

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 79 No. 174 USPS 045360 6 pages

College Station, Texas

Friday 19, 1985

House, Senate budget standoff continues

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — White House chief of staff Donald T. Regan angrily denounced the "ridiculous" budget deadlock on Capitol Hill Thursday as congressional leaders argued over whose turn it is to make an offer that will salvage the deficit-reduction effort.

"Everything's up in the air, nothing's on the table," said Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole of Kansas, who called Republican senators together to consider their next move.

After the meeting, Dole said it is "up to the House whether we're on the verge of anything."

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., said he hoped the Senate would return to the talks.

"We think it's kind of childish to be walking out," O'Neill told reporters. "All it takes is the art of compromise."

Dole said the Senate was seeking alternative proposals, but that it would take a while before there is any consensus.

Meanwhile, Regan lambasted Congress for the budget situation.

"The federal government, the world's largest economy, the strength of the free world, is about to go into a new fiscal year without a budget," Regan said in a breakfast appearance before the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "How ridiculous

can you be?"

With his voice and his anger rising, Regan said, "Did we not submit a budget? We did. Where is it now?"

Now, pounding the podium, Regan shouted, "It has not been passed by the Congress. No budget has been passed by the Congress. Why not?"

Dole and other senators also brushed aside Regan's remarks. "I didn't write that speech," Dole

said. "I'd have singled out the House."

Sen. Pete V. Domenici, R-N.M., chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, recessed budget talks between the House and Senate on Wednesday after rejecting a bottom-line offer from the House in an acrimonious session.

Domenici said the final gavel had not yet fallen on the talks aimed at drafting a compromise version of fiscal 1986 budgets passed by each

chamber.

"No, I don't think it's over," Domenici said. But "it's in pretty bad shape."

Republican senators agreed that for the time being they will try to keep up pressure on the House to make additional spending cuts.

Congressional leaders have said that if no budget is passed this year, they will simply abide by the separate budgets each chamber has passed.

Reagan to name OMB director soon

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan is expected to choose a successor to budget director David A. Stockman by the end of the week, with Federal Trade Commission chairman James C. Miller III reportedly the leading candidate.

Some congressional sources said Thursday they had been told that Reagan had already decided to nominate Miller for the job, but the White House said no decision had been made.

"No one has been offered the job," spokesman Larry Speakes said. Speakes said White House chief of staff Donald Regan was still interviewing candidates and would probably make a recommendation to the president by the end of the week.

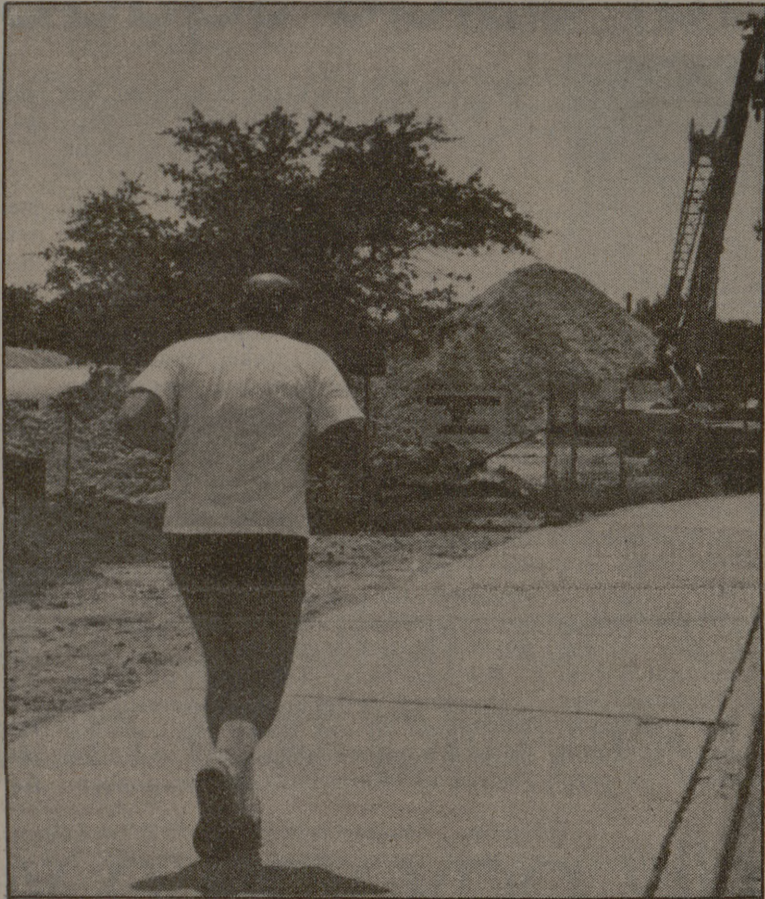
The congressional sources, speaking on condition they not be identified, said the administration was spreading the word that Miller would be named.

