

Billboard contest called geie, sitters come down

United Press International
ALLENTOWN, Pa. — Two
men who spent more than eight
months on a billboard ledge to
win an \$18,000 mobile home
came down to earth simulta-
neously Tuesday to claim the
prize.
"It just feels great to be
down," said Mike MacKay, 31,
who and Ron Kistler, 25,
climbed down ladders from the
5-foot-high ledge on the bill-
board around 9:10 a.m. "We're
happy it's over with, (but) I don't
think I'd do it again."

Radio station WSAN-AM de-
clared the contest a tie three
weeks ago but said it was unable
to arrange for prizes until
Tuesday.

Kistler was given a bear hug
by his girlfriend, Sue Isser-
moyer, 23, when he reached the
ground, and MacKay was
greeted by his wife, Linda, as a
crowd of about 100 reporters
and photographers watched.

"It's great to be down," Kist-
ler said. "After the station, we're
going home to celebrate. The

shower will be good."

The men were to be taken to
the radio station for showers
and food, then each was to be
awarded a mobile home, car and
other prizes, Michael Krajsa,
spokesman for the station said.
Kistler said "take a shower" was
the thing he most wanted to do.

MacKay, the only married
man among three original con-
testants, said, "The second thing
I really want to do is take off my
shoes."

Warped

by Scott McCullar



White House refuses Speaker's tax proposal

United Press International
WASHINGTON — House
Speaker Thomas O'Neill's propo-
sal to have the rich share the
burden of Reaganomics by limit-
ing next month's income-tax cut
to \$700 already has been re-
jected by the White House.

O'Neill, saying the money
needed would help reduce the
federal deficit, outlined his
proposal in a speech to Ameri-
can Stock Exchange officials
Monday.

The plan is an attempt to find
a middle ground between those
who want to eliminate the tax cut
and those who want to leave it
intact, but the White House
said it represents old demo-
cratic policies.

"We don't see (the proposed
cut) as anything new for the
Democrats. They've always
wanted to raise taxes," Deputy
White House press secretary
Larry Speakes said.

Speakes said President
Reagan would absolutely adhere
to this threat to veto tax bills he
opposes.

House Democrats were to
meet Tuesday to decide whether
and how to attack the final
stage of President Reagan's tax

program scheduled to take
effect July 1.

O'Neill said his announce-
ment did not mean the House
Ways and Means Committee
would approve the bill, "but at
least they will have my thinking
on it."

The speaker told the group of
predominantly wealthy stock ex-
change executives Monday
someone earning \$100,000 a
year would gain \$2,300 from the
10 percent cut in tax rates sched-
uled to take effect July 1.

"It is time the burden of
Reaganomics is shared by those
in the upper-income groups,"
he told reporters before the
speech. "For two years, this
group has benefited mightily
from the Reagan tax program.
It is time the rich started to
accept their fair share of the
burden."

The July 1 tax cut is the final
stage of the three-year, 25 per-
cent across-the-board tax pro-
gram Congress approved in 1981
as a compromise with Reagan's
proposed three-year, 30 percent
reduction in income taxes.

Reagan said O'Neill was just
looking for a way to make the tax
system more progressive.
"He ignores the fact 72 per-

cent of the savings already will
go to people that are below the
figure he wants to cap," the pres-
ident said. "And if he wants to
increase the progressivity of the
tax structure, why doesn't he
just introduce a bill to do that?"

Under O'Neill's plan, every
taxpayer would get a 10 percent
cut in tax rates, but no one's
taxes would be reduced by more
than \$700. He said the limit,
which would effect mainly those
earning more than \$50,000,
would save \$6 billion in 1984
and almost \$7 billion in 1985.

O'Neill promised Senate
Democratic leader Robert Byrd
of West Virginia last month that
the House would send the Sen-
ate a bill before July 1.

Byrd said Monday he sup-
ports the O'Neill proposal and
hopes his Democratic colleagues
will endorse it unanimously.

"You hear all this muckety-
muck from the White House ab-
out how the Democrats are rais-
ing taxes," he said. "This is not a
tax increase. It is an instrument
whereby the taxpayers would be
treated fairly."

Senate Republican Leader
Howard Baker of Tennessee
said he also opposes any change
in the scheduled tax cut.

Reagan works on proposal

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President
Reagan is working on a new U.S.
nuclear arms reduction propos-
al expected to demonstrate
more flexibility in the Geneva
negotiations.

Reagan set a meeting Tues-
day with the National Security
Council to discuss arms. He also
had two separate meetings plan-
ned with bipartisan members of
the House and Senate to review
the American negotiating posi-
tion in advance of the resump-
tion of the Strategic Arms Re-
duction Talks Wednesday.

Sitting in on the NSC meeting
will be chief negotiator Edward
Rowny who flew to Geneva
Tuesday night.

Aides indicated Reagan may
unveil the outlines of a new
proposal on Wednesday.

Reagan also was expected to
announce soon he plans to ex-
tend the life of the Commission

on Strategic Forces, headed by
former national security affairs
adviser Brent Scowcroft. Aides
said it would meet congressional
guidelines for a bipartisan com-
mittee to advise Reagan in the
nuclear arms negotiations.

In addition to arms control,
the prospect of a summit meet-
ing between Reagan and Soviet
leader Yuri Andropov also is
gaining momentum.

Reagan told reporters "we
have never ruled it (such a meet-
ing) out. I think there has to be
something to discuss though."

He said he intended to be
"very flexible" at the next round
of arms talks.

Reagan spokesman Larry
Speakes said two conditions —
that a summit be well prepared
in advance and have a reason-
able chance of success — still
apply.

Reagan himself started the
new conciliatory trend by pre-

dicting in a post Williamsburg
summit interview he foresees
better relations with the Soviets
"because I think together we
have a more realistic view of
them."

Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill.,
chairman of the Senate Foreign
Relations Committee, said Mon-
day he believes the world has be-
come too dangerous to put off a
superstar summit.

He told reporters a summit
should be held "at the earliest
possible time" and preferably
this year.

"There are not too many
Americans today who know
Andropov, and I think it is dan-

gerous in the world today to not
have a meeting for two people
who have the power they possess
in a nuclear age," he said.

West German Chancellor
Helmut Kohl was expected to
sound out the possibility of a
summit when he visits Moscow
next month, but Reagan aides
say he will not be acting as a U.S.
emissary.



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