

State



Feels so good!

Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Chuck Mangione performs before a sell-out crowd Sunday night in Rudder Auditorium. See the review of the concert on page 6.

Collins criticizes Bentsen

United Press International
AMARILLO—Taking his newly announced campaign for the U.S. Senate to the Panhandle, Rep. Jim Collins, R-Texas, called Democratic Sen. Lloyd Bentsen the most active liberal in the South and vowed to defeat him in 1982.

Collins, State Sen. Walter Mengden and Don Richardson — all candidates for the GOP Senate nomination — participated in a Republican-sponsored question-and-answer session Saturday. About 150 people attended the rally.

The millionaire conservative from Dallas promised the audience one of the most exciting campaigns in Texas history saying it will pit a conservative against a liberal.

Collins aimed his remarks squarely at Bentsen's spending record in Congress.

Collins charged that Bentsen's voting record during the past 10 years showed he voted against only two of the 145 spending appropriation bills.

"He talks like Herbert Hoover and he votes like George McGovern," Collins said. "It is

with the support of the solid middle class, who are being hammered by inflation and interest rates, that I am today announcing my candidacy for the United States Senate."

The 3rd District congressman, who represents the conservative belt dominated by Dallas, said: "During my eight terms in the U.S. House, I have consistently fought for the conservative principles of less government. Now I want to continue that fight in the U.S. Senate as Texas' senator."

Giving emphasis to his conservative orientation, Collins — regarded as one of the most wealthy politicians in Washington — said Bentsen cast one of the two crucial votes in the Senate to give away the Panama Canal.

"Texans don't want a senator who will give away the Panama Canal and weaken our national defense," he said. "I believe I can give Texas the strong, conservative leadership it deserves."

Collins said: "Lloyd Bentsen issues press releases like he is a conservative. But talking conservative and voting conservative are two different things."

Claiming the support of the American Conservative Union, Collins said the group gave him a rating of 97 percent as opposed to Bentsen's 37 percent.

The Friends of Jim Collins Committee announced it had raised \$655,000 for Collins' campaign and that efforts were under way to raise more funds.

Asked why he voted against the proposed sale of AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia in Congress, Collins lashed out against the giant OPEC oil producer and said Saudi Arabia

confiscated the oil interests of Americans who helped make that country a major oil producer.

"Besides, (the Saudis) are financing the PLO (the Palestine Liberation Organization)," Collins said. "They wouldn't send an ambassador to Egypt. They wouldn't even send a representative to the funeral of (assassinated Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat who was one of the greatest statesmen of this century. Before we can have friendship, we need to recognize that it is a two-way street."

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Pirates of pay-TV signals may have to walk plank

United Press International
HOUSTON — A federal prosecutor, who pushed through what he says are the first criminal convictions in a pay-television-interception case, says several thousand people who bought the equipment are liable for prosecution.

Eight indicted owners, former owners and employees of Pirate Video and Microwave were expected to surrender this week to federal marshalls to face criminal charges of mail fraud, criminal copyright infringement and unlawful interception of broadcast signals.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Dan Stone said after issuance of the indictments the company advertised and sold special microwave remote and converters capable of intercepting Taft Broadcasting's signal of the Texas Entertainment Network, a pay TV system. He estimated the equipment had been sold to several thousand people this year.

The people who own one of these are also liable to both civil and criminal prosecution,"

Kamin said. "They are engaging in unlawful interception of this programming."

He said no such prosecutions were planned immediately, and in the event of such action, the government would have to prove the equipment users know it is in violation of the Federal Communication Act.

The indictment came on the heels of a landmark ruling by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco Monday that held manufacturers and retailers of video equipment liable in cases involving copyright infringement.

Pirate Video owner Pete Stone, one of those indicted, and his lawyer, David Berg, rejected the charges.

"The air space is free," Stone said. "It belongs to the people. If the companies want to keep it (the signal) private, they can scramble it, code it, filter it. They can run it through the telephone lines, too."

Pirate Video also faces civil and criminal charges stemming from its attempt to intercept the closed-circuit satellite signal of the Ray Leonard-Thomas Hearnes fight

Sept. 16. That transmission was scrambled at its point of origin two minutes before the fight, and Pirate was unsuccessful in showing it.

Kamin said federal investigators in Dallas and San Antonio were looking into similar operations.

"This (signal interception) is a real death threat to this industry," he said.

Microwave broadcasters, who charge subscribers for programming such as that produced by the Texas Entertainment Network, pay the Federal Communications Commission for the license to use their broadcast channel.

"It is the business of government to license these individuals... then it's also the responsibility of the government to protect the individuals who are licensed to do it," Kamin said.

The defendants face penalties of five years and \$1,000 fines on each mail-fraud count, a year and \$10,000 on each unlawful interception count and a year and \$25,000 on each copyright infringement count.

Bond has been set at \$5,000 for each person.

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