

Stray Cats to join Willie for Fourth of July show

United Press International
ATLANTA — After canceling his annual July 4th picnic concerts in 1980, country music singer Willie Nelson returns to the holiday stage next week for a three-day series of festival shows expected to draw thousands of fans.

The concert series begins with a July 2 show in Syracuse, N.Y. at the Carrier Dome, a July 3 concert in East Rutherford, N.J. at the Meadowlands' Giant Stadium and the climactic Fourth of July concert at Atlanta International Raceway.

Joining Nelson on stage for the 12-hour Atlanta festival will be Waylon Jennings, Hank Williams Jr., David Allan Coe, Merle Haggard, Linda Ronstadt, and the Stray Cats. The line-up also includes a group of un-

announced artists who are expected to appear briefly to play a few songs with "Willie and Friends."

Nelson began his July 4th concert bashes on a very small scale in 1972 in Dripping Springs, but over the years, the event mushroomed into a huge festival, drawing as many as 100,000 people on some occasions.

Although some fans in his native Texas may be disappointed the event has moved out of state, Nelson said Monday that he doesn't think anybody back home will be real upset.

"We've had some of the concerts outside of Texas already — one in Tulsa," he said. "I think they will be glad when we come back to Texas, but I don't think anybody is upset about it."

The annual Texas festival

was cancelled in 1980, when Nelson held a concert in Austin at a lakeside country club estate, which he had purchased specifically for the annual event.

Authorities said the huge concert crowd was unruly and facilities at the site were inadequate. People stood in long lines for hours for food, drink and toilet facilities and there were miles of bumper-to-bumper traffic.

At the time, Nelson said he called off the concerts because it took six months to plan and six months more to recover from.

"This is for sure the last one," Nelson said. "Maybe in a couple of years we'll have another, but it won't be an annual event anymore. It just takes a lot of time."

But he apparently is recov-

ering faster than usual and said he is especially looking forward to the Atlanta concert, which is expected to draw about 50,000 people.

"Atlanta has always been a good music town and has been particularly good for us," Nelson said. "I think the line-up is exceptionally good. It's one of the best lineups I've ever heard of anywhere."

The collection of musicians is a homogenous group with the exception of the Stray Cats, whose New Wave garb and Rockabilly sound make them stand out from the other performers.

"Their songs and the style they play go way back, and the fact they are young and popular all over the country was a good enough reason for me to have them on the show," Nelson said.

Professor outlines plan for nuclear waste burial

United Press International
OXFORD, Miss. — A University of Mississippi professor said Monday if the Department of Energy does its job, nuclear waste can be buried for thousands of years without posing a threat of pollution.

"If DOE does its job even in a half-decent way, nuclear waste is not going to be our problem in 10,000, 15,000 or even 20,000 years," said Dr. George D. Brunton, chairman of the university's geology department.

"Unless they put it in a bad place where they know water is flowing or volcanism is rampant, the chances of any of that waste ever contaminating the biosphere is probably zero," he said.

The plan for burying the waste also will keep it from becoming a threat, Brunton said. Effective long term isolation of nuclear waste will occur through use of a multiple-barrier plan involving placing residue in a sealed container, placing it more than 2,000 feet underground and covering it with more rock and material.

"Nothing has happened

2,000 feet underground in most places in this country for a million years," he said.

He added salt domes would provide the best insulation for the waste of any surface.

"The fact that the salt domes exist indicates that water does not flow through them," Brunton said. "Water doesn't penetrate salt, since salt has the permeability of compacted plastic, and it is a good thermal conductor which carries away heat."

Brunton also said the chemical and physical properties of pure salt are predictable, making it possible to predict whether the repository will contain toxic materials for the 10,000,000 years necessary for its radioactivity to diminish.

Mississippi's Richton salt dome in Perry County is among the top three sites Brunton said he would recommend for location of the nation's first nuclear waste repository.

Ahead of Richton, Brunton said he would recommend a salt

bed in west Texas and one in Paradox Basin, Utah. Six sites are being considered in Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Nevada, Utah and Washington.

The sites now under consideration will be narrowed this fall to three or four that will undergo extensive test and study. Congress is expected to receive a nomination for a permanent repository in 1987 from the president.

Brunton also says DOE officials already believe the Richton site is the best but are not revealing the opinion publicly.

"The main reason for the interest in the Richton dome — which is considered the best dome by DOE — is because it is the biggest of the interior salt domes and is at a reasonable depth," Brunton said.

In an effort to avoid a big political flareup in Mississippi, Brunton said DOE officials are not revealing their interest in Richton.

Balloons fly into West Texas

United Press International
PALESTINE — Halfway through their flight into the ozone layer the instruments aboard two high altitude balloons were performing as expected and moving towards a landing in West Texas or New Mexico.

"The scientific experiments are functioning perfectly," Betty Furman of the National Science Balloon Facility said Monday evening.

Delayed Sunday because of winds, the first balloon lifted off its launch pad at 11:40 a.m.

Monday, and the second one rose into the sky five minutes later.

Furman predicted they would land between 8 p.m. Monday night and 1 a.m. Tuesday CDT near the NASA ground station built for the experiments.

Monday's launch followed a two-balloon launch Friday morning. Those balloons came down Saturday just west of Pecos.

The four balloons were following a path designed to take them over West Texas, where LSA had established a second ground station at Pecos.

Government and private groups joined in the effort to

test the chemical composition of the ozonosphere, with the participation of about 50 scientists from the United States, Canada, Japan, England, France, Belgium and Italy.

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Con man to face charges

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Connected con man Frederix P. DeVeau, a former protected federal witness, and his attorney face multiple counts of securities and mail fraud in a scheme authorities say netted more than \$1 million from an Austin firm.

Jury selection was to begin Tuesday in the federal court trial.

DeVeau and his attorney, Irving Drobny of Chicago, were indicted by a grand jury in Austin Dec. 13 on criminal securities fraud charges because of their involvement with Jet Industries of Austin, an electric car company.

DeVeau, who testified in 1982 against four co-defendants accused of defrauding Elvis Presley, has reportedly helped the government convict 60 people in federal cases, including several Abscam-related investigations.

DeVeau was participating in the federal witness protection program when he acquired Jet in April 1982. The government contends that DeVeau plundered more than \$1 million in Jet assets to repay loans he had used to purchase the company.

Braniff to file new plan

United Press International
DALLAS — Despite resistance by lawyers for bankrupt Braniff International's bondholders, the chairman of the firm has announced a tentative date for filing a reorganization plan in federal bankruptcy court.

Chairman Howard Putnam said lawyers for the airline are expected to appear Thursday before Federal Bankruptcy Judge John Flowers in Fort Worth to file their plan. They are supported by all parties involved except representatives of the bondholders.

The chairman of Hyatt, Jay Pritzker, has offered to invest up to \$70 million to make Braniff solvent again through the hiring of up to 2,000 former employees and the leasing of 31,727 jet aircraft.

Representatives of the other Braniff creditors said the bondholder representatives can be outvoted when each of Braniff's 80,000 creditors is asked to approve Pritzker's plan for reorganization of the company.

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