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Photo by Anthony S. Casper

We are the Champions

A&M's Fred Gegen (left) and centerfielder Mike Scanlin (No. 8) hold aloft the Aggies' Southwest

Conference baseball tournament trophy after beating Baylor 7-6 Monday. See story, page 5.

Caperton gets Florida trip

Texas senators visit resort

AUSTIN (AP) — At least 10 members of the Texas Legislature, including Sen. Kent Caperton, D-Bryan, recently were treated to a Florida resort vacation by out-of-state lobbyists, the *Dallas Times Herald* reported Tuesday.

The lawmakers played golf, dined at sunset on a pleasure cruise and spent an evening at the dog races

during the junket, the newspaper said.

The May 6-9 excursion to North Palm Beach was hosted by lobbyists for Unicare Inc., a nursing home corporation which plans to expand into Texas, and Florida dog-racing interests who seek legislative approval for parimutuel gambling in Texas, the newspaper said.

Accompanying the lawmakers on the trip were lobbyists for the Texas Civil Justice Coalition, a group of businesses carrying on a bid to limit civil liability damages people can seek from companies and professionals, the *Times Herald* reported.

Some legislators said they paid for

See Trip, page 8

Botha compares raids to strike against Libya

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — President P.W. Botha said Tuesday that raids on alleged guerrilla targets in three countries were justified pre-emptive strikes similar to the U.S. bombing of Libya.

The raids Monday into Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe brought condemnation from around the world, caused the nation's currency to plunge on financial markets, and inspired protests by thousands of college students, both black and white.

Botha was defiant in his remarks to Parliament on Tuesday.

"South Africa will not allow the double standards and hypocrisy of the Western world . . . to stand in the way of our responsibilities to protect our country," he said. "The smugglers of terrorist arms into our coun-

try and murderers of innocent people must be hunted down."

The text of Botha's speech, distributed to reporters, ended with the sentence: "I congratulate (our security forces) and assure the country that we will do it again when the occasion demands." He omitted those words when speaking in Parliament.

His comments were the first government response to an outcry that included condemnations from the United States and Britain, which have resisted international attempts to impose tough economic sanctions on South Africa. Canada recalled its ambassador for consultations.

Colin Eglin, leader of the opposition in Parliament, said the air and ground attacks, in which three people were killed and at least 15

wounded, were "a major political blunder."

The strikes were launched against what the military called bases and transit camps of the outlawed African National Congress, which has waged a campaign of sabotage against white rule since 1961.

Botha said international law permitted pre-emptive strikes in self-defense, adding: "Israel's attack on the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) headquarters in Tunisia and America's attacks on certain installations in Libya are cases in point."

A visiting American diplomat rejected the comparison. Charles Freeman, a senior State Department official for African affairs, told reporters the United States had spent years trying to negotiate an end to Libyan terrorism.

Senate committee rejects home ports

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy's plan to build new home ports around the nation, including the Texas Gulf Coast, was rejected in a test vote, 9-9, by the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

The tie vote, during a closed committee session, came on a motion by Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., the military construction subcommittee chairman, to release initial start-up construction funds.

That money would be for home ports in New York and Washington state. No money for the Texas home ports, at Corpus Christi and Houston-Galveston, has been proposed yet. But the vote was seen by many as a test of support for the entire program.

"I have no doubt, had the vote simply been on Gulf home port it would have passed," said Phil Gramm, R-Texas, a member of the Armed Services Committee. "But it was on the entire concept. We don't have anything in either the '86 or '87 budget, so we're not really affected, but I'm eager to get the issue settled and eliminate uncertainty around it."

Some senators rejected what they felt was Thurmond's request for a blanket endorsement of the entire \$799 million plan.

"We were being asked today to approve the whole homeporting concept, which involves an awful lot of

money," said Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia, the committee's ranking Democrat. "A lot of people feel we have to weigh homeporting against other very important priorities and I think that's what the committee reflected today."

The Navy's plan to base its expanding fleet in new ports has been criticized as too costly.

According to senators interviewed as they emerged from the closed session, some committee members voted against the proposal because of uncertainties over what budget cuts would be needed to pay for the program.

Thurmond's motion, approved by his subcommittee last month, was to release \$79 million that had been approved last year by Congress for spending in the current fiscal year. The money, frozen last year by Thurmond until the Navy answered questions about costs, is the initial construction money for the ports at Staten Island, N.Y. and Everett, Wash. The Navy plans also to build new ports in Gulf Coast and West Coast cities.

But Nunn said he had reservations because "the motion that Senator Thurmond made went beyond that \$79 million. It was not just a \$79 million question. It was an \$800 million question."

2 believed missing at Lake Livingston now accounted for

LIVINGSTON (AP) — A Houston couple believed missing following a weekend storm at Lake Livingston that killed six people called officials Tuesday, a Polk County sheriff's dispatcher said.

