

# White wants elected PUC

**United Press International**  
AUSTIN — Even though the three members of the Texas Public Utility Commission are all his appointees, Gov. Mark White says he will not give up his campaign to convert the PUC into an elected agency.

White completed a sweep of the utility regulatory panel Thursday by naming one of his aides, Philip F. Ricketts, to succeed H.M. Rollins, who resigned Thursday.

A bitter Rollins called the governor unprincipled and dishonest for making lower utility rates an issue in his 1982 election victory over former Gov. Bill Clements.

While his appointees now control the PUC, White said he still plans to try and convince the Texas Legislature to make the PUC an elected agency. A Senate committee this week approved a PUC reform bill, but it refused to go along with an elected PUC.

"I'm going to try and generate more sentiment for an elected commission," White said. "I've found that as time goes by toward the end of the session there is more serious conversation about those measures we're supporting."

Meanwhile, White called Rollins' remarks intemperate and unfounded.

Rollins' resignation completed a total turnover of the PUC since White took office in January. "We've simply won another round today," the governor said.

Ricketts, 37, was White's assistant general counsel for utility matters and is a former assistant attorney general and hearing examiner for the PUC.

Rollins accused White during a news conference of trying to dodge his promise of lower utility rates within 24 hours of his election last November.

"One of the ways I can assure Mark White is held personally accountable for his campaign statements is to resign from the commission," he said.

But White said he never promised lower rates.

"If we had had these three people (his appointees) serving on that commission for the last four years, we would not be paying the high bills we're being called on to pay today," he said.

Rollins, who was appointed by Clements, was serving as PUC chairman when fellow commissioners George Cowden and Tommie Gene Smith resigned

Feb. 15 in a similar dispute with White.

White immediately appointed Al Erwin and Peggy Rosson to the commission, and Erwin became chairman of the panel March 11.

Rollins said he did not accept White's offer to resign earlier because he wanted to serve in a

period of transition. His term was to expire Aug. 31, 1985.

"That transition is now complete," said Rollins. "I find it interesting and somewhat tragic that these two inexperienced commissioners have not used any of the experienced PUC specialists as their advisers."



photo by Frank L. Christlieb

## Retirement

Lt. Col. Marvin P. Norwood, left, accepts a military citation from Corps Commandant Donald C. Burton and Army Sgt. Maj. Gary Stickles, right. The presentation was made at Norwood's retirement

ceremony Thursday afternoon on the main drill field. Norwood, has served as Executive Officer and assistant professor of military science at Texas A&M since July 1981.

## Say 'Sir' when you're in my court

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — An 18-year-old burglar has been sent to jail for 30 days for failing to address the sentencing judge as "sir."

State District Judge Mike McSpadden said Wednesday he wants Michael A. Washington to think of him "every day he spends in the Harris County jail."

Washington, 18, pleaded guilty to burglary, but when McSpadden asked him the routine questions at sentencing time, Washington answered "Yeah" instead of "Yes, sir." McSpadden said he warned the defendant to answer with respect, but Washington answered "Yeah" again.

"He said 'Yes' but he didn't say 'Yes, sir,'" said prosecutor Elaine Bratton.

Defense lawyer Walter Gill Jr. said his client was nervous and not disrespectful.

## Orchestra to tour China

**United Press International**  
FORT WORTH — The 34-member Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra this month will become the first American chamber group to tour the Peoples Republic of China.

The chamber orchestra, a select group of musicians chosen from the much larger Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, leaves Fort Worth Wednesday and is scheduled to return April 27.

The \$250,000 tour includes concerts in Beijing (Peking), Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guangzhou (Canton) and Hong Kong, including some joint appearances with local symphonies.

In its seven-year history the chamber orchestra, formerly known as the Texas Little Symphony, has toured the United States and Mexico, but this is its first visit to the orient and a communist country.

"We are hopeful of an extremely warm reception from them, from the officials to the

musicians we'll meet," said Ann Koonsman, executive director of the orchestra.

"All the correspondence we've had so far has been extremely warm. I think we'll be very well received."

The orchestra will be taking the music of Adler, Mendelssohn, Haydn, Dvorak, Mozart, Bach, Tchaikovsky and Beethoven to the Chinese. Miss Koonsman said the program

was chosen by orchestra officials and indicated the Chinese helping arrange the tour made only a slight recommendation for the program.

"(The Chinese official) said some groups that have toured that country in the past played 'noisy' music," Miss Koonsman said, saying rock and roll generally fell into that category. "Heaven knows we don't want to be noisy."

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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing — Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS.</p>		
<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b></p> <p>BREADED FISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potato w gravy Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Quality First"</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b></p> <p>ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

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