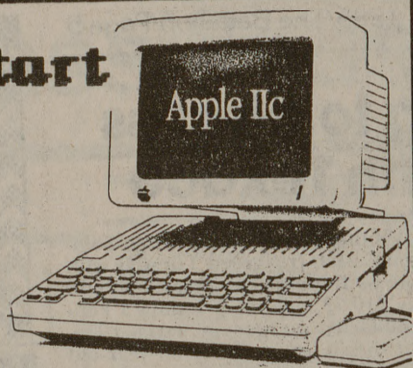


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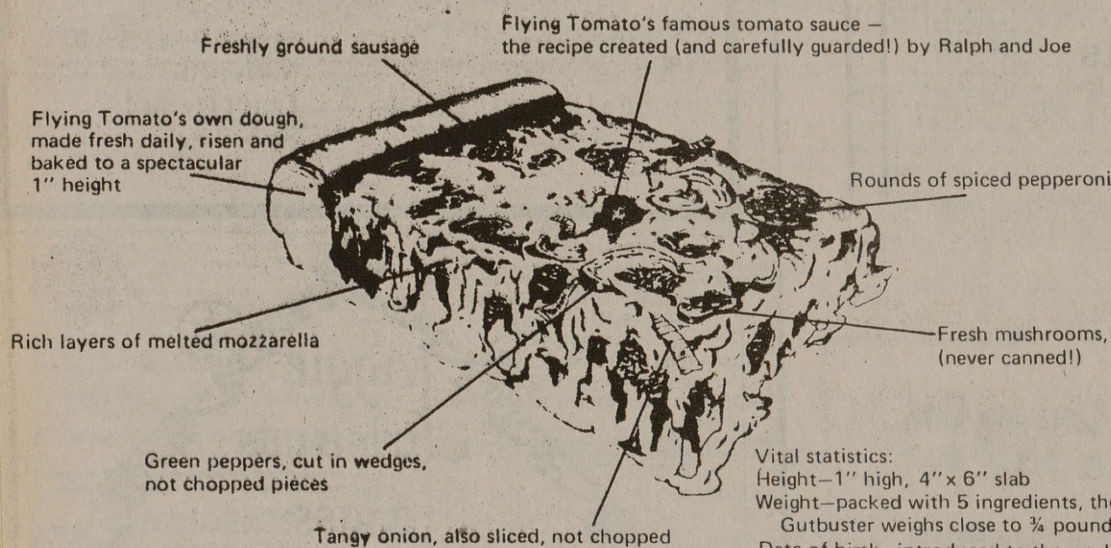
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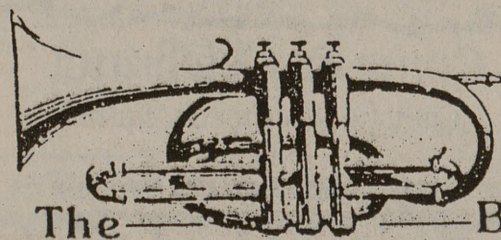
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## SPREADING THE NEWS

The Battalion Since 1878

## World and Nation

### Addition of spikes finishes renewal of Liberty's exterior

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The final three refurbished spikes in the Statue of Liberty's crown were put in place Tuesday, completing the exterior restoration of the 305-foot monument in New York Harbor.

The 9-foot spikes, each weighing from 150 to 200 pounds, were fitted into slots on the crown and bolted in place, said Henning Nielsen, director of public affairs for the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation.

The statue's seven spikes are now in place, Nielsen said. The completed statue will be unveiled at celebrations scheduled for the Fourth of July next year and the structure's actual centennial day, Oct. 28.

### Governor says he's sure to be cleared

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A jury began deliberating the fate of Gov. Edwin Edwards and four codefendants Wednesday, with Edwards saying he was absolutely confident he would be cleared of federal racketeering and fraud charges.

Asked if he would resign if convicted, without waiting for appeals, the governor replied, "Absolutely... no ifs, ands or buts."

Edwards joked that he had three speeches ready — one for each possible verdict: guilty, innocent or hung jury.

Prosecutors accused the men of plotting to illegally obtain state certification for hospital and nursing home projects in which they held interests. Five of the projects were sold for \$10 million, the bulk of the money going to Edwards, his brother Marion, and consultants Ronald Falgout and James Wylie Jr. The fifth defendant is businessman Gus Mijalis.