Stockman, budget director since 1981, is resigning Aug. 1 to join the New York investment banking firm of Salomon Brothers.

Miller joined the FTC after serving as resident scholar and co-director of the Center for the Study of Government Regulation at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think-tank of a conservative bent. His nomination as director of the Office of Management and Budget would be subject to Senate confirmation.

Miller, an economist, would take over from the often-controversial Stockman, a former Republican congressman from Michigan, at a time when the administration's efforts to cut deeply into federal programs and reduce budget deficits face strong opposition in Congress.

Other candidates who have been mentioned for the budget post include John A. Svahn, assistant to the president for policy development; Constance Horner, whom Reagan previously nominated to head the Office of Personnel Management; Drew Lewis, former transportation secretary; Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige; and Joseph A. Wright Jr.



Detour Ahead

GREG BAILEY

Runners used to running on the A&M aerobics track are having to get accustomed to a new detoured route. Construction of the new former students building is responsible for closing sections of the track.

White House: Reagan fine, planning to meet with new Soviet minister

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dressed in blue pajamas and a robe, President Reagan flashed an OK sign by hand from a hospital window Thursday in his first television appearance since cancer surgery, but indicated he did not know when he would be going home to the White House.

With his wife, Nancy, at his side, the president appeared at a third-floor window of Bethesda Naval Hospital at 4:27 p.m. EDT to pose for photographers, who had been alerted in advance. Aside from pictures released by the White House, it was the first time the president had been seen since he entered the hospital last Friday.

Reagan was quoted earlier in the day by his staff as saying, "I'm feeling great," and the White House, underscoring the picture of a patient rapidly on the mend, disclosed the president will meet with the new Soviet foreign minister in two months to prepare for November's summit.

When questions were shouted to the president at the hospital window, he replied with gestures. Asked if the president had a sore throat, Mrs. Reagan said it was easier for her to speak than for him.

Reagan gave an OK sign, using his thumb and forefinger, when someone asked how he was feeling. Asked when he was going home, the president made a quizzical face and sliced the air with his hands, palms down, indicating he did not know.

Doctors have said the president would be released in seven to 10 days after surgery — meaning that Saturday would be his earliest release date. Mrs. Reagan said he would go home "as soon as they say it's OK."

Asked what Reagan looked forward to most, Mrs. Reagan replied, "Just being home." She said they both were in good spirits.

"We'll make a big to-do of it" when Reagan comes home, presidential spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters at the White House earlier.

Perhaps the best news for Reagan was that he could return to a diet of solid food for the first time in eight days: soup, bread, crackers and pudding for lunch, followed by what presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said would be a "feast of baked chicken and rice" for dinner.

His menu suggested that Reagan's digestive process, which had been in-

terrupted by last Saturday's cancer surgery, was returning to normal.

The 74-year-old president had been put on a restricted diet two days before he entered Bethesda Naval Hospital last Friday for a thorough intestinal examination. After surgery, he was fed intravenously, and then was limited to a liquid diet of tea, apple juice, Jell-O and Popsicles.

Doctors removed the staple stitches in Reagan's abdominal incision on Thursday and replaced them with adhesive strips.

"The president is totally back to normal," Speakes said light-heartedly.

As proof of that claim, Speakes said Reagan recited, word-for-word, two well-known poems by Yukon writer Robert W. Service for the benefit of nurses, "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" and "The Cremation of Sam McGee."

Vice President George Bush, who visited with Reagan on Wednesday, made telephone calls to allied leaders to pass along the message that "The best medical evidence is that the president will make a full recovery and resume duties here at the White House next week."

Free party initiates monthly activities

Dance planned for mentally retarded

By BRIAN PEARSON
Staff Writer

The Bryan-College Station Association of Retarded Citizens is kicking off its monthly programs July 23 with a free dance party for adolescents and young adults who are mentally retarded.

D'Rinda Grimsinger, president of the association, says the purpose of the programs is to help mentally retarded young adults develop social

skills in a structured environment.

"We want to provide a recreational program which will serve as an opportunity for socialization with peers and an appropriate location for teaching social skills to the mentally retarded," Grimsinger, president of the association, says.

"The idea is to start them in a recreational, structured setting and then encourage them to join a mainstream setting," she says. "We want to help make a smooth tran-

sition to what is happening in the real world."

