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The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 58	High 70
Low 46	Low 37
Rain 0.00 inches	Chance of rain none

Reagan Cabinet only half-formed so far

WASHINGTON — President-elect Ronald Reagan is wrestling with the problem of a Cabinet only half-formed.

Reagan, who chose not to attend the Thursday news conference in which eight Cabinet and top adviser nominees were introduced to reporters, said later he was "very pleased" with his choices. "I'll be more pleased when we can name the rest of them," said the president-elect, who has been plagued by questions about who the top members of his administration will be since he was elected Nov. 3.

Reagan refused to comment on reports from well-informed sources that retired Gen. Alexander Haig is his top choice for secretary of state and the only reason for silence is that Haig is still completing the paperwork required of a potential Cabinet member.

"I can't talk about any specifics or anyone, as I haven't so far. You've done a great job guessing so far," Reagan said.

Reagan, who planned to end his second post-election Washington trip Saturday, scheduled meetings with senators and his staff today after receiving his daily national security briefing.

Reagan has appeared increasingly irritated as the selection process drags on and as reporters pelt him at every opportunity about progress in completing the Cabinet formation task, which he had predicted would be finished by Dec. 1.

At least two potential nominees dropped out of

the Cabinet sweepstakes because of exceptional burdens imposed by conflict-of-interest laws. A top choice to head the Department of Labor was reported to have met obstacles in receiving his FBI clearance.

The still vacant Cabinet offices include secretaries for state, interior, agriculture, housing and urban development, labor, education and energy. Press spokesman James Brady said no nominees would be announced today.

The appointments announced Thursday were: Caspar Weinberger, Richard Nixon's secretary of health, education and welfare, for defense secretary; William French Smith, Reagan's personal lawyer, for attorney general; New York stockbroker Donald T. Regan for treasury secretary; Drew Lewis, deputy director of the Republican National Committee, for transportation secretary.

William Casey, former Securities and Exchange Commission chairman, for CIA director; Sen. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., for health and human services; Rep. David Stockman, R-Mich., for Office of Management and Budget, and Malcolm Baldrige, a Connecticut manufacturer, for commerce.

Here is a look at the eight nominees announced Thursday:

Caspar Weinberger, 63 — defense secretary
Weinberger, a San Francisco lawyer and a long-time friend of Reagan, is a magna cum laude gradu-

ate of Harvard and Harvard Law School and is currently vice president of the Bechtel Corp.

He headed the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Federal Trade Commission and the Office of Management and Budget during the Nixon administration.

Donald T. Regan, 61 — treasury secretary
Regan is president of Merrill Lynch & Co., the largest investment brokerage firm in the country, which often advertises it is "bullish on America."

Regan (pronounced Ree-gun) was born in Cambridge, Mass., and went to Harvard.

He was a lieutenant colonel with the Marine Corps during World War II, and joined Merrill Lynch in 1946 as an account executive. He became its president 10 years ago.

William French Smith, 63 — attorney general
Smith, who resides in Los Angeles, is Reagan's personal lawyer and one of a handful of long-time Reagan confidants. Smith has specialized in the management side of labor relations law.

Smith graduated from UCLA summa cum laude in 1939 and from law school at Harvard three years later.

Malcolm "Mac" Baldrige, 58 — commerce secretary
Baldrige is chairman and chief executive officer of Scovill Inc. He took over the financially troubled

brass mill in Waterbury, Conn., in the 1960s and turned it into a diversified international manufacturer.

Baldrige, a Yale graduate and former rodeo cowboy, headed George Bush's 1980 Connecticut Republican primary campaign.

Richard S. Schweiker, 54 — health and human services secretary

Schweiker is a senator from Pennsylvania who had already decided to leave Congress after 20 years. When Reagan was running for president four years ago, he amazed conservatives by picking Schweiker as his running mate.

During most of his four terms in the House and two in the Senate, Schweiker was a moderate Republican. His opposition to some of Richard Nixon's programs got him on the GOP president's "enemies list." By 1977, his rating by one liberal group dropped to only 15 percent.

Andrew "Drew" Lewis, 49 — transportation secretary

Lewis never has held public office, but is known in Pennsylvania as a "pol's pol," an adept political organizer and also founder of Lewis and Associates, a management and financial consulting firm.

Schweiker's boyhood best friend, Lewis was educated at Harvard Business School. In 1976, he helped President Gerald Ford fight off Reagan's

challenge for the GOP presidential nomination in Pennsylvania.

This time around, Reagan managed to secure 51 of the state's 83 Republican GOP convention delegates because of Lewis' methodical groundwork.

William Casey, 67 — CIA director

Casey is a New York tax lawyer and was Ronald Reagan's 1980 campaign manager. He served as chief of secret intelligence for the European theater of the Office of Strategic Services, the CIA's predecessor.

