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#### **By Scott McCullar** Warped WAIT A MINUTE, I DON'T REMEMBER BEING A THAT ON MY WOMAN IN BECAUSE PRESIDENT REAGAN DONE WITH YOUR HUH? OH I CAN HARDLY NCOME TAX WHAT? KNOWS HOW POORLY HE AND YEAH, CAROLINE, WAIT 'TILL I CONGRESS HAVE TREATED E.R.A. AND WOMEN IN GENERAL IN THE GET ALL THAT JUST FINISHING YET, MERRITT? AMERICA. UP MONEY FORM YIPPEEE! PAST, EVERY WOMAN NOW GETS \$300 BACK ON HER INCOME TAX.

## Railroad worker walkout upsets Chicago rush hour

United Press International CHICAGO — Nearly 12,000 urlington Northern brakeen, switchmen and conductors uesday staged a wildcat walkut that shut down the rail system in a 25-state region and crambled the rush hour for thousands of suburban Chicago commuters.

Railroad officials said they planned to go to court in Chicao or St. Paul, Minn., to seek a mporary restraining order to halt the walkout that apparently was prompted by slow movement on a contract and over

general working conditions. "Essentially we'll go wherever e can get a judge the fastest," said spokesman Chris Welsh at company headquarters in St. the guys who operate the trains,

Officials press for unveiling

Picket lines went up simultaneously at railroad yards in 25 western, midwestern and southern states

Burlington Northern contends the strike is an illegal action authorized by the United Transportation Union, Welsh

said. ago, Burlington A week Northern dispatchers walked out.in a strike that lasted until a court order in Illinois halted the picketing.

"The strike is system-wide," Welsh said. "It affects 11,900 United Transportation Union members who are switchmen, brakemen and conductors -

with the exception of the loco- pired contract. motive engineers. Other unions were honoring

the strike, effectively shutting down the railroad. The walkout fouled up the

morning rush hour for nearly Burlington Northern 20.000 Railroad commuters in suburbs in western Chicago. Feeder buses were used to transport riders to other rail lines.

Rod Swisher, Sheridan chair-man of UTU Local 951 in Sheridan, Wyo., said the walkout was a "peaceful withdrawal" to protest lack of negotiations on a contract for engineers and trainmen that expired in March 1981. He said the UTU is currently working under the ex-

Don Baker, a Burlington Northern official at Fargo, N.D., said the walkout was illegal be-

cause the issue of work rules was before the National Mediation Board Burlington Northern is the

nation's longest railroad with more than 29,000 miles of track in 25 states from the Pacific Northwest to the Midwest and the Gulf of Mexico. It specializes in hauling commodities such as coal from western states to mid4 western power plants, and grain to overseas markets.

Reports of picketing came from states including Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Colorado, Oklahoma, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska and Iowa

### People save money by doing own work

United Press International NEW YORK — The do-ityourself industry has done well during the current recession as more and more people get out tools and make repairs and alterations to save money.

In 1980, retail sales of do-it-yourself tools and supplies were up about 6.2 percent after adustment for inflation. This in a year when general retail sales were down 9.3 percent in real terms, personal income was off 2.3 percent and the Gross National Product off 2.5 percent.

The survey made for the Stanley Works of New Britain, Conn., makers of many kinds of tools, was done before 1981 figures were available.

A group of people from tools and supplies producers pre-sented the data to Wall Street analysts in a New York seminar.

Sales volume for 1990 was projected at just under \$115 billion. That is compared with estimated expenditures in 1980 of about \$30 billion.

The 1980 sales values of the eight most common types of doit-yourself projects were esti-mated at \$19.5 billion for about 84.2 million separate projects by homeowners and other do-it-yourselfers. These figures were presented to the seminar by Morris R. Robinson, vice president of the Bureau of Building Market Research.

Painting, wallpapering, paneling and floor covering wallpapering, were by far the most popular doit-yourself improvements with 36 million projects and outlays of \$4.1 billion. The most expensive jobs were kitchen and bathroom improvements and repairs

About 12.5 million do-ityourself plumbing jobs were executed in 1980, Robinson said, plus 13.5 million energy-related jobs — furnaces, water heaters. insulation, solar heaters - and 7.6-million electric repairs.

