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# City's water level falling

**United Press International**  
SAN ANTONIO — With water levels falling in the Edwards Aquifer, the city Monday began bracing for the possibility of a voluntary water conservation plan and a long, hot summer.

Water levels in the underground reservoir have fallen to 625.1 feet, less than 1 foot from the mark that triggers the city's voluntary conservation plan, water department officials said.

Tom Fox, general manager of the Edwards Underground Water Dis-

trict, said the aquifer dropped 1.35 feet from Thursday to Saturday, with Monday's level standing at 625.1 feet.

If the water level in the district's observation well falls to 612 feet — the record low recorded in 1956 — a mandatory water conservation plan would go into effect.

Water officials said weekend consumption was less than expected and the level dropped at a lesser rate than anticipated. It could be several days before the voluntary conservation plan goes into effect.

The aquifer, which supplies most of the city's water, has not recharged because of a dry spring, and weather officials held out little hope that summer will be different.

National Weather Service forecaster Larry Peabody compared current weather conditions to those that spawned the hot summer of 1980.

"The strength of the ridge is not as strong (as the one in 1980) and the temperatures are not as high," Peabody said. "Where we had 100 or 105 degrees, we're at 97 or 98. The difference is really academic."

# Police beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department through Monday.

- **MISDEMEANOR THEFT**  
A red Schwinn ten-speed bicycle was stolen from the Third, Morton Street bus stop.
- A dark blue Montgomery Ward ten-speed bicycle was stolen from the Memorial Student Center bike rack.
- A blue Concord ten-speed bicycle was stolen from the south side of Spence Hall.

# BURGLARY OF A HABITATION:

- Two stereo speakers and four cassette tapes were stolen from 114 Fowler Hall.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**  
Someone tried to pry open the glass doors on the southwest side of Purchasing and Stores.

# Mexican K-cars debut

**United Press International**

DETROIT — K-cars made in Mexico are now on sale at Chrysler Corp. dealerships in Texas and a number of other southern states, the automaker said Monday.

The vehicles are assembled at Chrysler's Toluca, Mexico, plant just outside Mexico City. A spokesman said all parts for the cars are made in the United States, but the engines are Mexican-made.

Chrysler plans to import 3,000 Mexican K-cars — 1,000 per month through August — to supplement production of the mid-sized autos at its St. Louis plant.

The K-cars are identified as Mexican-made on both the price sticker and an accompanying label.

The autos are being sold mainly in Texas and nine other states.

# Future astronauts trained

## Camp simulates space

**United Press International**

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Ludwig Keck dons his gloves and space suit and prepares for his shuttle mission after just three days of training — but he's not in danger since it's all part of the make-believe world of the United States Space Camp in north Alabama.

Keck, from Norcross, Ga., is one of 2,300 youngsters who will attend the camp during the third year of the program at the Alabama Space and Rocket Center.

"The purpose is to stimulate interest in science and math so they will be educationally prepared for careers in technical fields," Ed Buckbee, director of the center, said Monday.

Buckbee said the program receives "campers" from all over the country, but most come from states with links to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"About 10 percent come from Alabama, and the others are divided between the Midwest, the Southeast

and the Far West," said Buckbee. "We have a high percentage from California and Texas, as one would expect because of the space activities, and quite a number from Florida, probably close to as many as from Alabama."

The program is open to children 12-16, who spend five days at the camp and are housed in dormitories in the basement of a 25,000-square-foot building at the center.

In the three "levels" at the camp, they are taught the history and mechanics of rockets, work with robot arms and run through shuttle mission simulations. There's a full-scale model of the spacelab as well.

Although it's for children, Lee Sentell, a spokesman for the center, said that in the next few years the program will be expanded to include older people in "mother-daughter, father-son" type programs.

"We've had a number of astronauts' children. Last week, we had

Andy Eisele, whose father, Donn, was aboard Apollo 7, which was the first Apollo mission," Buckbee said.

Two weeks ago, the nephew of astronaut Bob Stewart, who used one of the shuttle back packs last April, attended the camp, Buckbee said.

Charles Beggs, son of NASA Administrator James Beggs, also attended the program.

Last week, Wally Schirra spoke to space campers "and the week before that, two astronauts training for the mission next year — Woody Spring and Jerry Ross — visited," Buckbee said.

Last week, President Reagan announced a NASA educational program — operation Liftoff — that included the development of a one-day space camp experience based on activities in Huntsville that can be packaged and distributed to other NASA centers as specialized field trips," Sentell said.

# Sanctuary Movement backers planning vigil

**United Press International**

BROWNSVILLE — Sanctuary Movement backers from several Texas cities plan a vigil beginning Tuesday outside the federal courthouse where Colorado social worker Stacey Lynn Merkt will be sentenced for transporting Salvadoran aliens.

A Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Jim McCloud of McAllen, said Monday that about 70 Sanctuary Movement supporters from Dallas, San Antonio, Austin and Houston would carry out the vigil while awaiting Merkt's sentencing Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Filemon Vela. McCloud said if Merkt is given a

jail sentence, the Sanctuary movement will continue its vigil outside the jail and if she is given probation, the group will conduct a prayer service and refugees she has helped will serve her a rice and beans meal.

Merkt, 29, a Mennonite attached to the Bijou Religious Community in Colorado Springs, Colo., works as an English teacher to Central American refugees staying at Casa Oscar Romero, a haven sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church at nearby San Benito, Texas, which immigration officials say is the first stop on an "underground railroad."

She was convicted by an all-His-

panic jury on May 14 on charges of conspiracy and of aiding and abetting the transportation of two Salvadorans and could be sentenced to a maximum 15 years in prison and \$14,000 in fines.

Since then, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist and Jewish groups have passed resolutions supporting the granting of religious sanctuary to refugees fleeing war-torn Central America.

Merkt, Catholic Nun Dianne Muhlenkamp, and Dallas Times Herald reporter Jack Edward Fischer were arrested by the Border Patrol near remote Guerra, Texas,

last Feb. 16 and charged with transporting Salvadorans Mauricio Vela and Brenda Sanchez-Galan and the woman's 18-month-old daughter around checkpoints.

Sister Muhlenkamp was given a year's deferred adjudication for her cooperation, and the case against Fischer, who testified as a government witness in Merkt's trial, was dropped.

Since the Feb. 17 arrests, the Border Patrol also charged Sanctuary Movement Jack Elder, 40, a Vietnam veteran who directs Casa Oscar Romero, with transporting three illegal Salvadoran aliens to a bus station.

# Towns fight losing battle against porn

**United Press International**

EAST HAVEN, Conn. — For two years residents of two small, neighboring Connecticut towns have been fighting — and apparently losing — twin wars against a man believed to be the nation's largest dealer of pornography.

Angry townspeople in East Haven and West Haven, thwarted by the courts from keeping pornography out of their tranquil communities, wonder what ever happened to parent's rights.

It is a dilemma facing many American towns. In East Haven, the "Foxon Road News and Tobacco" sign hangs in front of the town's only pornography bookstore. Down the road, another plain sign reading "West Haven Country News and Tobacco" decorates an empty building intended as the site of another porn store.

Both are part of a chain of five Connecticut stores owned by porn tycoon Rubeen Sturman of Cleveland, who has already won court battles to open stores in East Haven, Milford and Bridgeport, Conn.

"They say these people have a right to run the business," said West Haven City Councilman John Dillman, marching with other picketing residents outside the empty store.

*Much to the dismay of those who want to concentrate on the moral issues raised by the presence of such (pornography) stores, they are being forced to fight on another battleground — the well-scarred turf of the First Amendment.*

"What about the rights of the parents?" Dillman said, as motorists honked to show support in response to signs held by the protesters.

Much to the dismay of those who want to concentrate on the moral issues raised by the presence of such stores, they are being forced to fight on another battleground — the well-scarred turf of the First Amendment. The courts and the owner contend that what is at stake is freedom of speech.

"I am here in defense of the First Amendment," said Daniel Silver, a New Britain lawyer whose firm of Pudlin and Silver represents the plaintiffs in suits involving both towns.

Losing one court battle after another has befooled up the resolve in East Haven to at least regulate the pornographic establishments, keeping them as far away from youngsters as possible.

"Naturally we're against it. I don't want to expose the young people to this," Mayor Anthony Proto, Jr. said. "But what we're learning is that the judge ruled you can't stop them. According to the First Amendment, under the Constitution, you can't stop them."

The last hurdle fell quietly. Late one night, as the mayor watched and a man snored in a corner of the Senior Citizens Community Center, the Planning and Zoning Commission voted for regulations permitting peep shows.

"I don't see much choice," Commission Chairman Pasquale Romano told board members before the vote. "What's happening is what's happening in the rest of the country — we're being inundated."

The Zoning Commission voted to amend town regulations in response to a judicial decision by U.S. District Court Judge Ellen B. Burns that

spelled defeat for the town officials.

Burns ruled against the town's blanket zoning, passed in 1982, that prohibited all uses not specified by the town and would have included peep shows. She also ruled against forcing peep show operators to be licensed by the police chief.

East Haven officials refused to give up. They decided if they could not stop the business, they could at least regulate it through restrictions.

"The court said as a matter of law towns cannot unreasonably prohibit freedom of speech and expression of operators of the store," assistant town attorney Michael Albis said.

The commission subsequently voted for rules restricting the store's booths from within 500 feet of churches, schools, day care centers and bars or restaurants serving alcoholic beverages other than beer and wine.

"If we don't do this, we'll be allowing them to go anywhere they want," Romano said. "If we have to have them, I think we should control them."

In West Haven, town officials and residents remain undaunted despite another succession of legal defeats and a two year display of tenacity by the owner of the yet unopened West Haven Country News and Video bookstore.

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