She says that after mentally retarded persons have adjusted to the structured, supervised environment of the programs, then they are encouraged to join in a less-controlled setting such as other dances, bowling leagues and softball teams.

"Everybody needs to get out and socialize," Grimsinger says.

The participants in the programs are also taught to balance work and

recreation time, she says.

Other monthly programs sponsored by the association will include softball games, an aquatics night, more dances and volleyball games.

The activities are being held to benefit the approximate 3,000 mentally retarded citizens in the area, Grimsinger says.

She says the association, which is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, is hoping to hold activities several times a month in the future.

She says part of the decision to expand will be based on surveys taken at the July 23 party.

The dance, which is open to the public, will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the National Guard Armory in Bryan.

The dance will feature local band 4 Hams on Rye. Free refreshments (no alcohol) will be available and donations are encouraged.

American burger kings battle in Britain

Associated Press

LONDON — The Battle of the Burgers between American fast-food giants McDonald's and Burger King ended in a London High Court on Thursday with each side claiming it had singled the other.

After five days of testimony, Judge John Whitford granted McDonald's an injunction barring Burger King from using an advertisement that knocked McDonald's bestselling burger, the Big Mac.

But the judge rejected McDonald's claim that Burger King, home of The Whopper, had maliciously implied McDonald's hamburgers were less than 100 percent beef.

Whitford said that from photos presented as evidence it was clear that the Big Mac was "quite a mouthful."

"It was described as McDonald's flagship product — but not with reference to the ease with which it can be sunk," the judge said.

McDonald's sued its arch-rival for alleged trade libel over a three-

Judge John Whitford granted McDonald's an injunction barring Burger King from using an advertisement that knocked McDonald's bestselling burger, the Big Mac.

month 1983 ad campaign in the London subway system.

Burger King had posted ads picturing a huge hamburger and the slogan, "It's Not Just Big, Mac." In smaller print, the ad described The Whopper and said: "Unlike some burgers, it's 100 percent pure beef."

McDonald's complained that Burger King used its product name to lure away customers and alleged that the reference to 100 percent beef was libel by innuendo.

In granting the injunction, Whitford said the advertisement could mislead some people into thinking the Big Mac was a Burger King product.

McDonald's, which has 168 res-

taurants in Britain, commissioned a Gallup Poll for the trial showing that 55 percent of 1,000 people surveyed thought the ad was for a Big Mac. Burger King, which operates 10 restaurants in Britain, argued that the poll was not valid.

But the judge said he himself had thought the ad was promoting the Big Mac, not The Whopper.

"Like all the witnesses, I missed the pun and it had to be explained to me," he said. "It would seem that, so far as the majority of readers were concerned, these tube cards (subway posters) were nothing more than free advertising for McDonald's."

But rejecting the allegation of trade libel, Whitford said he was sat-

isfied Burger King had "never for one moment" intended to suggest that McDonald's hamburgers were not 100 percent beef.

Most people, he said, only remembered the main feature of the ad and probably would not read the small print.

Whitford ordered each side to pay its own share of legal costs, estimated to total \$210,000.

After the hearing, both sides claimed victory.

Jim McGee, a lawyer for Burger King, said, "The judge had found clearly that there was no malice involved on our part. As such, Burger King sees it as a victory."

McGee said he did not know how much Burger King would have to pay in legal costs, but he said it would be "substantially lower" than McDonald's share.

Study says U.S. spends too much on surgery

Associated Press

CHICAGO — In parts of Massachusetts, some surgical operations are performed more than twice as often as in other sections of the state, a new study says, bolstering evidence Americans spend unnecessary billions on hospital care.

"You know from your own experience, and your friends', that (in) going to the doctor with a bad back, one will say, 'Go to the hospital for two weeks,' and another will say, 'Go home and put your mattress on the floor for two weeks,'" said the researcher, Dr. Benjamin A. Barnes of Harvard School of Public Health in Boston.

A study by Barnes and his colleagues in Friday's Journal of the American Medical Association indicates 1980 rates of surgery in some parts of Massachusetts were double

what they were in others for three procedures: tonsillectomy, insertion of a heart pacemaker and removal of damaged spinal discs.

Two other procedures — hysterectomy without removal of ovaries and surgery to remove knee cartilage — were 90 percent more common in these areas, the study said.

Slight but significant geographical differences emerged for four other procedures: cataract surgery, hysterectomy with removal of ovaries, setting a broken thigh bone and partial removal of the colon and rectum, the study said.

The only procedure for which there was no significant difference was removal of the prostate gland, indicating "far less discretion as to whether it's carried out or not," Barnes said.