"We had two that were unaccounted for," dispatcher Diana Davis said. "The people have called this morning. Everybody has been accounted for this morning. The people that were thought to be missing had gone to New Mexico."

Thousands of people had turned out for a fishing tournament and a sailing race at the lake, 70 miles north of Houston, when the storm hit Saturday afternoon.

When the storm hit, winds and choppy waters swamped dozens of boats and sent people either swimming or running for cover.

"You could see the dark clouds coming but they didn't get out of the lake. On this lake when you see dark clouds coming you better head for land," said Polk County Sheriff Ted Everitt.

Oilmen unimpressed by rising crude prices

HOUSTON (AP) — Oil industry officials say they are not dusting off idle drilling rigs because of recent increases in crude prices and note that the start of the summer driving season usually pushes up prices.

"It's extremely traditional," Houston-based energy analyst Dale Steffes said Tuesday. "It's euphoric around here because the price finally went up a little bit after going down for 120 days."

"I'm happy it is going up. But I don't anticipate it will do much because there's nothing long term."

Crude prices have increased by nearly \$4

a barrel in the past three weeks, but oil futures prices tumbled more than \$1 a barrel to the \$16 level Tuesday. The price for June delivery of West Texas Intermediate fell from \$17.16 for a 42-gallon barrel to \$16.04 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

"The fundamentals have not changed, except we're going into the driving season," Steffes said. "They're anticipating that. But I don't see too much of a change in the world picture. Prices from OPEC haven't gone up any."

Mickey Gentry, a spokesman for Pen-

zoil Co., said the price increase was in line with his company's expectations that by the end of the year prices would be around \$20 for West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude.

The increase was encouraging but not prolonged enough yet, said Conoco Inc. spokesman Tom DeCola.

"The little upward movement is not going to revive any drilling programs that have been put on hold," he said.

Asked when it would become more attractive to drill, Gentry replied: "I think it's got a ways to go yet."

The weekly Hughes Tool Co. rig count, the industry yardstick for drilling activity in the United States, continued to reflect the sour exploration and drilling environment, plunging to another post-World War II low.

Only 757 rigs were operating last week, down from 809 the previous week. The last time the count was this low was April 1943, when 805 rigs were drilling, Hughes reported.

More than 1,000 rigs have been idled since December, a month after oil prices began plummeting from \$32 a barrel and bot-

tommed out at about \$11. At the peak of the oil boom in December 1981, the Hughes count stood at 4,530.

The economics of drilling — when it becomes profitable — vary from company to company, said one industry official who asked not to be identified.

"As you get into the offshore business, I have heard \$20 a barrel," he said. "Some of the deep water stuff in the Gulf of Mexico, you need to be above \$20. And in Alaska, offshore, it's \$28. Those are some general rules of thumb. There is no individual kicker point."

Radioactivity levels in rain sample down

WASHINGTON (AP) — Radioactivity in rain from the Chernobyl nuclear accident is decreasing as time goes on, Environmental Protection Agency figures showed Tuesday.

Concentrations of iodine-131 were below 100 picocuries per liter in all nine cities listed in Tuesday's report as receiving radioactive rain in recent days.

Previous reports almost always have listed several cities with more radioactivity than that.

The agency said last week it believed readings had peaked. The principal contaminant, iodine-131, has a half-life of only eight days.

"All detections to date are at levels so low that even the most sensitive portions of the population, including pregnant women and infants, face no significant health threat," said the daily statement on behalf of the inter-agency group monitoring accident development.

Experts say NBC told nothing new to Kremlin

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. submarines have collected intelligence in Soviet waters for 25 years, according to experts who said Tuesday that NBC told the Kremlin nothing new by reporting underwater eavesdropping.

CIA Director William Casey has asked the Justice Department to weigh criminal charges against NBC-TV for mentioning the intelligence program and identifying its code name as "Ivy Bells."

But government prosecutors have yet to file charges.

The official Soviet media have remained quiet over the latest flap between Casey and the U.S. news me-

dia. But as early as Aug. 28, 1961, at the height of an East-West crisis over the divided German city of Berlin, the official Soviet news agency Tass complained that foreign submarines had committed "a number of violations against the state coast of the Soviet Union" and were "making observations for intelligence purposes."

The NBC report in question, aired Monday on the "Today" show, said that accused spy Ronald William Pelton, a former employee of the National Security Agency, is suspected of giving Russia information on espionage gathering by U.S. sub-

marines, which NBC correspondent Jim Polk said may be code-named "Ivy Bells." Pelton is on trial in Baltimore.

U.S. subs began spying against the Soviet Union at the end of the Eisenhower administration, said American University professor Jeffrey Richelson, the author of books on U.S. and Soviet intelligence.

In 1975 *The New York Times* published more detailed articles on the Holystone program, quoting high-level intelligence and administration sources describing it as a valuable tool for gathering informa-

tion at little risk to the collector.

The article said, the were able to observe closings of missiles from mines, intercepting nizations from launch, but crders transmi had per sels beforeh

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