Much of this is work that in many areas requires a building permit or other official permit and is forbidden to amateurs in some urban areas with strict

As for major outside jobs, doit-yourselfers spent \$708 million for supplies for patios and decks in 1980, \$757 million for new roofs, \$370 million for new sid-

room additions and \$1.2 billion in basement conversions. In justifying the projection of

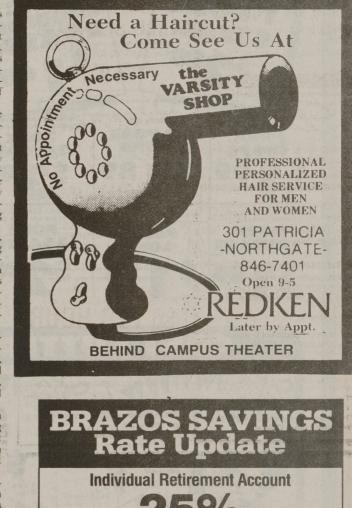
yourself market in the 1980s, from 80.1 million in 1980.

Bert D. McCammon Jr. of the University of Oklahoma Business School, and Bradley T. Farnsworth of the National Re-Hardware Association's tionary Home Center Institute pre- workers.

ing, and \$484 million on fences. sented a study to the financial They did \$2.1 billion worth of analysts on what motivates do-ilyourselfers

•They said the largest group 35.9 percent - are reluctant dosuch big growth in the do-it- it-yourselfers, who tackle the work simply because they can't Robinson said the number of afford or are unwilling to pay householders age 25-44 will in-professional craftsmen. They crease to 98.9 million in 1990 said 21.3 percent are dedicated to it with a vengeance and 13 percent are very active do-it-yourselfers. The remaining 29 percent were divided rather

mysteriously between discre and transitional



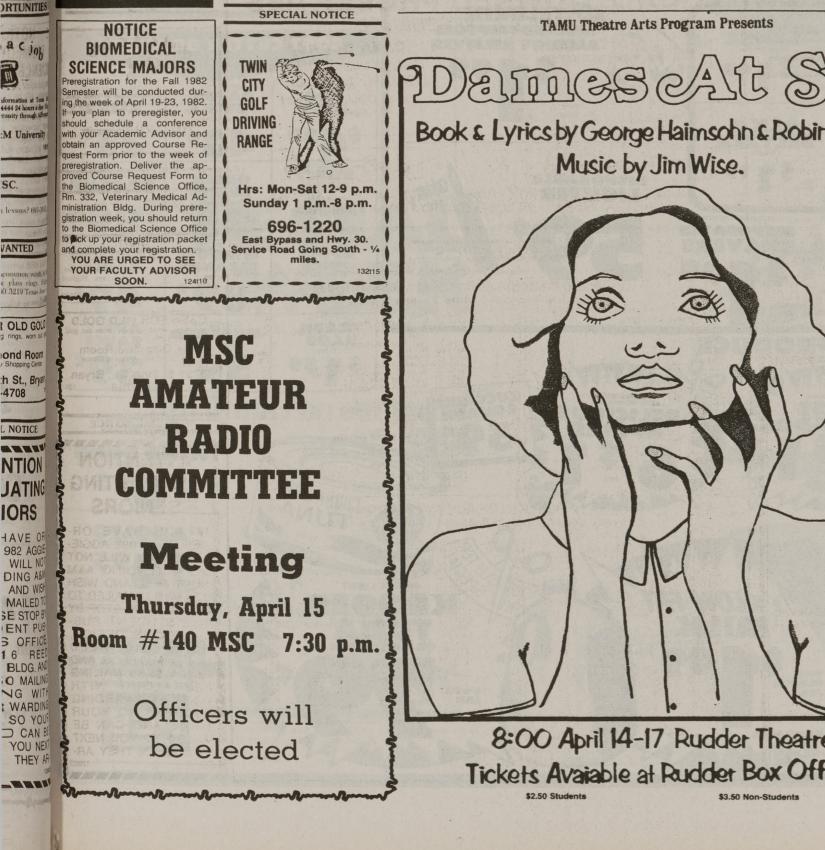


Tax credit in Reagan's plans

United Press International WASHINGTON — Pressed

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congressional supporters, President Reagan plans to announce Thursday his tuition tax credit proposal to help parents who send their children to private

schools The proposal, which a White House aide said would be out-lined to a meeting of the National Catholic Education Associa-

tion in Chicago, would fulfill a Reagan campaign promise. The White House aide said

by Roman Catholic officials and the proposal had been approved by the Cabinet and could be phased in over several years.

Backers of tuition tax credits have been pressing for action. Eight Republican House members signed a letter to Reagan urging him to advance his prop-

But the proposal could face problems in a Congress already wrestling with the high federal deficit. Senate Finance Chairman Bob Dole, R-Kan., whose panel would have jurisdiction, aid it could be too expensive this year.

Unconfirmed reports say the tax credit could be as low as \$100 for the first year of the program. The trade paper Education Week reported the administration plan would begin with less than \$250 for the 1983 calendar year, and possibly rise to as much as \$1,000 per child in a few years.

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