



Study in the sun staff photo by Peter Rocha

Marilyn Andrews, a senior anthropology major from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., studies near the fountain in front of the Chemistry building. Andrews is an anthropology major.

## Loans up in April; biggest increase since September

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Despite stubbornly high interest rates, Americans took out \$1.18 billion in new loans in April — the largest amount since the \$3 billion increase in borrowing last September.

The strongest category was revolving credit, typical of credit card and department store accounts, up \$499 million, followed by automobile credit, up \$233 million, the Federal Reserve said Tuesday.

Many of these loans had interest rates of more than 17 percent, and analysts say rates won't come down until Congress passes a deficit-cutting budget.

On Capitol Hill Tuesday, House Republicans agreed on a package that would impose deeper cuts in food stamps and welfare and keep the deficit below \$100 billion.

House Democrats, meanwhile, put together a spending plan that would produce a slightly higher deficit, fully fund Medicare and bolster social programs.

Neither side was confident enough to predict passage, however.

On Wall Street Tuesday, where anxiety mounted over Congress' inability thus far to pass a budget, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 1.80 points to 802.23 — the lowest level since it hit 795.85 on March 17.

Private economist Lacy Hunt, however, drew encouragement from the lending figures.

"I think this good gain in consumer credit is consistent with some other indicators that point to a consumer-led recovery that is now emerging," said Hunt, of Fidelity Bank in Philadelphia.

The consumer installment credit figures are watched by economists as much for what they say about trends of consumer confidence as for the dollar totals. Mortgage lending is not included in the totals.

## Illinois Legislature hearings on ERA draw 1,000 people

United Press International  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — More than 1,000 people converged on the state Capitol for a state House of Representatives hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment.

At the hearing, Phyllis Schlafly said the ERA would send the nation's "darling daughters" to war.

The House convened Tuesday as a Committee of the Whole to hear testimony on the ERA, advancing it to the voting stage. But no vote on the sensitive political issue was expected soon in Illinois — considered a key state for passage by the June 30 deadline. Approval by three more states is needed.

ERA backers charged the appearance of Gov. James R. Thompson before the special House session was nothing more than a "media show" as more than 1,000 people gathered at the Capitol to hear testimony. Thompson, accused of being only a rhetorical ERA supporter by feminists, said Abraham Lincoln would approve of the amendment.

Watching the proceeding from the gallery were seven women who have been on a hunger strike since May 17 for the ERA and who have received extensive media coverage since the

start of their fast. Two of the fastest who collapsed Monday listened from reclining wheelchairs.

Two ERA supporters wrapped in chains were carried out of the Capitol by secretary of state police officers — one of them handcuffed and thrown out twice. Neither was arrested.

The women were among 15 ERA backers ousted from the Capitol Monday after spending four days chained in the Senate chamber.

Thompson told legislators Lincoln "would have not the slightest bit of trouble" approving the ERA. Illinois is known as the "Land of Lincoln."

"He (Lincoln) would, in fact, have wondered why we had not done it long ago and moved on," said the Republican governor who is seeking reelection.

"We put so much pressure on Thompson he had to come here and do a media show of his own," Mary Jean Collins, executive director of the Chicago National Organization for Women, said after the hearing.

Schlafly, leader of StopERA, called the amendment a fraud and "the greatest takeover of rights in history." She said the amendment could send 18-year-old girls to war.

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<p>June 11-12 <b>STRIPES</b> (1981, rated R) Bill Murray becomes the military's most unlikely hero when he decides to get his life together by joining the Army. He is joined in his escapades by his fellow enlistees, including John Candy from SCTV.</p>	<p>June 15 <b>RICHARD PRYOR LIVE IN CONCERT</b> (1979, rated R) The uncensored version of Pryor's 1978 concert tour, which introduced American public to his style and bawdy humor.</p>
<p>June 13 <b>OH GOD!</b> (1977, rated PG) George Burns and John Denver are wonderful together as God and an unsuspecting supermarket manager through whom God addresses mankind. Carl Reiner directs the heartwarming comedy.</p>	<p>June 16 <b>GONE WITH THE WIND</b> (1939, rated G) This film received the Academy Award for Best Picture and has continued to be the most popular film of all time. Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh star in this epic Civil War romance which presents a host of other remarkable performances, including Leslie Howard and Olivia de Havilland.</p>

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