Both sides appeared to expect a verdict within a few days.

All except Mijalis faced one count of conspiracy under the federal Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act and 49 counts of mail and wire fraud.

Mijalis faces one RICO count and three mail fraud counts.

Prosecutors never produced a witness who said Edwards sat in a room with the others and conspired to defraud the state. But they showed that Edwards, after taking office in March 1984, approved or had a role in approving projects owned by Wylie and Falgout.

Defense attorneys said the case was built on suspicion and inferences and that there was nothing wrong with the hospital venture. They argued that the governor broke financial ties with the others before he assumed office.

Prosecutors showed that Edwards made \$2 million with Wylie and Falgout before he took office and contended the money constituted a bribe paid in anticipation of his election.

"Never in the history of prosecutions have so many prosecutors labored so hard for so long and produced so little," said chief defense lawyer James Neal.

But U.S. Attorney John Volz accused Edwards of selling out voters and said the co-defendants would continue to make money from the allegedly illegal hospital scam unless jurors put a stop to it.

### U.S. budget plan hits student aid

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Budget Director James C. Miller III submitted to President Reagan on Wednesday a first draft of next year's proposed federal budget, a plan that U.S. officials said contains some of the most sweeping domestic spending cuts ever considered by the administration.

Included in the domestic cuts, according to anonymous sources, is a major overhaul of federal credit programs and a tightening of requirements for obtaining a wide variety of government-backed loans, including new proposed slashes in student aid programs.

It was the president's first look at the budget which Miller has said would trim at least \$50 billion in non-military spending from the budget in the fiscal year that begins next Oct. 1.

White House officials would not divulge specific details of the budget proposal, which will be presented to the Cabinet Thursday.

But sources both inside and outside the administration said it would include most of the program eliminations the president unsuccessfully advocated in his 1986 budget, including ending Amtrak subsidies and abolishing the Small Business Administration and the Job Corps.

According to the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, the new package also is likely to propose:

Drastic cutbacks in general aid programs to states and cities, including housing, mass transit and urban development programs.

A new package of revenues, including "user fees" to shift a greater share of the cost of government services to those who use them.

The magnitude of cuts needed to meet the deficit-reduction targets for fiscal 1987, contained in the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings get-balancing legislation, expect to win final congressional approval this week.

That measure, which calls for a balanced budget by 1991, would pose a deficit ceiling of no more than \$144 billion in fiscal 1987.

The Office of Management and Budget has projected a fiscal deficit in the neighborhood of \$10 billion in the absence of congressional action on additional spending cuts.

Miller himself stressed that spending cuts in his submission are tentative, and that he intended to give the president a series of options.

Administration officials have repeatedly said the president intends to meet the deficit-reduction targets of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings plan without seeking a tax increase or reducing Social Security benefits — and at the same time proposing a 3 percent increase in defense spending above inflation.

## What's up

Thursday

AGGIE CHRISTMAS MASS: will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Mary's Catholic Church.

FRESHMAN EMERGING LEADERS SEMINAR: applications are due today in 208 Pavilion.

MSC HOSPITALITY: Christmas Can Drive through campus. Bring cans to 216 MSC, dorms or buses.

INTRAMURALS: outdoor soccer team captains meeting at 6 p.m. in 164 Read.

MSC HOSPITALITY: performance by TAMU Symphony Band at 12:30 p.m. as part of the Christmas program.

CO-OP STUDENTS REGISTRATION: students scheduled to work on co-op in Spring 1986 must register now in their co-op course in the Central Co-op Office, 607 Brington. For students who do not yet have their co-op assignments finalized, co-op registration will continue through Dec. 13.

TAMU STUDENT ART FILM SOCIETY: Will hold a general meeting at 6:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder.

Friday

PUERTO RICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: is meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

MSC VARIETY SHOW: audition applications are now available in 216 MSC.

FOURAKER BREAKERS: fish camp is meeting at 6 p.m. at Mama's Pizza for a Christmas dinner.

CLASS OF '88: class T-shirts will be sold from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. today in the MSC.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to the scheduled publication date.

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