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Battalion/Page 14
May 6, 1982

Democrat proposes rollback of 10 percent tax reduction

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The ranking Democrat on the Senate Budget Committee today proposed an alternative budget nearly identical to one offered by Chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M., but it also would roll back forthcoming tax cuts.

The proposal, offered by Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., differed from the plan unveiled

Tuesday by Domenici mainly in its treatment of the 10 percent tax cuts slated for this July and July 1983.

It would trim the scheduled July 1982 reduction to 5 percent and eliminate the cut planned for 1983 — steps Hollings said would help produce \$198 billion in additional revenue through 1985.

Domenici proposed \$125 billion in additional revenue without tampering with the tax cuts, but expressed a willingness to defer the 1983 reduction.

Both plans, offered as alternatives to the budget proposed by President Reagan, were estimated to produce deficits in the range of \$90 billion next year. Reagan forecasts a deficit of \$101.9 billion under his budget, but the Congressional Budget Office puts the figure at \$132 billion.

Hollings and Domenici both propose freezing Social Security and other benefits for one year. Hollings recommended trim-

ming Reagan's defense budget slightly more than the \$5 billion proposed by Domenici.

The fate of the tax cut has been a major point of contention, with Democrats urging a rollback or elimination of the 1983 installment and Reagan unyielding in his belief that the cut is essential to economic growth.

On Tuesday, Domenici described his budget proposal — offered without the blessing of either the White House or the rest of the Senate GOP leadership — as "a good starting point," but conceded it could not pass without changes.

Several Republicans on the committee congratulated Domenici on his effort. White House spokesman Speakes said Reagan objected to the tax and Social Security provisions.

Democrats expressed reservations about including Social Security in a one-year freeze as most non-defense spending.

Domenici said his "bold, politically risky" plan would an unprecedented impact on the nation's economy" by reducing projected deficits to \$89 billion in 1983, \$59 billion in 1984 and \$19 billion in 1985.

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World's Fair glitter dimmed for some by slowed economy

United Press International
KNOXVILLE — Doves of down-on-their-luck Americans have found even the glitter of the World's Fair tarnished by the recession. Job seekers are lining up for handouts, trinket peddlers are folding up shop and parking spaces are a dime a dozen.

The Rev. Anna Mae Denton operates the Faith Home Mission Church out of a rundown red brick building two blocks from the 72-acre fairgrounds. She says she's never seen the city so overrun by people in search of work.

"They are just coming here in droves," Denton said Tuesday as she handed one man a dollar to help tide him over.

"They think jobs are available because of the fair. They get stranded. They run out of gas, they run out of food, they have no place to stay. I've done this work 34 years in this city and I've never seen anything like it," she said.

Fair spokesman Marc Grossman said about 5,000 people have been hired to work at the exposition, which started a six-

month run Saturday. Officials gave preference to local residents.

"What can I say? We have an obligation to the local folks," Grossman said. "There are only so many jobs."

While the jobless are coming to town, World's Fair trinket peddlers are pulling up stakes. The city put 22 spots on the auction block last month and drew 100 bidders who paid between \$1,000 and \$20,000 for the right to set up shop during the fair.

"People have taken their life savings to pop up stands on every corner around here," said Jean Powell, who hawks fudge on a downtown street corner.

"I'm afraid it's going to get really pathetic," she said. "People aren't walking the streets around here. Tourists go straight to the fairgrounds and stay there."

Bill Hunt paid \$3,200 to rent seven parking spaces from a private property owner. He drove his van from Phoenix, Ariz., and loaded a stand with stuffed animals, T-shirts and Indian jewelry.

Hunt repacked his van and returned home after selling worth of merchandise in fair's first two days.

Business is little better property owners who paved about very vacant slice of town to prepare for what seen as a parking-lot owner's paradise.

Fair crowds have been less than expected except for day when visits ran just 40 percent — half the projected attendance. The fair recorded 8,000 more than expected Tuesday.

But so many tourists are riding buses to the 22-nation fair that many lots are as much half empty, said owners who have been forced to wage a war to lure drivers.

Denton said so many homeless people are turning up at her mission she has been forced to let people sleep on the six pews in the mission chapel.

"I think this will get worse," Denton said. "The World's Fair has its good side and its sad side. We're very concerned, but the fair gives us an opportunity to meet people."



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