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Page 6/The Battalion/Thursday, September 20 1984

United Press International

HOUSTON - In an effort to boost attendance in October, the Houston Independent School District will give a trip to Mexico to the principal of the school with the high-est attendance, a spokeswoman said Wednesday.

The scheme was prompted by a change in the way the state bases its distribution of money. School districts receive state aid based on attendance, which previously was taken daily throughout the school year and averaged.

Under the new system, attendance will be taken in October and one spring semester month. The funding will be based on the best four weeks of the combined eight

"We're praying for no flu epidemics in October," HISD spokeswoman Geri Koningsberg said.

HISD Superintendent Billy Reagan, in a radio broadcast to teachers and administrators Tuesday, announced the expense-paid weekend trip for two to Mexico for the principal whose school has the highest attendance in October.



by Jeff MacNell



Steel workers union criticizes Reagan, says he will suffer for import decision

United Press International

WASHINGTON - Lynn Williams, president of the United Steel workers of America, said Wednesday President Reagan's steel import decision further harms America's steel workers but the president will be punished at the polls.

"I think the future of the steel in-

dustry remains in jeopardy," said Williams. "I am deeply disappointed in the president's failure to grant prompt import relief to the domestic

He said the United States, unlike other major world powers, seems willing "to let the most basic industry of an industrial nation slip into obliv-

Reagan Tuesday refused to grant import protection sought by American steel makers but promised to seek voluntary agreements with exporting nations to prevent "surges" of unfairly traded steel into the U.S.

The president had an opportunity to develop a comprehensive, en-forceable, effective program to re-store jobs of American steel workers and strengthen a crippled industry,"

Williams said. "He has rejected this opportunity.

SHOE

Asked about Reagan's re-election prospects, Williams said, "I don't think he can carry the steel industry states and I don't think he can carry

the country.
"I believe there's terrible hurt out there in the land" and people will vote against Reagan because of it, Williams said.

"From our point of view ... the (president's) program is all too reminiscent of past failed promises to deal with the steel import problem. Optimism, now, is again based on a mere promise," Williams said.

"But 200,000 unemployed steel workers, and another 200,000 whose

jobs are in jeopardy, are entitled to

Williams said Reagan "has pre-sented a statement that may have po-litical advantage leading up to the election" but Reagan's assurances

may "evaporate" later.

"President Reagan adds nothing to the plight of displaced steel workers," Williams said.

"I'm certainly very concerned"

that Reagan may "back away" from his promises after the election because "there's no legal requirement" that the assurances be kept

Williams said steel workers have been made promises before and watched as imports climbed from 10 percent to 24 percent of U.S. consumption while many lost their jobs

Williams spoke against a backdrop of mail bags of petitions which he said contained 200,000 names asking House Speaker Thomas P. o'Neill for passage of the Fair Trade and Steel Act.

Williams met with the speaker and other congressional leaders prior to his news conference and said O'Neill reiterated his support for the comprehensive measure.

Williams, accompanied by a large delegation of steel workers, said the petitions were signed by his union's members in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Alabama, California, Indiana, Ohio

While Williams was speaking, the House Steel Caucus voted unani-

immediate action on the union-su ported steel measure, which has laguished in committee for month The legislation would limit impo

to 15 percent of the U.S. market. Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa, cha man of the group's executive on mittee, said steel state congressing were not convinced that Reaga would follow through on his pr

"We have been through this be-fore," he said, "where action as promised before the election and nothing happens after the election

Aides to Sen. John Glenn, Ohio, distributed a statement at Wi liams' news conference saying: " short, President Reagan's latest steet policy can be summarized at three 'H's.' It's hokum, ho-hum and hood

Glenn said, "The American sted industry is flat on its back - beater down by a relentless tide of unfair traded foreign steel — and all the president offers is a shrug of his shoulders and a sleight of hand."

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County officials support suit to remove sheriff

United Press International

SIERRA BLANCA — Hudspeth County officials said Wednesday they hope the sheriff - indicted by a federal grand jury on drug charges would be removed from office by

Sheriff Michael Fenton Armstrong, along with informer James Curtis Newsom, were charged with 12 counts of conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute mari-

Hudspeth County Judge Doyle Ziler said he hoped Tuesday's fed-

eral grand jury indictment would add impetus to a civil suit by District Attorney Steve Simmons to get Arm-

"Most people here want Arm-strong removed or suspended," Ziler said. "A majority of people here think he should be removed and Simmons' case

Ziler said the Hudspeth County

a resignation during the first few

strong out of office

maybe the indictment will help move

Commissioners passed a resolution endorsing Simmons' action.
"Frankly, I thought we would get

days of this thing," Ziler said. "This resolution we passed might let them know how the commissioners feel."

Armstrong was arrested on Sept. 7 and later released on \$65,000 According to the U.S. Attorney's

office, Armstrong and Newsom allegedly were involved in the narcotics conspiracy from about May 23 until Sept. 7

Armstrong was named in six separate counts of possessing marijuana with intent to distribute. He also was phone to make drug deals, said Larry Mathews, the assistant U.S.2 torney in charge of the case. If Armstrong is convicted of

named in five counts of using a tele

charges, he faces a maximum sentence of 55 years in prison, a fined \$255,000, or both. Mathews s According to the FBI, Armstro

had supplied approximately pounds of marijuana over a tw month period through Newsom an FBI undercover agent.

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are open for business Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.