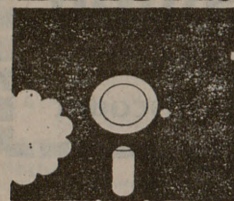


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World and Nation

May economic indicators up slightly

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's main economic forecasting gauge crept up 0.2 percent in May, far below the increases of the previous three months, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. The tiny advance in the department's Index of Leading Indicators followed a giant 1.3 percent gain in April, the largest in almost three years, and robust increases of 0.6 percent in March and 1 percent in February.

Private analysts said the May slowdown was accurately signaling that the economy is not going to be as strong in the second half of the year as had been expected. They said a rising jobless rate, sharp cutbacks in oil and gas drilling and other weaknesses were pushing the long-awaited rebound further into the future. Jerry Jasinowski, chief economist for the National Association of Manufacturers, said, "The anemic May leading indicators are another sign that the expected rebound in the second half may not happen. The economy appears to be getting weaker, not stronger."

Other analysts noted that the big gains in the leading index in the previous three months came from strength in the financial sector, which overshadowed continued weakness in manufacturing. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said most of the growth in the index this year has come from gains in the stock market and expansion of the money supply, while orders for business equipment and consumer goods have been weak. The Reagan administration is predicting that the economy, as measured by the gross national product, will expand at a robust 4 percent rate this year, almost double the year's weak 2.2 percent increase. But private forecasters have become more pessimistic in recent months, given the severity of cutbacks in the energy industry because of falling oil prices and no improvement in the country's huge foreign trade deficits.

David Berson, economist at Wharton Econometrics, said it is unlikely that the economy will limp along in the current July-September quarter before beginning to revive in the final three months of the year.

Weinberger requests SDI fund restoration

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, renewing his defense of the Pentagon's fiscal 1987 budget request Tuesday, announced a "very noteworthy achievement" in the Star Wars research program. Addressing his first general news conference in five months, Weinberger opened with a prepared statement in which he focused particular emphasis on the Star Wars program, known formally as the Strategic Defense Initiative, and its budget. The Senate Armed Services Committee recently voted 10-9 to slash more than \$1 billion from the Pentagon's fiscal 1987 request for that program and to restructure its goals. Weinberger criticized both moves as improper and asserted that the Senate panel was endangering the

"noble purpose" of Star Wars at a time when the research was beginning to bear fruit. He then disclosed an experiment last Friday at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, during which he said a small hypersonic missile had successfully destroyed a target moving more than three times the speed of sound. The test marked the first time that the missile had been fired at a moving target and used its on-board guidance system to track and then destroy the target by direct impact, Weinberger said. The Senate committee also voted to recommend that President Reagan change the emphasis of Star Wars to focus on the defense of America's nuclear arsenal instead of protecting the entire country and U.S. allies.

AIDS patients, researchers say victims need test drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Researchers and AIDS patients told Congress Tuesday they welcome a government program to test drugs on 1,000 victims but said much larger numbers of people with the deadly disease should get experimental medicines. "I am unable to secure any experimental drugs that might, in fact, prolong my life," an AIDS patient who identified himself only as "John Smith" told the House Government Operations human resources subcommittee. "While we sit here and talk about whether these drugs should be made available, people are dying, and I am one of those people," he added. A government program announced Monday to begin testing drugs on AIDS victims will add 1,000 people to the 3,000 that are already receiving experimental drugs.

But even then, only one third of all 12,000 victims will be helped in their battle with AIDS, for which there is no known effective treatment. "It is a national tragedy that so few patients are now in controlled trials" of anti-viral drugs, said Dr. Martin Hirsch of Massachusetts General Hospital. He added that AIDS patients will go to great, usually illegal, lengths to get the drugs. Public Health Service officials who picked the 14 medical centers to receive \$100 million for the five-year drug testing program, conceded that more money could be spent effectively on the research effort. "We probably could do some more," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

World Briefs

John Paul II begins tour of Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Pope John Paul II arrived Tuesday afternoon for a seven-day tour of this overwhelmingly Roman Catholic country, which is plagued by guerrilla violence and grinding poverty. He referred to those problems, saying: "I know that your country has been tested in the last years by difficult events, whose unspeakable pain and shame have fallen upon its people. But I also know that your spirit has not been weakened and that you keep alive your hope and your firm will to fight against adversity. From this moment on I will walk with the peace of Christ on the roads of Colombia." The visit is John Paul's first to Colombia and seventh to Latin America since 1981.

