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Reagan, Galtieri express hopes for solution

but it pulled the Nuggets with Houston at 45-33. Western Division playoffs. Denver survived a comeback that narrowed Nuggets' margin to 83-77. 7:07 left in the third. Kiki Vandeweghe then straight baskets and Denver led away for the win. Thompson hit 10 of 11 goal attempts in just 22 minutes to lead Denver. Moses led the Rockets with 27.

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan summoned his National Security Council into session today following a telephone talk with the president of Argentina about the simmering Falkland Islands crisis.

President Leopoldo Galtieri called Reagan about 5 p.m. EST Thursday and both restated their desire for a peaceful resolution of Argentina's dispute with Great Britain, said deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes.

At about the same time, Secretary of State Alexander Haig — beginning the second round of his shuttle diplomacy — arrived in Buenos Aires to renew discussions with Argentine leaders in an effort to defuse the situation.

Haig was meeting today with Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez and other officials.

"It is clear tonight that the task will not be easy," Haig said when he arrived Thursday night for another round of his peace-shuttle. "The stakes are so high that they demand the ultimate effort of all participants in these discussions."

A White House official refused to say whether today's NSC meeting would deal specifically with the confrontation between Great Britain and Argentina over the South Atlantic islands. Warships of both nations were reported headed to the area.

Residents of Port Belgrano, 425 miles south of Buenos Aires, reported at least seven Argentine warships sailed out Thursday night on a southeasterly course in the direction of the Falklands. The fleet included Argentina's only aircraft carrier, "Veinticinco de Mayo."

The situation has dominated administration foreign policy attention since Argentine troops occupied the contested islands April 2. Reagan had spoken at length with Galtieri the night before the invasion in a vain effort to prevent it.

The NSC meeting highlighted an otherwise routine schedule for the president today. It included an afternoon reception for Republican "Eagles" — contributors of \$10,000 or more; lunch with editors and broadcasters from the Southeast; and a meeting with the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy.

Reagan's meeting with the media executives follows a new exchange of views with the press on the subject of presidential errors. In an appearance Thursday before a civics class in a school near Chicago, Reagan made two remarks which were open to question.

Discussing gun control, he said the death penalty was once effective in England in keeping down the illegal use of firearms. Any criminal found to have committed any sort of crime while carrying a gun "was tried for first degree murder and hung if he was found guilty," the president said.

"They said that the fact that he carried the gun meant that he had premeditated using the gun to kill someone if necessary, so the criminals stopped carrying guns over there. It all worked out very well until they eliminated capital punishment."

In answering a question about unemployment, he said new Labor Department statistics reporting unemployment was up in March were incorrect because "statisticians in Washington have funny ways of counting."



Junior Chris Toney does his best to devour as many funnel cakes as possible in 15 minutes. The contest was sponsored by the Funnel Cakery in Post Oak Mall.

Unfortunately, Toney, a computer science major from Fort Worth, did not win the oh-so-sweet, but filling contest.

staff photo by Peter Récha

Having your cake and eating it too

Location of proposed Hilton raises questions involving taxes

by Hope E. Paasch
Battalion Staff

The investigation into the building of the proposed University Hilton Hotel has raised some important legal questions, with one of the most prominent concerning property taxes.

The proposed site for the hotel is the northeast corner of the Texas A&M University campus. The six acres for the hotel would be leased from the University, meaning the hotel would be built on state-owned property and, some have said, might be exempt from property taxes.

Property taxes are the primary source of funds for municipal services, including street maintenance, police and fire protection, and sewer

services, Brazos County Tax Assessor-Collector Buddy Winn said.

Joe A. Ferreri, owner of the Ramada Inn in College Station, said: "I welcome the Hilton Hotel... if it will compete on the same basis that all hotel and restaurant owners do in this community such as paying taxes, becoming a member of the Chamber of Commerce and contributing to all local functions."

Ferreri expressed his views concerning the Hilton Hotel in a statement dated March 25 and printed as an advertisement in The Battalion April 5.

"It would be of concern to all tax-paying citizens of this community and the state if the Hilton Hotel were built on the University because no ad-

valorem (property) taxes would be paid to our city and school system, yet the city has to provide municipal services free," Ferreri said.

Winn disagrees: "I don't believe (the proposed University Hilton) would be exempt from any taxes that other local hotels pay."

Brian Brown of the State Property Tax Board agreed with Winn.

"The (proposed University Hilton) building would be fully subject to property taxes," Brown said. "The lease-hold interest itself may even be taxable, especially if it is a very long-term lease, which it most likely would be."

Ferreri said: "The Hilton Hotel should secure private property... Twenty years ago, I applied to the

(Texas A&M System Board of Regents) for an on-campus hotel, and they turned me down. What makes this time different?"

Eric J. Hilton Jr. of the Hilton Hotel Corp. said he is not aware of any tax exemption the hotel might receive because of its location on state property.

The corporation will not consider a franchise hotel in the Bryan-College Station area unless they can build on campus at the requested location.

"It's the best site because of the exposure and significance of being on the campus," Hilton said. "If it were any other location, (the Hilton Hotel) would be just another hotel. We want it to be more than just another hotel."

Daughter key to indictments

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — A high-stakes gambler so dreaded being tried by a federal judge known as "Maximum John" that he had him killed, said a grand jury indictment of the narcotics kingpin, a hit man and three members of their families.

The reluctant testimony of the hit man's daughter apparently was the key to the indictments, which concluded a three-year, \$4.7 million investigation into the killing of U.S. District Judge John H. Wood Jr.

