

National



Say cheeseburger!

Staff photo By Brian Tate

Three-year-old Crystal Davis of Bryan gets a lift from Ronald McDonald and poses so her mother can snap a picture. About 150 people, mainly youngsters, gathered at the grand opening of the new McDonalds in College Station Saturday.

Industry poll praises tax plan

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — A large percentage of major industries questioned in a poll say the administration's tax plan will materially improve the economy.

The survey, by J.E. Fowler & Associates management consultants, was the first such poll taken after the plan had moved through Congress.

An earlier poll, by the U.S. Commerce Department, of similar industries gave figures indicating just the opposite, but it was taken before the tax plan was approved.

Joe Fowler, head of the Burbank, Calif., headquartered business, said the two polls show an interesting difference in philosophies.

Fowler's poll, which questioned decision makers among the top industries in the Fortune 500, indicated that 93.6 percent thought new tax legislation would materially aid or improve the economy.

A total of 60 percent said the new legislation would help control inflation. Only 17.7 percent thought it would not help.

Fowler's poll, widely publicized after a significant portion of responses were gathered and tabulated, brought a response from President Reagan.

In a letter to Fowler, the president said, "I was grateful to learn the results of the survey that you

conducted among your clients.

"This expression of confidence in our program for economic recovery reflects the spirit needed among our people to assure our success."

The president also said his administration has "made substantial inroads at controlling federal spending, reducing tax rates and curbing excessive regulations."

He noted, however, that his administration has not reached its goals and there is plenty of work ahead.

The fact is that many major corporations, particularly those in the high technology fields, see the

president's tax program and focus on defense as a major stimulant not only to the economy but to their own industries.

"Here's a point," Fowler said. "There have been other recent surveys that indicated an optimistic outlook because of new tax legislation. One of them said clients took a 'wait and see' attitude and I interpret that as telling us the Fortune 500 are reactionary corporations."

"The media are reactionary, but you can't tell me a major corporation is reactionary. They have master plans and one-year and five-year forecasts, and they are probably on the optimistic side."

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Quirks in the news

United Press International
HUTCHINSON, Kan. — An automobile salesman says Detroit has a better idea — for selling houses.

Joe Hoffman moved to Hutchinson a year ago, but the depressed housing market made it impossible to sell his Olathe, Kan., home. To extricate himself from his financial fix, Hoffman is offering a 1981 Chevette valued at \$3,300 as a bonus to anyone who will buy his house in Olathe.

"I've been an automobile deal-

er all my life, and there is something about a new car that really excites people," he said.

Hoffman is asking \$68,500 for the four-bedroom house.

Hoffman got the new car idea from General Motors, which has been making the same offer for company-owned houses in the Detroit area. But he said he is the first to make such a offer in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

"If it will work in Detroit, it will work here, too," he said.

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