



The last formal week

photo by C. Michel Chang

Tom Kaczmarek, an engineering technology major from St. Petersburg, Fla., introduces himself to Rus Ingram, a junior building construction major from San Antonio. This is the last week of the semester for the Corps of Cadets to wear uniforms. Final Review, marking the last march for senior cadets, will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at the drill field.

# Congressmen want limit on federal domestic oil taxes

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — Two Frost Belt congressmen introduced legislation Thursday to limit the severance taxes states can place on oil, natural gas and coal and to place a permanent national tax on domestically produced crude oil.

Under the proposal — certain to draw fire from the oil industry and energy-rich states — crude oil producers would pay an amount equal to 30 percent of the value of each barrel directly to the federal government.

The effective tax rate would be 16 percent, since the tax could be deducted as an expense from federal corporate income tax payments.

The plan also would place a cap on the level of state severance taxes on energy resources. It would allow such states to retain their 1978 severance tax levels, with an adjustment for inflation.

A severance tax is one that can be placed on energy before it leaves a state.

States that have low energy taxes or none at all could impose severance taxes up to the inflation-adjusted national average under the concept.

"The energy resources of this country, whether oil in Texas, coal in Montana or natural gas in Michigan, should be viewed as American resources," said Rep. Howard Wolpe, D-Mich., a co-sponsor of the legislation with Rep. Claudine Schneider, R-R.I. "The benefits derived from the taxation of these resources should be enjoyed by all of America, not just by the petroleum industry or those states who by geological chance find these resources within their borders," Wolpe said at a joint news conference.

Rep. Schneider stressed that the crude oil tax, which would raise \$4.86 per \$30 barrel of oil, would help make up the

venue lost as the windfall profits tax is phased out.

"Over an eight-year period, from 1983 through 1991, the (new) tax would raise \$330.9 billion, with \$248.2 billion going to reduce the deficit," she said.

The bill, called the National Crude Oil Profit Sharing Act, would place 25 percent of the revenue generated by the tax

into a trust fund for distribution to states "in block grants to encourage new economic development and to revitalize basic industries," Wolpe said.

Rep. Bob Edgar, D-Pa., chairman of the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition, also participated in the briefing and expressed strong support for the measure.

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## Car costs run over taxpayers

**United Press International**  
LOS ANGELES — Ed Helfeld parlayed a flat tire on his city-owned vehicle into a \$2,713.88 bill to be paid by taxpayers.

Helfeld, director of the Community Redevelopment Agency, got the flat on his 1976 Chevrolet on March 22. His spare didn't fit, so he had the car taken to the City Hall garage.

Mechanics told him his old car also needed a tune-up and other work at a cost of \$316.78. Helfeld then decided to have some dents in the car fixed and to get the vehicle painted at a cost of \$874.12.

Meanwhile, Helfeld rented a Ford for three days at a cost of \$298.73. Then he tried a Chevrolet and an Oldsmobile, ringing up another \$172.21. He finally tried a Chrysler and kept it for 18 days at a cost of \$984.65.

A month later, he was back in his old car and taxpayers were out nearly \$3,000.

"After driving them, it brought me to conclude I ought to keep the car I have," Helfeld said.

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