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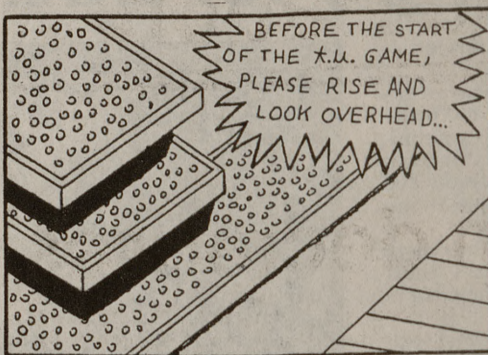
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Waldo



Goddess statue to be removed by helicopter from Capitol dome

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Goddess of Liberty, stripped of her arms and Lone Star, will touch the ground for the first time in 97 years Sunday, after a National Guard helicopter plucks it off the Capitol dome, officials said Wednesday.

If the delicate airlift goes off without a hitch, the twin-engine helicopter should lower the statue from its 311-foot perch on the dome to the lawn shortly after 8 a.m., said Col. Herbert Purtle, the guard's aviation officer.

"If everything goes well, we hope to have it sitting on the ground at five minutes after 8," Purtle said.

Capitol architect Roy Graham said, "This will then end the first and perhaps most important aspect of the beginnings of the Capitol restoration."

The 1.5-ton Goddess, erected in February 1888, has been so severely cracked and corroded by weather that it must be replaced. After public display on the Capitol grounds for three days next week, the statue will be repaired and used in molding a duplicate for the dome, Graham said.

Standing about 16 feet tall, the zinc statue has made the Texas Capitol three feet taller than the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

Purtle said, "We do not feel like there will be any danger. We planned this entire operation with great care and meticulous precision so that any chance of accident or damage to the Goddess Capitol building or the statue will be extremely minimal."

Purtle and Patrick Riza, a structural expert who has been working on the Goddess project, included to prevent the statue falling through the Capitol roof.

Graham said the Capitol building will be closed and the grounds off for the airlift. Spectators will be able to see the airlift from the fence around the grounds.

Friday burial set for former U.S. legislator

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Funeral services are scheduled Friday for former U.S. Rep. George Mahon, a personal friend of Lyndon Johnson's who attained the power of the nation's purse strings during his 44 years as a West Texas congressman.

"He walked with kings, but kept the common man's touch," said Kent Hance, who followed Mahon in Congress after Mahon retired in 1978 as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

"He was the ideal public servant," Hance said. "He acquired power, he didn't abuse it, and he always knew how to use it. He always remembered where he came from."

Mahon, 85, died at 5:50 p.m. Tuesday at Shannon West Texas Memorial Hospital, said Verna Morse, a nursing supervisor. Funeral services are Friday at the First Methodist Church in Lubbock. Burial will be in the Loraine Cemetery in Mitchell County.

Bryan Mahon, a nephew in San Angelo, said the former congressman died of a heart attack. Mahon had been hospitalized for the past week after undergoing surgery to replace a knee joint and had a reaction to the medication he was taking, the nephew said.

Mahon represented the 19th District in West Texas, serving as that district's only congressman until his retirement.

Mahon was succeeded by Hance, a Lubbock Democrat who turned Republican this year and is running for the GOP nomination for governor.

House Majority Leader Jim Wright, D-Fort Worth, said of Mahon, "He was a gentle man and the word honorable fit him like a tailored suit."

What's up

- Thursday**
- TAMU STUDENT ART FILM SOCIETY:** First annual Video Exhibition will be held at 7 p.m. in 165 Blocker.
 - E.L. MILLER LECTURE SERIES:** 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium. Theme: "Future in Space." Open to the public.
 - DELTA SIGMA PI:** will have a pajama party 8 p.m.-midnight at Parkway Circle Apts. Clubhouse.
 - HAGGAI FELLOWSHIP:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 504 Rudder.
 - GREENPEACE COALITION:** will show the film "Common Ground: Changing Values and the National Forests at 8 p.m. in 607 Rudder.
 - MSC FRESHMAN LEADERSHIP DYNAMICS:** will have a reception for new members 5-7 p.m. in 145 MSC.
 - MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE:** presents "Bedknobs and Broomsticks" at 7:30 & 10 p.m. in 701 Rudder (\$1.50).
 - BIOCHEMISTRY SOCIETY:** will take Aggield picture at 7:30 p.m. in Zachry.
 - PRE-VET SOCIETY:** will take Aggield picture at 7 p.m. in Zachry main lobby.
 - AGGIES AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING:** will take group pictures at 7:30 p.m. in 507A/B Rudder.
 - PHI ETA SIGMA:** will have an initiation banquet at 7 p.m. in 224 MSC.
 - NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR AGGIE GET TOGETHERS:** will meet at The Chicken at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday**
- INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:** Mike Warnke in concert at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.
 - NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR AGGIE GET TOGETHERS:** will meet at 3 p.m. in Parking Lot 46 to leave for D/FW.
 - CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST:** will have leadership training class at 7 p.m. in 701 Rudder. 12 p.m. C.R.A. time prayer time at All Faiths Chapel.
 - GRADUATE STUDENT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:** will have Bible study 8-9 a.m. in All Faiths Chapel meditation room.
 - TAMU HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 7 p.m. in Kleberg Student Lounge.
 - CLASS OF '86:** is selling class T-shirts through Nov. 26 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 1st floor MSC and Blocker.
 - YELL PRACTICE:** midnight yell practice will be held at Bill Bob's in Ft Worth. Admission is free.

South favors 'super' president primary plan

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Gov. George Nigh is supporting a move by Southern states that could lead to a 15-state "Super Tuesday" presidential primary or caucus on the same day in 1988.

The regional election plan was approved last month at a meeting of a task force of the Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. Lawmakers from 13 of 15 Southern states voted for the plan.

The plan will be submitted for consideration at a meeting of the SLG's executive committee Dec. 4-7 at Lake Tahoe, Nev.

The ultimate goal of the proponents of the plan is having a full-fledged regional presidential primary designed to give the South a greater impact on the selection of Democratic and Republican presidential candidates.

Texas Sen. John Traeger, chairman of the Southern Legislative Conference, said if the plan is implemented, candidates for president "will be forced to take the South seriously and campaign early and frequently in Southern states."

Traeger said it will assure issues important to the South will be addressed during future presidential elections.

Oklahoma is among the states which still has a caucus system to choose presidential candidates. Gov. Nigh aide said the plan advanced at the meeting in West Virginia would allow Oklahoma and other states to continue to have caucuses, while having a greater impact on the presidential selection process.

"It could really make Oklahoma and the South have a big impact on the selection of the next president," the aide said. "Nearly one-third of the delegates to both Republican and Democratic conventions will be elected from the South at the same time."

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