Electric railroad locomotive for the explosion, for which no official cause was found. Eight persons were killed. Several other lawsuits were filed.

The grain dust explosion wrecked the Farmers Export Co. elevator in the Port of Galveston.

**Exxon to equal 1978 heating oil output**


HOUSTON — Exxon USA Wednesday announced that this month it will make available 100 percent of the volume of heating oil and other distillate products sold in October, 1978.

"Barring any unforeseen problems," Exxon said it expected to continue to provide during this winter the same amount of heating oil supplied last winter.

Supplies of motor gasoline being made available in October will be slightly less than in September. The company said it was still "strained by limited availability in crude oil supply."

# RAPE — THE MYTH THAT STILL EXISTS

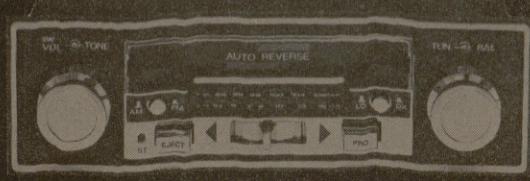
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## Judge rules 'illegal search' Drug conviction reversed

United Press International  
AUSTIN — A Dripping Springs man Wednesday had his marijuana possession conviction overturned by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals because law enforcement officers illegally searched his home.

Juan A. Gonzalez had been fined \$5,000 and given a five-year probation sentence for possession of 30 pounds of marijuana on Jan. 7, 1977.

Charles Talbert, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department warden, testified he and another warden went to the Gonzalez house after receiving a complaint of shooting at the defendant's home.

Talbert said they found no one at home but that he and his companion searched the yard for any evidence of game violations. He said they left the house and set up a surveillance point a short distance away. Talbert said he then called Hays County deputy officers after they observed Sylvia Gonzalez, the appellant's wife, and a friend arrive at the house.

When the deputies arrived, the officer obtained a search warrant. The deputies then stopped Gonzalez and charged her with speeding and took her to the station, where she agreed to the search warrant.

But the criminal court ruled Talbert had gone to the Gonzalez home to check out game violations on private property. The court said that Talbert's illegal search and the subsequent conviction search had not been properly justified by the state.

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