Casey joined the Reagan team in February, replacing the deposed John Sears. A high-priced corporate lawyer, Casey has written books on subjects from tax law to the American revolution.

In 1971, Richard Nixon appointed him to head the Securities and Exchange Commission.

David Stockman, 34 — budget director

Stockman is a Republican congressman from Michigan who is respected by liberals and moderates for his erudite research. Stockman has amassed a flawless conservative record during his three terms in office.

The west Michigan lawmaker graduated cum laude from Michigan State University in 1968, went on to Harvard Divinity School and later attended Harvard's Institute of Politics.

Stockman prepped Reagan for his debate with President Carter as a stand-in for Carter.

Senate vote blocks ZIP code change

WASHINGTON — The expanded nine-digit ZIP code got stuck in the Senate's Christmas tree and lost four numbers, but it may reappear intact by next summer.

On a 90-0 vote Thursday — a margin designed to impress House conferees who will consider the issue today or Monday — the Senate blocked Postal Service use of a nine-digit ZIP code until at least June 1 of next year.

But it also allowed the Postal Service, which wanted the new system in place by February, to buy new equipment and otherwise prepare for the new system. In the meantime, opponents said, the quasi-independent Postal Service must better show the need for adding four digits to the existing five.

Congress has no authority over postal operations, except to withhold funds, and the original measure sponsored by Sens. David Durenberger, R-Minn., and Roger Jepsen, R-Iowa, would have stopped the Postal Service from doing anything to start the system until next September.

That would have prevented the Postal Service from buying its first \$316 million worth of optical scanners to handle the nine digits.

The issue normally would not have come up in the current lame duck session, but senators have been using a vital government funding resolution to attach their pet projects, such as the ZIP code bill, as if they were ornaments to a Christmas tree.

Under a Senate compromise, postal officials can buy the equipment and use it for the five-digit zip.

The Postal Service says the new system will save money for it and for business mailers, who produce 80 percent of first class mail, and will make service more efficient and reliable.

Members of both houses have gained political mileage out of opposition to a nine-digit zip, and the 10-digit toll-free phone

number to call to find out the new codes. Durenberger, who said he would change his mind if the Postal Service makes a better case, admitted the issue "turned on my political button" when he first heard about it three months ago.

The only senator to defend the new ZIP was John Glenn, D-Ohio, who said he originally opposed it. Glenn said the new, voluntary ZIP code — really only four new numbers added to the existing five — would save \$597 million by 1987, with a total cost to business of between \$40 million and \$80 million.

Durenberger said it would cost commercial mailers \$1 billion.

Arguing against "scare tactics" by opponents, who cited Americans' objection to numbers, Glenn said people don't mind using the 12 or 14 numbers on each of their credit cards or the 12 numbers it can take to dial an international call in seconds. The real question, he said, is: "Do you want better service at less cost?"

But Jepsen warned, "Unless changes are made, I'm afraid the nine-digit ZIP code will become the 1981 version of the Susan B. Anthony dollar."

Directories for 1980-'81 available

The 1980-'81 campus directories are now available in the office of Student Publications, 216 Reed McDonald.

Students who paid for a directory at registration must show their fee slips in order to pick one up.

Students who did not pay for a directory at registration can buy one for \$3.50.

Student dies in accident

A Texas A&M University computer science major, John Ernest Orgeron, 20, died Friday in Beaumont from injuries sustained in an automobile accident Nov. 29.

He was a resident of Port Arthur.

Silver Taps for Orgeron will be on Feb. 3.

Safety precautions for holidays pushed

Off-campus students leaving for the holidays should take precautions to safeguard their homes before they leave, local authorities say.

Police patrol of apartments will be double during the upcoming Christmas vacation, College Station Police Lt. Ron Miller said.

But he warned students and others who might be leaving town to take extra precautions so that their apartments and houses will not be burglarized.

"They need to take valuables with them ... small t.v.'s and stereos. Go ahead and load them up, if possible," he said.

He said if possible residents should leave a car parked in the driveway, leave a light on and stop all newspapers so that it appears someone is home. And, even better, would be to have a friend or neighbor periodically make sure everything is all right, he said.

