

# Villagers indifferent to space program

**United Press International**  
ROCKPORT — Most folks hereabouts yawned at pre-launch activity for the firing of a satellite-launching rocket from a remote island 10 miles away today.

Disinterest among residents of the sleepy little fishing and vacation village — population 4,000 — surprised those who viewed the rocket as a boon to business.

Managing Editor Ted Norman of the "Rockport Pilot" said peoples' minds are on a major property tax reevaluation. Besides, he said, the Houston-based Space Services Inc.'s first rocket on Matagorda Island blew up on the pad 13 months ago.

The second test, with a redesigned rocket, was rescheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, due to mechanical problems.

Rockport Chamber of Commerce president and real estate broker Judy Guillett, 44, said she was excited but that most Rockport residents were not.

"A lot of people say, 'Oh, they're just wasting their time,' but I don't feel those people understand the full impact of what this means," she said.

"These businessmen are entering a new venture, something that business can do to provide a service for other businesses. This will help

make the country and the world a better place to live. I think it's just great," Guillett said.

Thirty engineers from Houston, California and Germany, and staff employed by SSI have helped the Rockport tourist economy. And a billboard returned thanks.

"Good luck! Sept. 8, Space Services with Conestoga I," the sign outside The Mushroom deli said.

The Aransas County Sheriff's Department has provided an evacuation helicopter and paramedics at no cost for the launch site, which is accessible only by air and water.

# 8 indicted for smuggling

**United Press International**  
WICHITA, Kan. — A Federal grand jury indicted eight people in a scheme officials say involved conspiracy to smuggle small-caliber handguns from Kansas to Nigeria.

Christopher Onwuka, 31, of Oklahoma City was charged with dealing in firearms without a license, in April and May of 1982, and unlawfully selling 35 handguns to Kristian Chimah, 27, of Houston.

Customs agents at Houston's Intercontinental Airport on May 27 seized more than thirty-five handguns inside a crate identified as household goods, bound for Chimah's address in Nigeria. Chimah was sentenced in Houston on Sept. 1 to five years probation.

Six Wichita residents were indicted in the case in Wichita, Tuesday, along with Onwuka and Chimah.

Jeffery Williams was indicted on four counts of unlawful pur-

chase of eight handguns for falsely stating he was not a convicted felon. Patricia Y. Lemmie, 26, was indicted on 10 counts involving 12 handguns on the same charge.

David Parker, 27, was indicted on two counts involving 10 handguns for falsely stating he was the true purchaser of the guns, when actually he was acting for Onwuka, the indictments said.

Also indicted for saying they were the true purchasers of handguns when they were actually acting for Onwuka, were Barry Keeling, 23, charged on one count involving four handguns; Hiram T. Levy, 25, charged on one count involving six handguns, and Clint F. Thomas, 25, charged on two counts involving 10 handguns.

"The indictments charge that Parker and the others were not the true purchasers but were being paid by Onwuka to purchase the guns, and in fact they did

deliver Onwuka the guns," assistant U.S. Attorney Jack Williams said Tuesday.

Officials said the weapons, described as mostly cheap, .22-caliber handguns, were purchased from Wichita pawn shops.

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# Wallace seeks fourth Alabama governorship

**United Press International**  
Former Alabama Gov. George Wallace was forced into Sept. 28 primary run off with Democratic Lt. Gov. George McMillan, but Wallace — a symbol of segregationist politics in the turbulent civil rights era — an surprisingly well in some predominantly black counties in Tuesday's voting.

McMillan, a self-styled "New South Progressive" had the endorsement of the state's major black political group, the Alabama Democratic Conference, but Wallace — seeking an unprecedented fourth term as governor — forged a coalition of rural and black voters, performing well in counties he lost in earlier gubernatorial races.

Wallace, now 63, who blocked the schoolhouse door to integration with a cry of "segregation forever," two decades ago this year openly wooed black voters.

The former governor won two predominantly black counties outright, and led in two

others. He won in Macon County, which has the highest ratio of blacks in the state, with 84 percent, and he swamped McMillan and House Speaker Joe McCorquodale in Lowndes County, about 75 percent black.

John Meadows, the black assistant police chief at predominantly black Tuskegee in Macon County, watched returns at Wallace's campaign headquarters and said blacks could not hold a grudge against Wallace for his fiery defiance of the 1960s because "segregation was the law then. It made no difference who the governor was."

Wallace also drew strength from rural counties, but McMillan led in Birmingham, the state's biggest city, to edge out McCorquodale for the runoff spot against Wallace.

