

# Vegas picket lines honored by Teamsters Union drivers

**United Press International**  
 LAS VEGAS — Strikers endured 40 mph desert wind gusts Monday and Teamsters Union truck drivers honored their picket lines, refusing to make deliveries to casino-hotels as a walkout against Las Vegas gambling resorts entered its second week.  
 Drivers for Teamsters Local 661 and Local 14 honored the picket lines of 17,000 striking culinary workers, bartenders, stagehands, musicians and bellhops at 29 gambling palaces.  
 The owners used pre-strike

contingency plans and said they could do without the union truckers. Supplies were warehoused in advance and private contractors picked up garbage.  
 No negotiations were scheduled, but both sides said they were willing to return to the bargaining table. The unions are seeking an 8 percent wage hike and fringe benefits.  
 Strikers were bolstered by the presence of Tom Donahue, secretary-treasurer of the 14-million member AFL-CIO. He toured picket lines Sunday during an eight-hour stopover and

pledged moral and financial support from the national labor movement.  
 The pickets Monday were buffeted by high winds as they paraded outside the struck gambling spas.  
 A court order reducing the number of pickets virtually halted violence and brawling which broke out early during the eight-day strike against the city's gambling industry, which is the prime source of state tax revenue.  
 Police said Monday nine strikers were jailed during the

night, pushing the number of arrests during the walkout to 174. Recent arrests involved violations of the court order.  
 Vince Helm, head of the Nevada Resort Association which represents 20 of the richest hotels targeted by the unions, said the strikers' demands would cost owners \$10,000 per worker over a four-year period.  
 All hotels have remained open during the labor unrest and reported capacity weekend business.

# Honeybees buzz in outerspace while building their honeycombs

**United Press International**  
 SPACE CENTER — Thousands of honeybees buzzing in the middeck of the shuttle Challenger have adapted to weightlessness and built a "great big

old honeycomb" in their plastic hive, astronauts said Monday.  
 "They moved into the area where the food was (after launch) and they've really been going to town," astronaut James

"Ox" van Hoften reported in a video show beamed to Earth live from Challenger.  
 "Right now, they've got a great big old honeycomb," he said.

were producing a honeycomb elsewhere in the hive.  
 Nelson concluded the bees in space must be having more fun than their Earthbound counterparts.

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Van Hoften and astronaut George "Pinky" Nelson, holding the bee box in the shuttle's middeck, thumped on the plastic hive containing about 3,300 bees and shook the container to show how the bees responded to movements in space.  
 "Don't drop that box!" cautioned mission controller Jerry Ross.  
 The astronauts said the bees appeared to have adapted to the weightlessness of space and have even learned to fly in it. Van Hoften said only about 20 bees have died since they entered space Friday.  
 On Earth, a control group of bees also worked furiously in their hive, but scientists said no honeycomb was visible. However, they suspected the bees

Scientists will measure the thickness, shape and depth of the honeycomb cell walls once the experiment is returned to determine if the honeycomb structures built in space are stronger or better than those on Earth.  
 The bee experiment was created by Dan Poskevich, a student at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tenn.  
 Poskevich said his experiment was designed to find out if the bees could built honeycombs in the absence of gravity and if so, whether the bees would construct them with the same hexagonal shape as those on Earth.



**Carving Ham**  
 Photo by KATHERINE...  
 Emilie Oeverman, a junior animal science major from Houston, trims a ham for a contest at the Kleberg meats lab Wednesday. The hams will be judged and auctioned on April 21 in 115 Kleberg.

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# Get Reagan!

## Environmentalists target prominent Republicans

**United Press International**  
 WASHINGTON — The political arm of the environmental movement will target President Reagan and Republican Sens. Jesse Helms of North Carolina and Roger Jepsen of Iowa for defeat this fall, conservation leaders said Monday.  
 The Sierra Club and the League of Conservation Voters — two of the three national environmental groups with active campaign efforts — announced some of their election plans in a conference involving congressional leaders, conservationists and political pollsters.  
 Marion Edey, executive director of the League of Conservation Voters, said top election

priorities for environmentalists in 1984 are to defeat Reagan, Helms and Jepsen.  
 Helms and Jepsen have received consistently low ratings from the league for their congressional votes, Ms. Edey noted, while environmentalists for three years have bitterly battled Reagan administration policies.  
 Environmental activists will decide later on pouring volunteer campaign workers and money into other Senate and House races.  
 "We hope that the league will spend close to \$2 million on the elections," said Ms. Edey.  
 Both groups also said they are training activists on a local

level in the Democratic Party delegate selection process and are running delegates in 32 states for the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco.  
 Democratic pollster Peter Hart told the conference his public opinion surveys show 62 percent of Americans are concerned about environmental issues. "Only war in Central America, the deficit and health care are bigger worries," said Hart.  
 In trying to help elect a Democrat president, Ms. Edey said her group will concentrate on "key swing states," where both the outcome may be close and the public may be more recep-

tive to environmentalist appeals.  
 They include New Jersey, Vermont, Washington, Florida, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Texas.  
 While neither the league nor the Sierra Club has endorsed any Democratic presidential candidates, they praised by name a number of Democratic vice-presidential candidates, including Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., and Rev. Jesse Jackson.  
 But a leading environmentalist in Congress, Rep. Udall, D-Ariz., told the conference Reagan has softened conservation image by appointing Interior Secretary Watt

# Freeze damage estimates rise slightly

**United Press International**  
 WASHINGTON — The Agriculture Department Monday raised slightly its estimate of Florida's freeze-damaged orange crop to 118.7 million boxes, which would be 15 percent smaller than last season's production.  
 The estimate was the fourth

measurement of the crop since a late December freeze severely damaged fruit, vegetable and sugar crops in the South.  
 In the first post-freeze estimate, issued in January, the department's Crop Reporting Board reduced the estimate by 23 percent to 129 million boxes. The February estimate was re-

duced by another 9 percent to 118 million boxes.  
 By March, the crop had stabilized and the department raised its estimate slightly to 118.5 million boxes.  
 Prior to the freeze, the 1983-84 Florida orange crop was estimated at 168 million boxes. Florida orange growers har-

vested 139.5 million boxes season.  
 Most Florida orange growers for juice, and some for frozen-damaged oranges salvaged for juice after the December freeze.  
 In the latest report, the department revised its estimate of frozen concentrated juice from Florida oranges to 1.25 gallons per box, up 50 percent from last month's estimate of 0.83 gallons per box. This year's production was 1.25 gallons per box, up 50 percent from last month's estimate of 0.83 gallons per box.

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