To help save energy and cut electricity bills in empty houses and apartments over

the holidays, the College Station city hall has issued these suggestions:

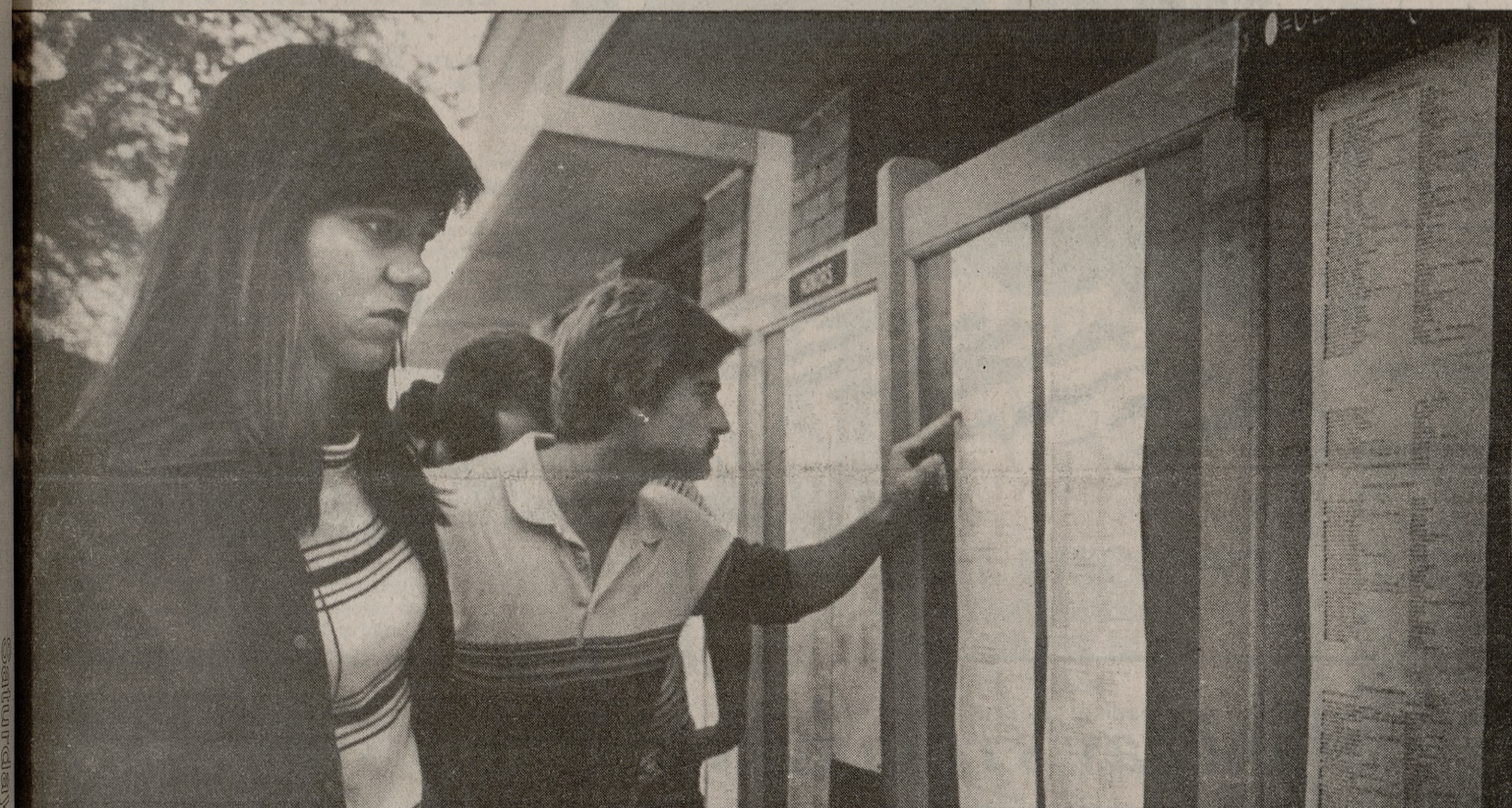
1) If your apartment has central heating, set the thermostat lower than usual.

2) Turn off unnecessary appliances. If you leave the refrigerator on, set the thermostat on a "vacation setting." If you shut off the refrigerator, leave the door open to avoid mildew.

3) If you have an electric hot water heater, put it on its lowest setting or turn it off completely. Water heaters are large users of electricity.

4) If you have a fireplace, make sure the damper is closed so cold air doesn't enter the house.

5) If you turn your water or heat off, be sure you drain the water from the pipes so you don't run the risk of your pipes freezing.



Staff photo by Greg Cammon

My kingdom for a black dot ...

Cathy McMahon and Keith Smith check the list of graduates on the bulletin board outside of Heaton Hall Thursday. Those names with a black dot by them are cleared to receive diplomas in graduation exercises

this weekend. Names without a dot must clear up some problem on their record before they can graduate. A listing beside each name without a dot informs the student who to talk to in order to clear up the problem.

Two Lennon fans commit suicide

NEW YORK — Yoko Ono, concerned over the suicides of at least two Beatles fans since the death of John Lennon, is begging the slain rock star's followers not to yield to despair.

"I'm just afraid that instead of what John had believed in, people will think of his death as the end of something," Miss Ono said in an interview with the New York Daily News published Thursday.

"They are sending me telegrams saying that this is the end of an era and everything, but it was just starting, and we know that the '80s is up to each one of us."