Two groups vowed to hold vigils in view of the national landmark to protest Reagan administration policies toward the poor and homeless. President Reagan is scheduled to "unveil" the refurbished statue with a laser light show to kick off a July Fourth weekend celebration that is expected to attract 13 million people.

New York prepares for liberty weekend

NEW YORK (AP) — The pace quickened Tuesday in New York Harbor as more tall ships arrived and workers strained to complete work on the Statue of Liberty before Thursday's centennial celebration. The aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy was guided into the harbor and dropped anchor near Liberty Island. It will be a floating reviewing stand for the news me-

dia during the centennial observances. Two groups vowed to hold vigils in view of the national landmark to protest Reagan administration policies toward the poor and homeless. President Reagan is scheduled to "unveil" the refurbished statue with a laser light show to kick off a July Fourth weekend celebration that is expected to attract 13 million people.

Stock market hits record high 1,903

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market maintained its record-setting momentum Tuesday as late buying boosted the Dow Jones industrial average to its first close above 1,900. Buying interest picked up in the afternoon and allowed the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials to break out of a tight trading range. The blue chip barometer

climbed 10.82 points and finished the session at 1,903.54. Wall Street's best known indicator first closed above 1,800 on March 20 when it rose 16.29 points to 1,804.24. Hopes that falling interest rates will eventually bring better business conditions and improvements in corporate profits have whetted investors' appetites for stocks.

No roadblocks for Oregon, Michigan

Police will block roads to catch drunken drivers over the Fourth of July weekend in some states, but not in Oregon and Michigan, where courts recently ruled that the tactic was unconstitutional. In Michigan, Wayne County

Circuit Judge Michael R. Stacey issued a permanent injunction on June 24, saying police check lanes violated Fourth Amendment guarantees against unlawful searches. The state has not decided whether to appeal.

Judge grants delay for serial killer

Bundy's execution blocked

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A federal judge Tuesday refused to grant serial killer Theodore R. Bundy a lengthy reprieve, but blocked his scheduled Wednesday electrocution for 24 hours to give him time to take his case to an appeals court in Atlanta. The ruling by U.S. District Judge William Zloch delayed the execution until 7 a.m. Thursday, five hours before Bundy's second death warrant for the murders of two sorority sisters would expire. The appeals court was expected to take up the case this morning. Bundy, a 39-year-old law school dropout, was convicted of strangling two young women as they slept in the Chi Omega sorority house on the

Florida State University campus in Tallahassee. Prosecutors said he beat those two sorority sisters and two others with a tree branch, seriously injuring the survivors, then broke into a nearby home and beat another woman. Bundy also was convicted of murdering a 12-year-old schoolgirl who was abducted from her school, and has been linked by the FBI to as many as 36 killings of young women and girls, mostly in the Northwest. The handsome, articulate Bundy, whose case was recently the subject of a television movie starring Mark Harmon, was being kept in a death-watch holding cell at the state prison in Starke, a few feet from the prison's oak electric chair where Florida

has executed 16 men since 1979. Department of Corrections spokesman Vernon Bradford said when he saw Bundy on Tuesday morning, "he appeared to be nervous, which I guess is pretty natural. It was his eyes more than anything else that made me think he was nervous." Bradford said Carole Boone, who married Bundy while he was on trial, visited her husband Tuesday with her son from a previous marriage. Zloch first rejected the request for a six-month stay, then huddled with lawyers from both sides and granted the 24-hour delay so Bundy's legal team could take the case to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Assistant Attorney General Gre-

gory Costas said, "The 24-hour stay would still allow the carrying out of the execution." He called Zloch's ruling "an extension" rather than a stay because the death warrant remained in effect. Bundy's attorneys, James E. Coleman and Polly Nelson, earlier had said both they and their condemned client were confident the execution would be blocked. The lawyers had turned to federal court after losing appeals Monday before the state circuit judge who sentenced him to death and before the state Supreme Court. Bundy and Stano declined media interviews Tuesday.

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