With 75 percent of Alabama's precincts counted, Wallace had 316,138 votes, or 41.2 percent, while McMillan had 232,716 votes, or 30.3 percent. McCor-

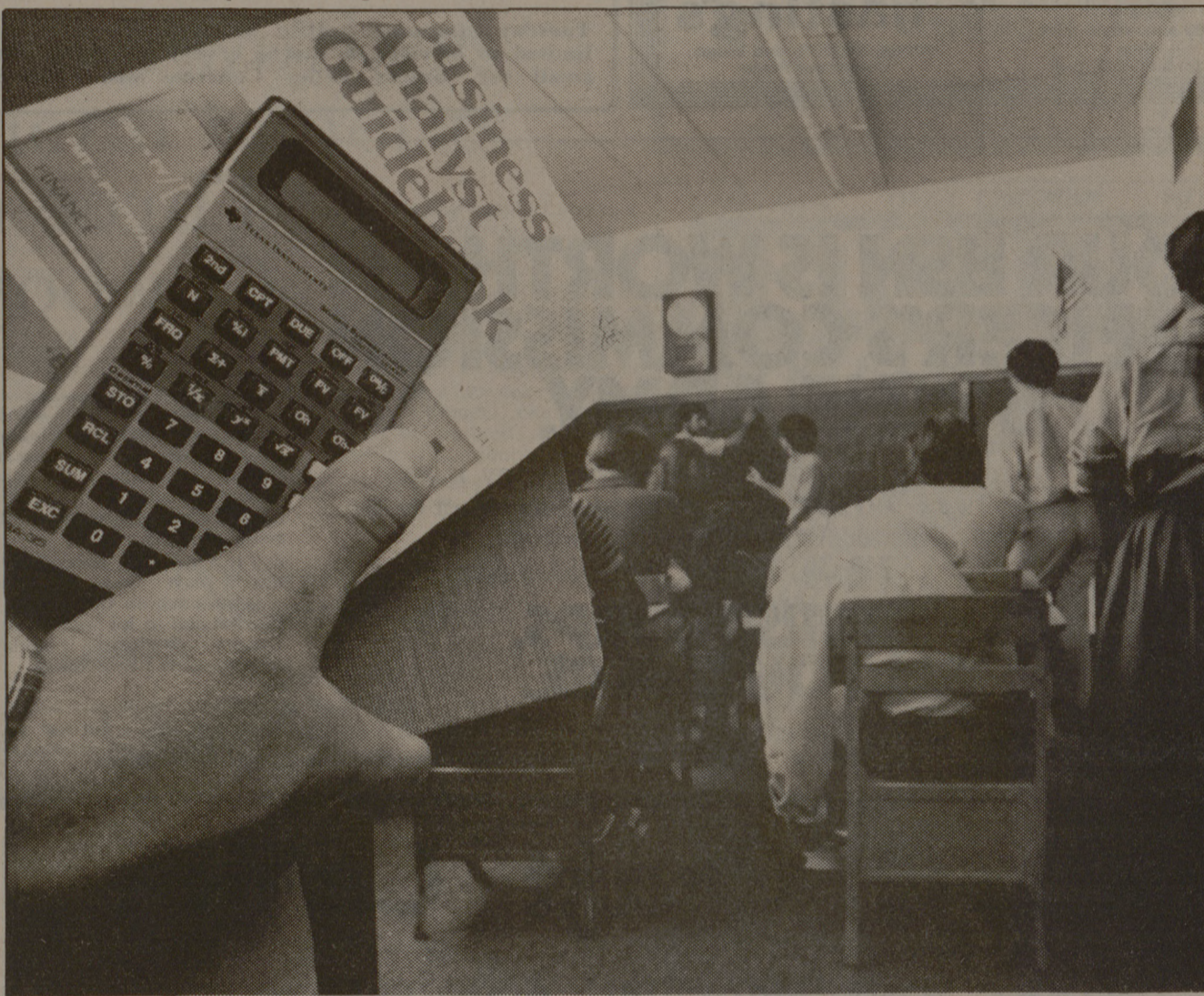
quodale tallied 197,299 votes, or 25.7 percent.

"I think this is the best vote I've ever received in any race I've run in a primary," Wallace told cheering supporters. "I've never won an easy campaign in my life."

Wallace, a shell of the tough-guy segregationist during the 1960s, said he would seek voter support by talking about "jobs, the elderly and education" in the three weeks before the runoff.

But McMillan said Alabamians "want to break the shackles of negative politics."

The winner of the Democratic runoff will be the heavy favorite in November in a state that has not elected a modern day Republican to the governorship. Mayor Emory Folmar, Montgomery's mayor, was unopposed in the GOP primary.



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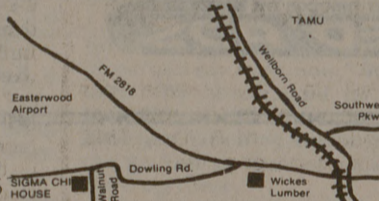
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