

# State / National

## Male nurse applicant wins suit

United Press International  
NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court has ruled an all-women's university cannot ex-

clude a Mississippi man from enrolling in its nursing program because that would be discriminatory and "cannot be squared with

the Constitution."  
The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court ruling that Mississippi University for Women (MUW) could exclude Joe Hogan from the school's nursing program even though he was a qualified applicant.

Hogan, who owns a home and worked near the university for several years, applied for admission to MUW's nursing program but was rejected because of his sex. Hogan filed suit against MUW and requested a preliminary injunction so he could attend the university until the courts ruled on the merits of his case.

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi rejected his requests for injunctive relief and Hogan appealed.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court reversed the lower court ruling and said MUW was discriminating against Hogan under the Fourteenth Amendment.

"The Maintenance of MUW as the only state-supported, single-sex collegiate institution in the state cannot be squared with the Constitution," the court's opinion

released Friday said. "The policy of MUW that excludes Hogan because of his sex denies him the equal protection of the law as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment."

The university contended it was not discriminating against males, but merely wanted to achieve "the moral and intellectual advancement of the girls of the state." State officials said Hogan could attend co-educational state universities in Hattiesburg and Jackson, and therefore the single-sex university in Columbus was not discriminatory.

But Hogan wanted to attend the state university in his hometown, so he would not be forced to give up his job, move his family and sell his house.

"These consolidated appeals present the question whether the maintenance of a state-supported university that accepts only female applicants violates the Fourteenth Amendment right to equal protection of an otherwise qualified male applicant," the opinion said. "On the facts of this case, we hold that it does."

## Pemex director resigns over oil price dispute

United Press International  
MEXICO CITY — Jorge Diaz Serrano, the director of the state-run Mexican oil company Pemex, has resigned in a dispute over his decision to reduce the price of Mexican crude.

Saturday's resignation came on the eve of a U.S.-Mexican summit meeting in Washington, where Diaz Serrano was to join Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo in talks with President Reagan. It also came four days after Mexico, the world's fourth largest producer, dropped its oil prices by \$4 a barrel.

The government news agency Notimex announced that Serrano would be replaced by former Treasury Secretary Julio Rodolfo Moctezuma Cid, now special projects coordinator for Lopez Portillo.

Diaz Serrano presided over a 23-fold increase in Mexican oil revenues between 1976 and 1980. Mexico now provides about 9 percent of total U.S. oil imports.

But last week he ordered a slashing of Mexican

oil prices from \$34.60 to \$30.60 a barrel amid a world oil glut that forced down prices for North Sea oil as well and drove OPEC to freeze prices until the end of the year.

"In virtue of the fact that my decision to reduce the price of crude did not receive the unanimous approval of the economic cabinet and not wanting it to constitute an element of discord, I prefer to present before you my irrevocable resignation as director general of Petroleos Mexicanos," Serrano said in a statement.

Diaz Serrano once was partner in a Houston-based firm, the Golden Lane Drilling Co., with Vice President George Bush.

Diaz Serrano was known as an effective negotiator who demanded together with Lopez Portillo that major industrial nations such as Japan and France provide aid for industrial development in exchange for Mexican oil exports.

Oil industry sources said that as a former commercial oilman, Diaz Serrano was aware of "market realities."

## Charges not yet filed against Ray's attackers

United Press International  
PETROS, Tenn. — No charges will be filed immediately against the black militants believed responsible for stabbing James Earl Ray, who is watching TV, reading and visiting with family while recuperating under heavy guard as the only patient in the prison infirmary.

Ray, 53, serving 99 years for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was moved during the weekend to the six-bed infirmary at the fortress-like Brushy Mountain State Prison to recover from 22 stab wounds inflicted by fellow inmates last Thursday. He was described in good condition today.

"He seems sort of in a state of shock. But I think the realization of the attack is just now catching up with him," Ray's artist wife, Anna Sandhu Ray, 32, said Sunday.

"They (the attackers) were definitely trying to kill him. The cuts on the neck indicate they were going for the jugular."

Mrs. Ray said because Ray exercised regularly with weights he was able to prevent his attackers from killing him.

"He has the survival spirit. He knows he has to survive," she said. "By doing this every day (lifting weights) he was strong enough to hold them off."

Ray, his head bandaged, his arm in a sling and his fingers in splints, was transferred from a hospital in nearby Oak Ridge back to the prison in the East Tennessee mountains early Saturday.

Other Brushy Mountain inmates were to be released today from "lockup" or extra tight security, which has been imposed since Thursday.

Authorities have blamed or possibly four members black militant group at the time as the Alkebulan African Society, with the attack while Ray was in the library.

However, no charges have been filed since the district attorney has elected to present the case to the Morgan County grand jury next month.

Attorney Mark Lane of Memphis said Ray could not identify attackers, but even if he could, he would not testify against them because "you just don't rat on other prisoners if you want to live."

Arzo Carson, director of Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, said officials may be groups such as Alkebulan closely in the future.

## U.S. Supreme Court takes action in several capital punishment cases

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court Monday, in one of several actions in death penalty cases, refused to hear the case of a Texas death row inmate who argued prosecutors violated his right to cross-examination.

The justices declined to hear the appeal of Murrell D. Crawford

Jr., who has been sentenced to death for the fatal shooting of a cashier at a convenience store in Amarillo.

Crawford's case stemmed from an Oct. 22, 1975, incident, when Crawford and David Mabra robbed a convenience store in Amarillo. During the robbery, cashier Edith Whitfield was shot and killed.

Mabra eventually gave a statement to police claiming Crawford carried the gun into the store and fired it twice at the cashier.

In response, Crawford gave a statement claiming Mabra had carried the gun into the store and that it had accidentally discharged. Crawford said Mabra later intentionally shot the cashier when she moaned from the wound of the first shot.

Mabra then gave authorities a second statement, admitting he had carried the gun into the store and that Crawford grabbed it when Mabra threatened the cashier. Mabra said the gun accidentally discharged when Crawford grabbed it.

Crawford and Mabra both were indicted for murder "during the course of committing robbery." Crawford was tried separately from his co-defendant and pleaded guilty to the charge. After a trial on the issue of punishment, the jury decided the state could impose a death sentence.

During the sentencing phase, the prosecution had introduced Mabra's first confession, accusing Crawford of carrying the gun into

the store and firing it twice at the cashier.

Appealing to the Supreme Court, Crawford had argued a general proposition, the admission of a non-testifying defendant's confession during the defendant's 6th Amendment confrontation and cross-examination.

In other capital punishment cases, the high court Monday refused to hear the case of a Texas man sentenced to death for the 1974 slaying of a Texas Department of Public Safety agent, Doyle Edward Skiller.

Doyle Edward Skiller was found guilty of capital murder in the robbery-slaying of Agent Rick Randel, who had been undercover to purchase drugs from Skiller and a defendant.

—Refused to hear the case of a Mississippi man sentenced to death for the 1978 beating of a Jackson, Miss., man, Cray Bullock Jr. was found guilty of capital murder in the slaying of Mark Dickson.

—Refused to hear the case of a Georgia man challenging a death sentence on grounds lawyer was "under the influence of illegal drugs" at trial. John was convicted of murder and sentenced to death in Bibb County, Ga. He noted his lawyer pleaded guilty to drug charges representing Young.

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