



Recruiting Sailors

staff photo by Eric Mitchell

Rusty Thomas, right, a sophomore biomedical science major from Fort Worth, and Melody Powell, a sophomore accounting major from

Houston, recruit students to join the Sailing Club. They and their boat were stationed by Rudder Fountain Monday.

Ozone standards upheld by court

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court today rejected a major challenge to the Clean Air Act, leaving intact a decision that upholds the Environmental Protection Agency's standards for ozone pollution.

The justices refused to hear an appeal by the American Petroleum Institute and the city of Houston, which claimed the EPA's restrictions on ozone — caused mainly by automobiles — are too stringent.

Oil industry lawyers also charged that a federal appeals court decision upholding EPA ozone standards was a "sweeping interpretation" that "would eliminate effective judicial review of most, if not all, rulemaking requirements for Clean Air Act standards and regulations."

The appeal to the high court comes at a time when President Reagan is urging Congress to weaken environmental standards set in the Clean Air Act.

The law is up for reauthorization this year on Capitol Hill.

The case before the justices focused only on ozone, which is not emitted directly into the air. It is produced by complex chemical reactions between organic compounds and nitrogen in the presence of sunlight.

The organic compounds come from auto emissions, as well as pollution from chemical factories.

Ozone is the primary cause of health problems associated with smog. At certain concentration levels, ozone irritates the respiratory system and causes coughing, wheezing, chest tightness and headaches. It can aggravate asthma, bronchitis and emphysema.

The federal appeals court noted, "Some studies indicate that chronic exposure to fairly low levels of ozone may reduce resistance to infection and alter blood chemistry or chromosome structure."

As a result, reducing ozone

pollution is a primary goal of the Clean Air Act. The ozone standards at issue, which were established by the EPA in 1979, must be implemented through state programs.

Industry lawyers filed suit against the restrictions, but the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled in favor of the EPA, noting an earlier decision by the same court found the law gave the agency from considering the cost of technology in setting the pollution standards.

Houston and the petroleum trade group took the case to the Supreme Court.

They claimed the EPA violated its own procedures by not submitting the ozone standards to an independent science advisory board for review.

The EPA in response told the court that it was "pressed for time" when it developed the standards and that advisory board review was not required.

Too many trust machines

United Press International
If your calculator flashed a wrong answer, would you know the difference? There's a good chance you'd trust the machine more than yourself.

A study undertaken by Robert Reys, a professor of math education, indicates that even those who are good mathematicians frequently bow to the

authority of a calculator. He presented test subjects with a series of seven arithmetic problems. For each, the subjects estimated the answer, wrote it down and then punched the numbers into a calculator for its answer. The machines were programmed to make mistakes — by 10 percent for the first three problems, 25 percent for the next

two, and 50 percent for the final pair.

On the first question, 98 percent of the subjects gave a good estimate. But when a different answer appeared on the screen, only 20 percent suspected the machine of making an error. In fact, 36 percent of the subjects worked through all seven problems continuing to believe their own abilities were at fault.

Media attacks Solidarity

United Press International
WARSAW, Poland — A defiant crowd of 7,000 Poles turned out for the christening of Lech Walesa's 2-month-old daughter in a gesture of support for Solidarity but authorities began a prime-time television attack on the interned union leader.

Walesa remained locked up during Sunday's ceremony in Gdansk, the port city that gave birth to Solidarity in 1980.

An empty chair next to his wife, Danuta, reminded all that military authorities did not respond to family appeals to release him for the christening of Maria Wiktoria, who he has never seen.

Mrs. Walesa wept softly when her daughter, dressed in white, was christened before the crowd of some 7,000 people overflowing the modern parish church and filling the square outside.

"It was a pity my husband could not come, but otherwise it was splendid," she said by telephone from Gdansk.

She said she had been heartened by the show of support by the crowd, which chanted "Give us Leszek (Lech)" and "Solidarity, Solidarity," as she carried her daughter to a waiting car after the 45-minute service.

Witnesses said police and security forces kept out of sight

during the christening. The city was calm throughout the day.

But in a 70-minute program on prime-time television Sunday, the rulers painted a picture of official patience in the face of wild Solidarity strike actions that brought the country to the brink of economic collapse during the 16-month tug-of-war between the union and the government.

In a stark attack on Walesa, the program showed him addressing endless strike meetings against a backdrop of horror music. The commentator condemned Walesa as "a man driven by ambition."

Underground sources said the two 15-minute strikes were held, and many were arrested in the

city of Bydgoszcz Friday — the first anniversary of police beatings of three Solidarity activists.

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