

What's Up

Wednesday

SCOPAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION:The group will meet for Holy Eucharist and supper at 5:30 p.m. in the Canterbury House, 902 Jersey St.
CLUB:A general meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in 401 Rudder.
SCUBA CLUB:Possible dive trips will be discussed in a meeting at 8 p.m. in 402 Rudder.
UNDERWATER HOCKEY:Bring mask, fins, snorkel, suit and helmet to the meeting (Scuba Club-sponsored).

Friday

SCOPAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION:The group will meet for Holy Eucharist and breakfast at 6:30 a.m. in the Canterbury House, 902 Jersey St.

Texas prison ruling applauded

United Press International
WASHINGTON — A top Justice Department official Tuesday applauded a federal appeals court ruling that threw out many court-ordered reforms for the Texas prison system, but upheld requirements to reduce overcrowding by Nov. 1.
Assistant Attorney General William Bradford Reynolds said the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of

Appeals ruling on overcrowding in the nation's largest prison system was "eminently satisfactory from the government's point of view."
Last week, the appeals court found that prison conditions in the nation's largest prison constituted cruel and unusual punishment. But it struck down part of the lower court's ruling, and told Texas it could house two

men in one cell.
"With respect to overcrowding, the court's approach to fashioning relief by looking at the totality of prison conditions at the Texas correctional facilities is precisely in line with our position," said Reynolds, in charge of the Justice Department's civil rights division.
The government had argued in the degree of double-celling in

the Texas prison system depends on the extent that other problems are corrected.
"The ruling of the court of appeals follows the same reasoning — ordering the state to implement other reform measures in the next year and directing the parties to reassess at the end of that time whether there remains a need for further relief in the area of overcrowding,"

Reynolds said.
The appeals court upheld the lower-court decision to reduce the inmate population by Nov. 1. However, it tossed out the requirement to provide single cells for prisoners in the 33,000-inmate system.
Reynolds said the appeals court ruling was a "common sense approach to a very troublesome problem."

Cheap gas hurts Texans, expert says

Higher oil prices may be good

United Press International
DALLAS — With the oil glut drying up and the OPEC nations treating each other like friends for the moment, petroleum prices are beginning to rise again — and some economists say Americans should be thankful they are.

Despite the contempt Americans have for Arab oil producers and the anger that greets every new round of price hikes, some economists say steady pressure on the price of oil is the best thing that could happen to the American economy — even if it means supporting the OPEC cartel.

"It is in the interest of Western society and the United States in particular to maintain price stability," said Dr. Martin Davidson, a North Texas State University economics professor. "We don't want the price ying-yanging way up and way down because that's the most certain way of destroying the domestic oil industry."

"There are critical national defense concerns about our maintaining a strong domestic oil industry."

For example, if the price of oil began swinging up and down, it would put the domestic oil industry, which reacts rapidly to changing market conditions, into economic spasms.

Hughes Tool Co. spokesman I.C. Kerridge describes the driller's mentality this way: "Drilling for oil is a very risky business and people don't like to have additional uncertainty. They want to know what taxes they'll have to pay and what prices they'll get for their products."

Figures compiled by the Texas Railroad Commission show that drilling in the state reached an all-time high last December with 1,458 rigs running.

However, U.S. drilling fell to its lowest level in 21 months in May with 3,049 rigs operating, Kerridge said. Texas rigs accounted for 929 of that total — down more than 500 since

December.
Uncertainty over oil prices, along with seasonal variations and bad weather, accounted for the decline, Kerridge said.

What if the price swung down to the point where imported oil was cheaper than domestically produced crude — a situation which occurred two decades ago?

"We had a period in the 1950s when imported crude was cheaper than domestic crude and we protected the domestic industry by putting quotas on crude oil imports," Davidson said. "I think we should have to do the same thing, should the price of foreign crude ever get that low again. It is in the American interest to see a stable price of oil and gas high enough to encourage domestic exploration and production."