Jamie "Jimmy" Chagra, 35, an El Paso gambler serving a 30-year sentence in Illinois for cocaine smuggling, and Charles V. Harrelson, 43, imprisoned in Texas for drug and weapons violations, were charged Thursday with murder and conspiracy.

Also named were Chagra's lawyer and brother, Joe, 35, of El Paso; Jimmy Chagra's wife, Elizabeth, 28; and Harrelson's wife, Jo Ann, 41.

The indictment said Chagra gave \$250,000 to Harrelson to kill Wood, making him the first federal judge slain in more than a century.

The three others were held Thursday in El Paso and Dallas, having failed to post bonds ranging from \$250,000 to more than \$1.5 million.

Attorneys for the accused called the indictments amoral and claimed their clients were being made scapegoats by the government.

Grand jury testimony from Harrelson's stepdaughter, Teresa Starr Jasper, 24, apparently allowed the government to conclude its investigation. She had spent three months in jail last year for refusing to testify, before finally appearing before the jury in October. A short time later reports circulated that indictments could come within a few months.

Jasper went before the grand jury again Wednesday — 24 hours before the indictments were returned.

The indictments claim Jimmy Chagra's wife and brother encouraged him to have Wood killed and that he hired Harrelson, the son of former state prison guard, to do the job. Harrelson was acquitted of a murder-for-hire charge in 1968 and convicted in another hit killing in 1973.

Faulty scaffolding tentatively blamed in fatal bridge collapse

United Press International

EAST CHICAGO, Ind. — Highway experts said faulty scaffolding may have caused an unfinished elevated expressway ramp to collapse during concrete-pouring, killing 12 workmen and injuring 20. Searchers were told to look for more bodies today.

Three spans of the 50-foot-tall bridge, each about 150 feet long and 15 feet wide, collapsed one-by-one in a chain reaction Thursday morning. The scaffolding that was supposed to

support the structure until the concrete hardened, apparently buckled, officials said.

The search for victims was called off at dusk. Eleven of the dead — some who tried to escape by jumping and were crushed beneath the rubble — were taken to a temporary morgue but the twelfth, who was not identified, was entombed in a slab of concrete. Officials planned to wait until daylight to attempt to free his body.

At least two of the injured, who were taken to three area hospitals,

were in critical condition.

John Kouris, attorney for the Lake County Coroner's Office, said more bodies might be found at the site when a search of the wreckage resumed today.

"Investigators from our office talked with workers at the scene at the time of the crash," Kouris said. "We will work on the presumption there are more out there."

Authorities cautioned that because there were numerous contractors and sub-contractors at the site, it was diffi-

cult to determine exactly how many workers were on the job when the structure fell.

"It was like a chain reaction," Lewis Conley, a carpenter, said. "The first section fell — boom — without warning. The other sections hung for a while before dropping."

"It looked to me like the scaffolding buckled," said James Brannock, a carpenter and project safety representative. "If you would have asked me yesterday, I would have told you the scaffolding would have held. But it didn't."

A&M profs to offer ideas on New Federalism

by Jennifer Carr
Battalion Staff

Two Texas A&M University professors have been chosen to serve on Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby's Texas Academic Conference on New Federalism.

Dr. Donald A. Sweeney, a professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and Dr. Arnold Vedlitz, a political science professor, will meet with scholars from 41 Texas colleges and universities to discuss specific issues and problems resulting from President Reagan's proposed New Federalism policy.

Under the policy, the federal government will give block grants to states, and will not specify how the money should be spent.

The conference, which will meet in Austin May 28 through May 30, will make recommendations to be used by Hobby's Task Force on New Federalism. The task force was established to deal with the challenges resulting from Reagan's proposal.

Sweeney, who also directs a graduate program in health planning, will address the issue of Texas health policies and programs.

Texas, like most other states, has different ideas than the federal government on how money should be spent, he said.

"Instead of categorical grants," Sweeney said, "in which the federal government said 'This is the way the money has to be spent and you either spend it that way or you don't take it,' the block grants say 'Here's a pile of money for health, and you can spend it any way you want.'"

"I think there will be some significant changes from the way the money has been allotted in the past, and some of them I think the people in the state may not be real happy with."

For example, he said, the Emergency Medical Services program, which includes ambulance and emergency medical technician service, is now regarded as a municipal service. And, he said it is probably one of the programs that will be cut back.

Vedlitz also has experience in the health and social services area, but sees his role in the conference as more of a policy analyst. Because of his experience in state and local politics, he said he will try to serve as a communications link between the scholars who will be providing the information, and the decision makers.

He said he has worked for some time to establish a program similar to the one Hobby has set up, because he feels government should take advantage of the analytic and research skills scholars possess.

"I think it (the conference) is a good opportunity for not only us at Texas A&M," he said, "but for policy scholars and social science scholars from around the state to participate and help our politicians make better decisions."

Many people consider New Federalism a budget-cutting device as well, Vedlitz said. Not only are states given responsibilities previously dictated by federal mandates, but they are given less money, he said.

One idea behind New Federalism is that those closest to the issues will be able to decide how money should be spent. Both Sweeney and Vedlitz are concerned about how Texans will be able to affect the decisions.

"I'm not sure that we really have a clear understanding of how the people in Texas want their money to be spent," Sweeney said. "They've never really been asked that like they're going to be."

inside

Classified.....	16
Local.....	3
National.....	10
Opinions.....	2
Sports.....	17
State.....	5
What's Up.....	10

forecast

Today's Forecast: Partly cloudy and breezy with a high near 90; low tonight in the upper 50s. Saturday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies and temperatures in the mid-70s.

Haggar slacks

99

polyester/cotton pleated front-Flex™ stretch back pockets.