

What's up

Friday

IM-REC SPORTS DEPARTMENT: is having a pre-season basketball tournament from Fri., Jan. 20 to Sun., Jan. 22. Contact Im-Rec sports in 159-E. Kyle at 845-7826

CENTURY SINGERS, REVELIERS, SINGING CADETS, AND WOMEN'S CHORUS: Vocal auditions continue today for all four groups. Go by Vocal Music Office in Rm. 003 in the MSC to sign up for an appointment. Appointment scheduling begins the first day of class at 8:30 a.m. For more information, call 845-5794 or go by the Vocal Music Office

Monday

IM-REC SPORTS DEPARTMENT: Entries open today at 8 a.m. for team bowling and racquetball singles in 159 E. Kyle. Come by Im-Rec sports in 159 E. Kyle or call 845-7826 for more information.

Galveston may legalize gambling

United Press International

GALVESTON — Residents vote Saturday on a referendum that could trigger state legislation seeking to make this island city an oasis of legalized casino gambling in a state that claims abstinence.

Seawall Boulevard had a dozen private clubs with illegal casinos from the 1930s to 1957. Now, those memories are fueling a fierce war of words that has preceded the non-binding referendum.

"I'm of the opinion we ought to let dead dogs die," said retired plant supervisor Jack Baird, who described himself as "one of the good ol' boys" who once ended up signing over his paycheck at the crap tables on a Friday night.

However, proponents

gathered 3,000 signatures of registered voters on a petition that forced a reluctant city council to hold the referendum.

"I'm for gambling. I need it. The night life is dead in this town," says Buddy Kirk, a band-leader and club owner.

At the heart of the argument is whether Galveston is really reviving economically with the current mini-boom of condominium construction and historical preservation, or whether the city needs to do what Atlantic City, N.J., did in 1978.

"We have the fun, the sand and the beach, but we need to bring the big money to Galveston," Kirk said. "The word gambling scares some people, but let's face it, Galveston needs something."

Leading opponent Jim

Mahan said, "We don't need to save our city. Gambling has been an abysmal failure in Atlantic City as far as urban revitalization."

Both sides agree legalized gambling would create jobs in a city that had 9.4 percent unemployment in November.

The chamber of commerce and the influential Galveston Historical Foundation oppose gambling. Houston oilman George Mitchell of Mitchell Energy, a Galveston native who is personally and corporately building hotels, condominiums and restaurants on the island, opposes gambling.

Peter H. Brink, executive director of the foundation, predicts a large turnout and a close vote.

"There are more people

against it than for it. Most people's objection is crime, both street crime and organized crime that would come with legalized gambling," he said.

He said street crime has tripled since the casinos came to Atlantic City.

Kirk disputes those figures but admits crime would follow.

"Anytime there is economic growth, no matter if its oil or gold, it always brings crime. But the outcome is more tax dollars, and that means you can put more policemen on the streets. Galveston can use the bucks to pave those streets," he said.

Sen. Chet Brooks, D-Pasadena, says he will consider introducing legislation in 1985 to allow gambling on a local option basis if backers of the re-

ferendum "show me there is strong community support."

Rep. James Hury, D-Galveston, says Brooks does not stand a chance in the Legislature, where the last session defeated a bill that would allow local option horseracing.

Texas is surrounded by states with legalized betting on the horses, and some residents are tired of others profiting on the money that big-spending Texans will blow on a good time.

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Hanging ruled suicide by examiner

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — Maj. Gen. Robert G. Ownby was found hanging in a stairwell early Jan. 11 at reserve command headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. His hands were bound behind his back with a webbed military belt.

A typed note pinned to his sweater read: "captured, tried, convicted for crimes by the U.S. Army against the people of the world, sentenced and executed."

Di Maio said he came to an early conclusion that Ownby committed suicide and tried to lead investigators astray by writing the note.

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the 90th Army Reserve Command, was found hanging in a stairwell early Jan. 11 at reserve command headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. His hands were bound behind his back with a webbed military belt.

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Di Maio said he came to an early conclusion that Ownby committed suicide and tried to lead investigators astray by writing the note.

"I think it was evident from the

beginning," he said. "Initially, one had to contemplate the possibility it was (homicide), but then it became very evident that it was probably suicide."

The FBI's investigation turned up evidence that Ownby was deeply in debt and had taken loans from several local banks, he said.

"Apparently he was really in debt," Di Maio said. "His house was heavily mortgaged. It took the FBI a while to find all the banks."

When asked how much money Ownby might have owed, Di Maio replied: "it's bigger money than you and I think

in, anyway."

Owby, a native of Durant, Okla., was the owner of the Bristol Co., which manufactures metal doors. He was also on the board of directors of the Frost National Bank.

Di Maio said a detailed reenactment showed that Ownby "slipped the noose around his neck, tied his hands straddled the railing and went over sideways."

He said the FBI found the typewriter used to write the note found on Ownby's body. He said the typewriter was not located in the headquarters building or Owby's home, but the general had access to it.

Islamics to discuss Egypt's return

United Press International

CASABLANCA, Morocco — Leaders of the Islamic Conference appointed a committee Thursday to find a way for Egypt to return to the organization, five years after it was banished for signing a peace treaty with Israel.

But conference sources said the formation of the Egypt committee appeared to rule out an early resolution of the controversy, one of several issues on the conference agenda that were not decided due to lack of consensus.

The Egypt committee comprising Syria, which opposes Egypt's return, Guinea and from Pakistan, which support it, was

announced by a Moroccan government official after discussions that lasted through the night.

The summit in the suburb of Mohammedia, 20 miles from the town center, was to have ended its three-day parley Wednesday, but officials decided to extend the talks by a day because of the difficulty of reaching agreement.

The new committee was a last resort by moderates, led by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, to bring Egypt back into the body. It was ousted from the Conference and the Arab League in retaliation for signing a 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

The Egypt issue became the

core of the moderates' dispute with the anti-Israeli hardliners, Syria, South Yemen and Libya.

During the debate, Algeria and Tunisia joined the hardliners in fighting Egypt's return, while all other members except absent Iran and Afghanistan appeared to support it, conference sources said.

Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat, who recently met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, strongly backed Cairo's return. Delegates said Arafat and the moderate states hoped Egypt's return would reinforce them against the hardliners.

The summit was marred by bitter quarrels, with Libyan de-

legate Abdus Salam Jalloud, the second-ranking member of Col. Moammar Khadafy's regime, accusing it of being dominated by right-wingers.

Talks on deciding how to approach the Iran-Iraq war issue were stalemated by Iran's absence. Summit leaders debated whether a goodwill mission could persuade Tehran leaders to return to the Islamic venue.

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