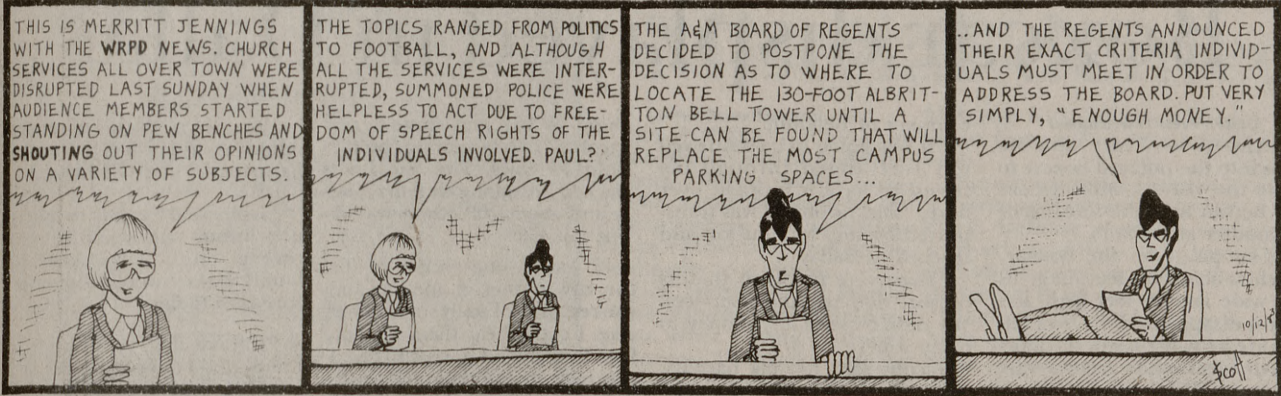


Warped

by Scott McCullar



Unions demand refusal of airline's bankruptcy

United Press International
HOUSTON — Unions striking Continental Airlines' payroll-slashing effort to become a smaller, lower-cost carrier asked a bankruptcy judge Tuesday to dismiss the company's "bad faith" reorganization petition.

Meanwhile, Continental — still flying despite the strike — continued nationwide interviews for pilots to replace strikers and said nearly half its flight attendants were hired to replace strikers.

Australian trade unions imposed a 72-hour boycott of Continental flights from Sydney to Honolulu, Auckland and Fiji. Continental said the boycott affected six flights a day, and passengers were being sent to alternative service.

The pilots, flight attendants and machinists unions charged that Continental's bankruptcy petitions "were not filed in good faith, but rather to circumvent the debtors' obligations" under labor law.

"Bankruptcy law is not a mechanism for a company to avoid bargaining with its employees," pilots spokesman Gary Thomas said. "The petition was filed in bad faith."

The company contends its

bankruptcy petition stands on firm legal ground. The Supreme Court is about to consider similar cases and its ruling could affect the outcome of this case. Continental filed for Chapter

Under Continental's "emergency" rules, top pilots pay went from \$87,000 to \$43,000. Flight attendants dropped from \$28,000 to \$15,900. Flying hours for pilots went from 51 to 85 hours a month.

Continental initially said it had plenty of pilots willing to cross picket lines, but admitted the strike had more effect than expected, forcing the hiring of outside help to get the needed 300 pilots and 500 flight attendants.

Continental spokesman Bruce Hicks put the number of outside flight attendants — dubbed "scabettes" by the unions — at "a couple hundred" and refused to be more specific.

The company maintained all but two of its international routes, and Hicks said after an additional 8 percent cut in service last Thursday Continental is flying its entire schedule with planes averaging more than 70 percent full.

Travel agent Maria Spiers of Houston's Harvey Travel said agents still try to avoid booking Continental as unreliable, and Hicks admitted most passengers apparently were booking themselves into Continental's cut-rate \$75 fares.