Mark David Chapman, the Beatles fanatic accused of killing Lennon, is under a suicide watch, himself, in a Manhattan psychiatric hospital.

Police sources say Chapman has re-

ceived numerous death threats. Fearing "another Jack Ruby," police outfitted him with a bulletproof vest Thursday before hustling the accused killer into Manhattan Criminal Court.

Chapman's first court-appointed lawyer quit Thursday and sources said he too had received death threats. Chapman's new lawyer, Jonathan Marks — a Beatles fan — said he would "absolutely not" accept police protection.

"I feel enormous sympathy for John Lennon's family and his friends, and I also feel a great deal of compassion for Mr. Chapman," said Marks.

"I'm very much looking forward to representing a man who — more than anybody else I can think of — needs a lawyer and a friend very badly."

Miss Ono said life without her husband is

"hard. I wish I could tell you how hard it is." But she begged the rock star's fans not to regard his death as "the end of something."

Two Lennon fans — Colleen Costello, 16, of Brooksville, Fla., and Michael E. Craig, 30, of Salt Lake City — committed suicide after hearing of Lennon's death.

Miss Ono called for a 10-minute silent prayer vigil for the slain rock star at 2 p.m. EST Sunday "wherever you are." Lennon's body was cremated Wednesday and there will be no funeral service.

Lennon's accused killer, who has attempted suicide at least twice in his life, is being checked by guards every 15 minutes to make sure he does not attempt to kill himself while he undergoes psychiatric tests to determine his competency to stand trial.

He and his first court-appointed attorney, Herbert Adelberg, have been the subject of numerous death threats, law enforcement sources said.

This case "is becoming something of an albatross for me," Adelberg told the court in asking to be relieved from Chapman's case.

Adelberg said he could not afford the time from his one-man practice that Chapman's case would require. He made no mention in court of threats on his life. But sources said that was the reason behind his request and he had been placed under police guard.

Marks, 37, a former assistant U.S. attorney, met with Chapman for an hour, but refused to discuss what his client told him, or what kind of defense he planned. Chapman's defense will be paid for by the courts.

Solicitors suspect in burglaries

By MARCY BOYCE

Police are not sure whether a rash of burglaries in the Residence Apartments at the end of November are related to magazine subscription solicitors working in the area, College Station police said.

There is no evidence positively linking the solicitors to the burglaries in which television sets and stereo equipment were the items most frequently stolen, College Station Police Lt. Mike Patterson said.

However, Patterson said, the solicitors are possible suspects because several victims of the burglaries reported that the people who came to their door seemed more interested in their apartment than in selling magazine subscriptions.

"They'd get through with their spiel and then start asking questions about the house, who lived there and whether or not they (the residents) were going home for Thanksgiving," Patterson said.

Some reports from the people who were burglarized said they later noticed tiny X's inked on their doors and believed them to be signals to burglars who returned to the complex later.

But whether or not the solicitors were responsible for the burglaries, College Station Police Lt. Ron Miller said, he could not say one way or the other."

Three people selling magazines were arrested at some duplexes on Lodgepole and Ponderosa at the beginning of this month for failing to have a solicitor's license, Patterson said.

A woman from Arlington, a man from Middleton, Conn., and an 18-year-old girl from Canton, Ohio, were identified, fined and then released, Patterson said. They left town that same day before College Station Police were able to issue a warrant for them, he said.

The problem with even legitimate magazine companies is that they frequently hire personnel without knowing their background, Miller said.

"Most of them (the companies) have some guy running it who may even be headquartered in another state, and 10-12 salesmen working for them who could be anybody from anywhere," he said.

"The companies are legit, but the trouble is that they've got personnel problems just like other companies."

The best precaution against solicitation-burglary schemes is for residents to just not ever open their doors to anyone they don't know and especially to not ever let them come inside, Miller said.

"Buy your magazines in a store," he said.

But if you still want to buy products from salesmen, Patterson's advice is for residents to ask to see a solicitor's license. And if they refuse, don't talk to them.

Residents also should read what the solicitors show them and make sure it is valid, Patterson said. Many salesmen carry laminated cards which they show as licenses, but in fact are not, he said.

College Station solicitor's permits look more like receipts than a driver's license. They are 3X8 light green slips of paper with brown and blue lettering and the City of College Station printed on them.

Any other type of permit or license is not valid, Patterson said.

The police officer presently is working with the College Station city attorney to change what he termed a couple of weaknesses in the city's solicitor's license.

One of them is that there is no time limitation on the license which would curtail solicitation to specific times of the day. Patterson said he would like to see the College Station license carry a provision which would limit solicitation possibly between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

He said he also is working to get another provision which would require the license to be shown upon demand by any police officer or potential customer solicited.

These changes hopefully will eliminate some of the problems surrounding solicitation in the area, but residents should still be leery of any door-to-door salesman, Patterson said.