Richard Berry, a financial analyst for Eppler, Guerin & Turner Inc. in Dallas, said a drastic drop in oil prices would have a devastating effect on the U.S. economy.

"Both Russia and the U.S. have a strong vested interest in maintaining the high price of oil," he said. "Russia needs to export oil to earn hard currencies to buy grain and other goods from western countries. The U.S. needs it because a great deal of the nation's tax revenues are predicated on high oil prices."

"The U.S. budget deficit would grow dramatically if the price of oil fell to \$20 a barrel.

You would almost completely wipe out the benefits of the windfall profits tax which is based on the difference between the price you actually get and a base price of \$17-\$18 a barrel.

"The price is now around \$32 a barrel. If it went to \$20, it would wipe out practically all of that tax."

State budgets in oil-producing areas like Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana would be particularly hurt by a drop in crude prices.

Severance taxes for oil and gas production in Texas added nearly \$2.2 billion to state's coffers and accounted for about 28 percent of the total tax revenues for the 1980-81 fiscal year.

Income from oil and gas leases and production royalties on state land funneled another \$784.1 million into the state treasury.

Income generated from royalties and leases on University of Texas land helped swell the Permanent University Fund to \$1.42 billion in 1981. With officials looking forward to a \$3.25 billion PUF by 1990, a drop in oil prices could have a negative effect on higher education.

"The Texas economy would be particularly hard hit because the state derives a significant percentage of its revenues from royalties on oil and gas production," Berry said.

"If oil went to \$20 a barrel, the energy industry in Texas would be in a virtual state of depression.

Suit's loss may cost Rockwell millions

United Press International
DALLAS — A tentative settlement in a sex bias lawsuit filed against Rockwell International Corp. could affect as many as 100 women and cost the major defense contractor up to \$2.2 million, attorney reports.

Attorney James C. Barber said Monday that if U.S. District Judge Barefoot Sanders approves the agreement, it would affect all women who are managers or were rejected after applying for management positions at Rockwell's facilities in Dallas and Collin counties during a five-year period.

He said as many as 4,000 women — including 400 to 500 current employees — could be affected.

Barber said the proposed

agreement would set aside \$200,000 for non-managerial Rockwell employees who applied for management posts but were rejected between Sept. 1, 1976, and Sept. 30, 1981.

He said each applicant would receive a maximum of \$200 under the agreement.

The firm also agreed to pay up to \$800,000 to be distributed among female managers at Rockwell during the same period. Individual payments would be based on a manager's rank and length of service.

The proposed settlement also requires the firm to increase the salary of all women managers during the next five years to at least the midpoint of the salary range for their grade level — expected to cost \$1.2 million.

Houston constable says 'no' to cocaine offer

United Press International
HOUSTON — A county law officer said he was a little surprised when a Venezuelan student befriended him and offered him a "hit" of cocaine at a party.

Harris County Constable Tracy Maxon said Monday he arrested the student and charged him with possession of a controlled substance.

Alvaro Labrador, 28, who is in the United States on a student visa, was attending a party at Maxon's parent's home. He apparently did not know Maxon was a law enforcement officer.

The constable said Labrador offered him the drug when his date left the room.

"He was saying he thinks I'm

such a fine fellow and how nice I am. 'Take a hit on this and you will really feel great and good,'" Maxon said.

Maxon said he was surprised, but went into another room, alerted several other lawmen, and then quietly arrested Labrador.

Maxon said he thought at first he was the target of an FBI sting operation.

Labrador protested the arrest because he did not think he could be arrested in a private home.

"I think he was just one of those guys that had one too many, either cocaine or a drink, and didn't keep his business to himself," Maxon said.



FRANCISCO GOYA (1746-1828) "Que valor!"

GOYA AND THE DISASTERS OF WAR

Special exhibition lecture presentation by
Mr. Terrell Hillebrand, Director
The Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation

7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 1 — J. Earl Rudder Forum
admission free

Reception in Exhibit Hall for Mr. Hillebrand follows the presentation.

GOYA: THE DISASTERS OF WAR
from the collection of the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation

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