

# State / National

## Brilab trial jury selection goes on

United Press International  
NEW ORLEANS — The third week of jury selection begins Monday in the federal Brilab trial, with defense attorneys holding a dwindling number of challenges. Prosecutors plan to start testimony by the end of the week.

U.S. District Judge Morey L. Sear has questioned more than 100 members of the jury pool and qualified 44. But both sides have used their court-granted "strikes" to cut all but nine.

Prosecutors, who began with 18 challenges, have six left. Defense lawyers, who were allotted 30, have nine remaining. When 12 jurors are seated, each side will be given five additional challenges for the process of picking six alternates.

Reputed Mafia boss Carlos Marcello and former state Commissioner of Administration Charles Roemer and three other defendants are charged with racketeering, conspiracy and fraud.

All five — including veteran state aide Aubrey Young, Washington lobbyist I. Irving Davidson and New Orleans attorney Vincent Marinello — pleaded innocent to participation in a scheme to pay bribes and kickbacks to public officials in exchange for their help in obtaining state insurance business.

The alleged conspiracy took place at the height of the 1979 gubernatorial campaign. The defense was expected to argue that if any money changed hands, it was in the form of political contributions.

Sear, at the request of defense attorneys, has asked prospective jurors whether they have formed

an opinion based on pre-trial publicity or Marcello's decades-old reputation as a figure in organized crime.

One member of the jury pool, who was later eliminated by the defense, looked at Marcello across the courtroom and said "he looks like a kindly old gentleman to me."

Another prospective juror rejected Friday said he had heard the 71-year-old defendant was a member of the Mafia. But he added "I don't think such a thing exists anymore, since Al Capone."

Another eliminated juror said an acquaintance told him Marcello had helped several people get started in different jobs.

"I couldn't find him guilty," the man said. "I think there are some politicians up there who are just as guilty as he is."

## Newspaper wins suit to receive name list

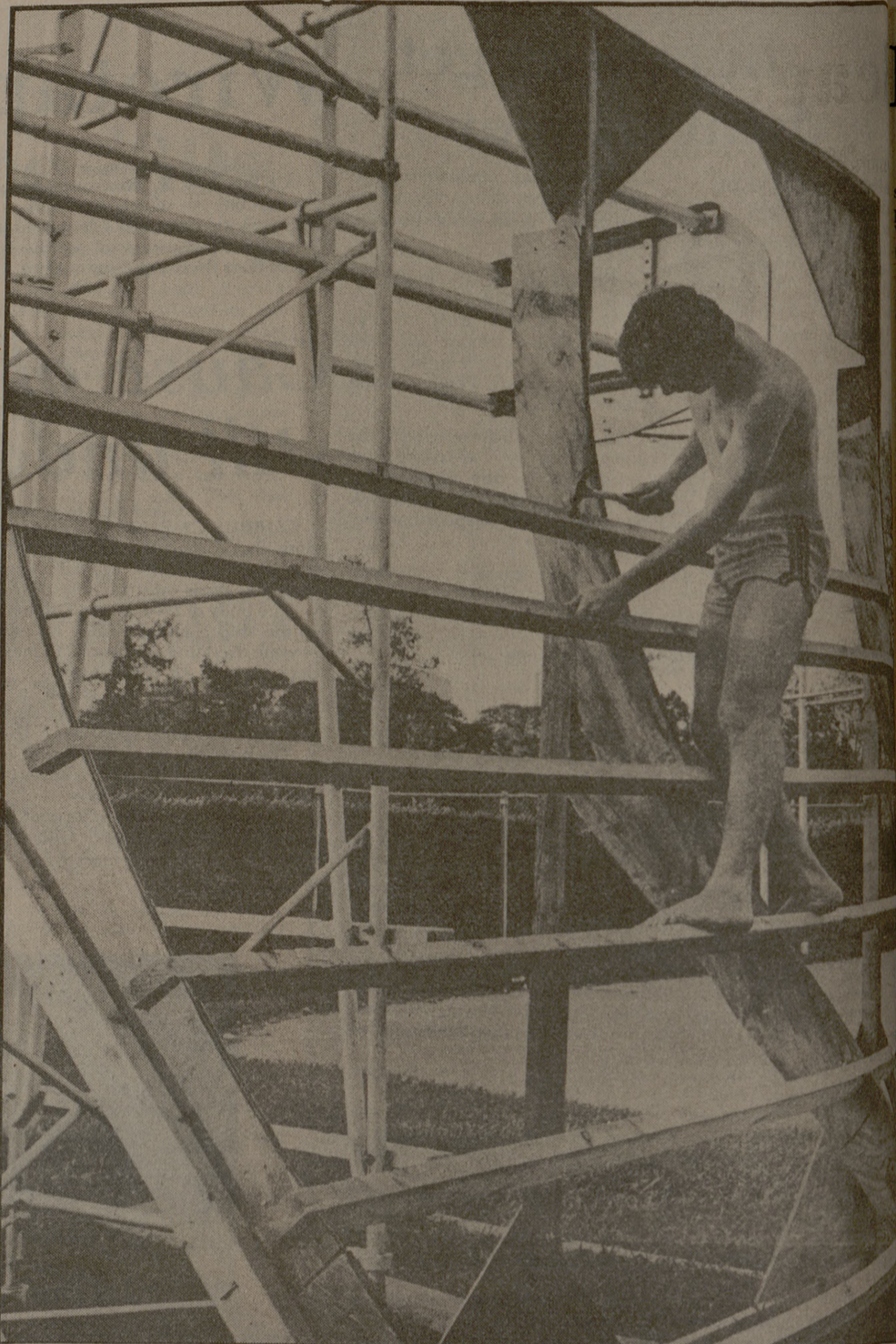
United Press International  
ODESSA — A district judge, acting at the request of the local newspaper, has ordered the city to release information about applicants for the vacant police chief's job.

District Judge Joe Connolly ruled Friday in favor of the Odessa American, which had requested information on the applicants from city manager Kerry Sweatt March 18.

Following the decision, Sweatt said he would release the names and professional qualifications of the 14 applicants Monday. The position, which pays \$33,240 a year, has been vacant since the March 4 resignation for former Chief Jack Tomlin.

Attorney General Mark White had issued three separate opinions saying the newspaper was entitled to the information, but Connolly's ruling marked the first time it was backed up by a judge.

Suits were filed by both the city and the newspaper over whether the names should be released.



Staff photo by Chuck Chapman

### It's not a solar collector ...

No, he's not building a solar power collector. Jon Hass, a freshman from Edinburg, works on the Texas A&M University Surf Club's half-pipe ramp. The ramp is being

constructed in the Grove for Aggie skateboarding enthusiasts. Most of the surf club members also enjoy skateboarding when they can't go surfing, Hass said.

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**Manners dispute causes death**  
United Press International  
DALLAS — An argument about proper manners led to the shooting death of a man who had been visiting a friend to wish him a speedy recovery from a recent hospitalization, police said.

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Arthur Lee Johnson, 51, died at Parkland Memorial Hospital Saturday night from three bullet wounds, police said Sunday.  
Lawrence C. Ruberg, 36, who recently spent time in a hospital, was being held for investigation of murder, authorities reported.  
Police said two friends who were at Ruberg's home told Johnson visited Ruberg as a courtesy to see how the younger man was recovering from the hospital stay.  
The witnesses told arresting officers that Ruberg became angry at Johnson for not knocking before entering Ruberg's bedroom and a fight followed an argument about politeness.

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**MSC SCONA 27**  
General Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 14  
Rm. 231, MSC 7:30 p.m.  
All persons interested in becoming involved with SCONA 27 are encouraged to attend.