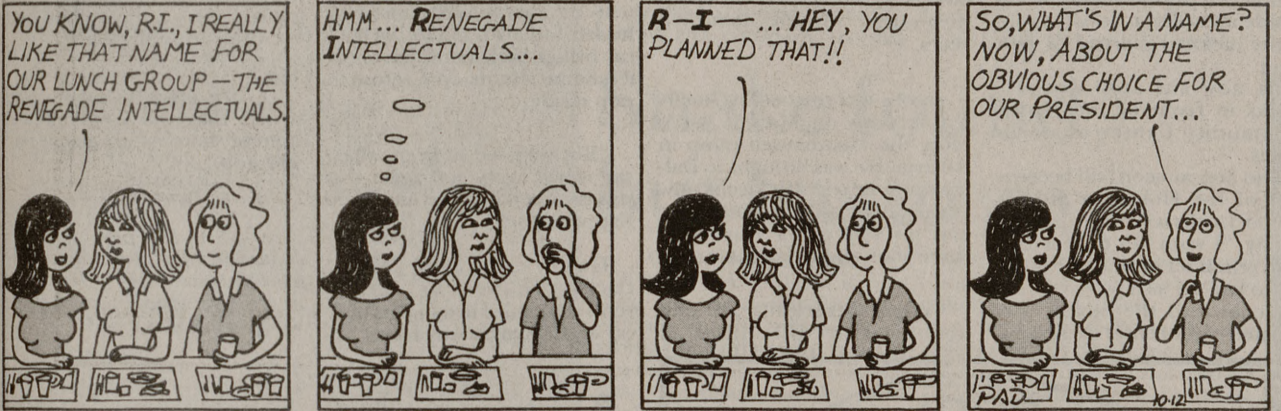
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11 reorganization on Sept. 24, listing losses of \$471 million in four years. The airline then cut its work force from 12,000 to 4,200, and on Sept. 27 started flying to only 25 of the 78 U.S. cities it once served.

Pilots and flight attendants unions struck on Oct. 1, protesting the airline's unilaterally imposed "emergency work rules" increasing flying time and halving pay. The machinists had gone on strike Aug. 13 when contract talks failed.

R.I.

by Paul Dirmeyer



Task force offers solutions

Teachers need incentives

United Press International
WASHINGTON — A congressional task force concluded Tuesday that across-the-board pay hikes supplemented by merit pay, are needed to draw and keep "the best and the brightest" instructors in the nation's classrooms.

The Task Force on Merit Pay, headed by Rep. Paul Simon, D-Ill., also suggested three federal initiatives: teacher scholarships for top students, one-year fellowships for top teachers, and a program to provide advance in-

struction to up to 200,000 teachers each year.

The group cited a need for better training and improved working conditions for teachers as other key factors in improving public education.

In releasing a report summing up a four-month study, Simon said polls show that the public is willing to pay more to upgrade America's troubled schools.

He said the recommended federal program would cost less than \$200 million. The cost of

the overall plan to states and local school districts would depend on how much they increase teacher salaries and how they meet the recommendation to experiment with merit pay for "superior" teachers.

The 21-member group of legislators and educators offered no specific salary figure.

It noted, however, that teaching is among the nation's lowest paid professions, with an average salary of \$19,000 — a fact that has driven many of the nation's top students to seek

other work.

"Right now, we are not getting the best and the brightest to go into teaching," said Rep. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., one of four congressmen on the panel.

He described the panel's recommendations as a "carefully defined surgical strike" to remedy the situation and to help improve public schools.

Rep. Carl Perkins, D-Ky., chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, created the merit pay task force last June. President Reagan has embraced the idea of performance-based salaries as one way to aid America's schools, which the National Commission on Excellence in Education last spring found engulfed "by a rising tide of mediocrity."

Unknown caller gives info about missing accountant

United Press International
CORPUS CHRISTI — Nueces County officials Tuesday urged an anonymous caller to contact them again with additional information on a Dallas accountant who disappeared from her condominium almost two weeks ago.

Texas Rangers conducted a helicopter search of beach areas Monday but failed to find Judith Durst, 45, who was on a temporary job assignment in Corpus Christi.

The woman has not been seen since Sept. 29.

An anonymous male caller gave information on the missing woman last week that had not been released to the public, officials said. They declined to re-

veal the information, but said it could be valuable to the investigation.

Officials urged the caller to contact them again and promised that he would remain

anonymous.

Durst was on a temporary assignment from Dallas to set up bookkeeping operations for the Casa Del Cortez condominiums, where she was staying.



11 a.m.-9p.m. Mon.-Thurs
'Til 11 p.m. Fri. & Sat.
11:30-9 p.m. on Sun.

HAPPY HOUR WITH FREE APPETIZERS

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Friday and Saturday 2 p.m.-7 p.m. and 10 p.m.-11 p.m.

EVENING DRINK SPECIALS
(after 5 p.m.)

