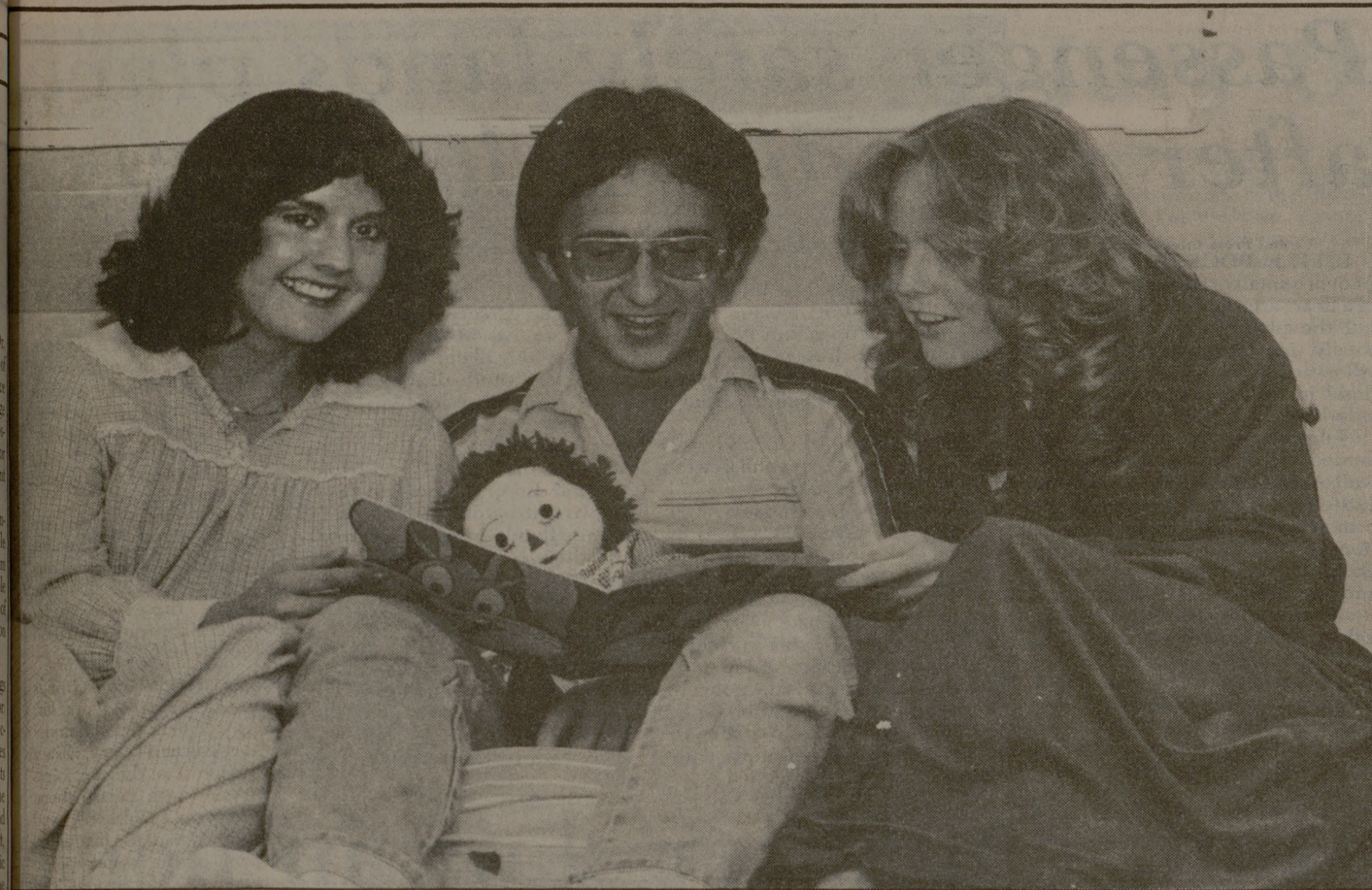


State



Let's read a bedtime story

Staff photo by Daniel Sanders

Eades, left, and Kay Patterson, of Neeley Hall, read a bedtime story to David Sheblah in Walton Hall. Neeley Hall sponsored a bedtime tuck-in service for the men's dorms to raise money for bonfire construction.

Defense budget plan could benefit Texans

United Press International
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — In an effort to balance the national budget by 1984, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., has drafted a defense budget plan that slices \$1.3 billion more than that cut in the Reagan administration's plan.

"If we're to balance the budget by 1984, we have to take larger cuts from the defense budget than the president had recommended," said Winslow Wheeler, author of the plan and a legislative assistant to Kassebaum.

The plan, which could funnel money out of Kansas and Missouri and into Texas, could be presented to the Senate Budget Committee next week at the earliest, Wheeler said Tuesday.

"It is a recommendation to reduce '82 outlays in the defense budget by \$3.3 billion, instead of the presidential cuts of \$2 billion," Wheeler said. He said his reaction — positive and negative — to the proposal.

The Kassebaum plan, which could make her unpopular in her home state, would involve buying 189 Texas-built aircraft in 1982 for \$2.45 billion, instead of buying

126 aircraft built elsewhere for \$4.5 billion.

Wheeler said the recommendations of programs to be cut and new ones to be instituted were made with total disregard to where the different pieces of machinery were built.

"We recommended the B-1 bomber be terminated," Wheeler said, "and Boeing has a large involvement in the avionics of the B-1."

Boeing's largest plant is located in Wichita, Kan., Kassebaum's hometown.

The proposal advises shutting down the Missouri McDonnell Douglas F-15 line down in favor of buying the Fort Worth, Texas-built General Dynamics F-16, and scrapping McDonnell's F-18 program and replacing it with the Grand Prairie Vought Corp.'s A-7 warplane.

"The F-16 costs half as much and does most of the missions better than the F-15, in our opinion," Wheeler said.

"The F-18 has declined in performance from the original design, which was quite modest. The cost of the F-18 has escalated very, very dramatically — to the point

where we can't afford it."

Kassebaum's plan also recommends shutting down the New York Grumman A6E line in favor of the Vought A7, a recommendation Wheeler said was made because the A-7 costs far less than the A-6 and its capabilities are similar.

The proposal also urges ceasing the California Hughes Helicopter AH-64 program and instead having Bell Helicopter of Fort Worth build AH-1S choppers.

"Helicopters cannot survive in an intense warfare situation," Wheeler said. "They are useable for Third World scenarios and AH-1S is capable of such missions."

Wheeler said Kassebaum's proposal only sets a budget ceiling.

"Even if it is passed in the budget committee, it would not mean immediate termination of any program," Wheeler said, adding it would be up to the Appropriations and Armed Forces committees to determine which programs would be affected to fit the defense budget under Mrs. Kassebaum's ceiling.

GTE penalty lifted, clears way for rate hike

United Press International
AUSTIN — The general counsel for the Public Utility Commission has recommended that a \$4 million penalty imposed against General Telephone Company for service be lifted — a move that would clear the way for a rate increase for residential customers.

General Counsel Allen King said Tuesday the telephone company has significantly improved its service to customers and recommended that the commission remove the penalty. If the commission approves the move, General Telephone would be allowed to

raise customers' rates approximately 35 cents per month for residential service.

The PUC first imposed the penalty against General's revenues in 1980 because of the company's poor and inadequate service. When General applied for another rate increase in January 1981, the commission decided any changes made by the company had not been sustained long enough to evaluate whether service had improved, and ordered the penalty continued.

The commission also ordered its staff to investigate General Tele-

phone's service and report back by Sunday.

King told the commission in his report, "Over the last two years the company has made significant strides toward correcting these service deficiencies and has reached a point at which the staff feels that a monetary penalty is no longer necessary to achieve the ends of good service."

The staff recommended, however, that the staff and General Telephone representatives continue to meet quarterly to discuss the company's service problems and their solutions.

Snoring silenced with mink

United Press International
CHICAGO — A Los Angeles biologist says he has the answer for people who can't sleep because of a snoring partner.

Not a lot of mink, just a small collar.

Dr. J. Dewitt Fox introduced mink neckwear Tuesday at the American Surgical Trade Association show. It was one version of a collar designed by Fox.

The collars force snorers to keep their mouths, preventing breathing which causes the snoring that keeps others awake, he said.

The collars sell for \$37.50 each for the standard model, and \$100 for the mink version. Fox said 10 have already been sold.

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