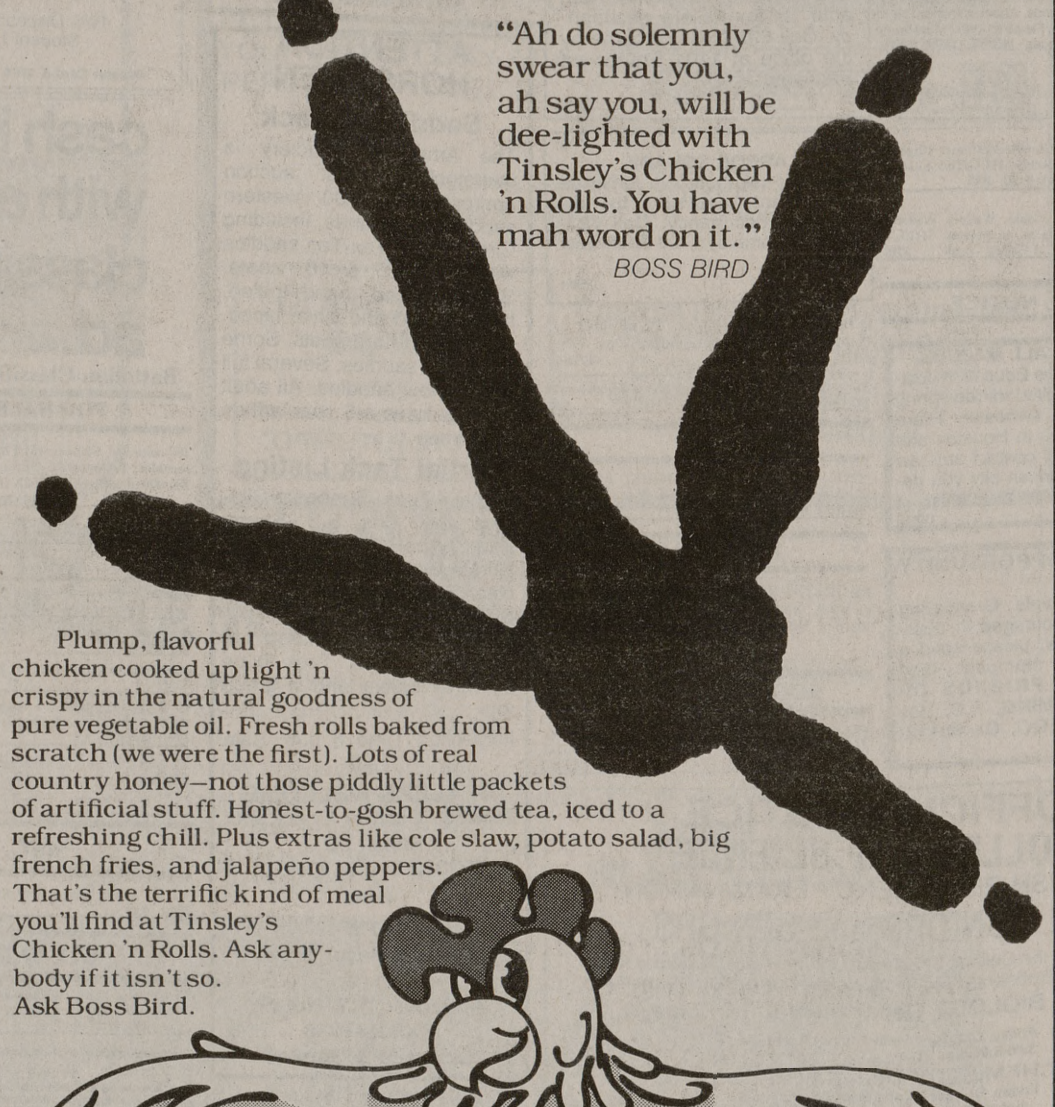
- Mon.-Daiquiris \$1.25
- Tues.-Long Island Ice Tea (limit 2) \$2.50
- Wed.-Double Margarita on the Rocks \$1.75
- Thurs.-Pitcher of Sangria \$2.50

Beer 50¢ Mug \$2.50 Pitcher

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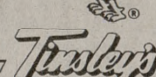
2 Pieces of Chicken and 2 Rolls 95¢

Delicious light 'n crispy chicken and fresh-baked rolls. Offer good at all participating Tinsley's Chicken 'n Rolls. Coupon expires: 10/19/83

10 Pieces of Chicken and 10 Rolls \$4.69

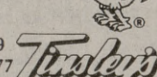
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