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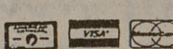
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State elections

(Continued from page 1)

Wallace defeated Republican challengers, and Robert Campbell handily beat his Libertarian opponent.

Democratic state Sen. Oscar Mauzy won the Place 1 seat on the court over challenger Charles Ben Howell, an appeals court judge.

Unopposed for seats on the Court of Criminal Appeals were Rusty Duncan and Justices Marvin O. Teague and Mike McCormick, all Democrats.

In congressional races, Democrats secured their traditional majority of the 27-member Texas delegation by returning seven unopposed U.S. House members and at least 10 incumbents in contested races.

Republicans, seeking to hang on to several of the seats won in Ronald Reagan's 1984 victory, were winners in at least eight races.

In contested races with major party candidates, Democratic incumbents Ralph Hall of Rockwall, John Bryant of Dallas, Jack Brooks of Beaumont, Jake Pickle of Austin, Ron Coleman of El Paso and Martin Frost of Dallas whipped GOP contenders, while Mickey Leland of Houston beat a Libertarian opponent.

Republican incumbents Dick Arme of Denton, Tom DeLay of

Sugar Land, Beau Boulter of Amarillo, Larry Combest of Lubbock, Jack Fields of Humble and Steve Bartlett of Dallas beat their challengers.

Two freshman Republicans, Rep. Mac Sweeney of Wharton and Rep. Joe Barton of Ennis, were clinging to narrow leads at midnight. Sweeney battled West Columbia lawyer Greg Laughlin, while Barton tried to fight off Fort Worth attorney Pete Geren.

In the 21st congressional district, which stretches from San Antonio to the Big Bend, former Bexar County Commissioner Lamar Smith beat state Sen. Pete Snelson, D-Midland, for the seat Republican Tom Loeffler vacated to make his bid for a gubernatorial nomination.

In legislative races, House Speaker Gib Lewis, D-Fort Worth, was an apparent winner over GOP challenger K. Wayne Lee with 82 percent of the vote counted.

All four amendments passed, one allowing branch banking, another changing the Legislature's subject caption requirement on legislative bills, grant some mutual insurance companies permission to sell policies to political subdivisions, and allow counties to value rolling railroad equipment — tanks, boxcars and engines — for tax purposes.

FAA investigates a near collision of jet, small plane

CHICAGO (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration said Tuesday it is investigating a near collision in which a small plane passed right under the nose of an American Airlines jet carrying 50 passengers.

FAA spokesman Mort Edelstein said Monday that the close call between the Boeing 727 and single-engine Cessna occurred about 30 miles southwest of O'Hare Airport on Friday.

John Hotard, an American Airlines spokesman in Dallas, said there were no injuries in the incident in which the pilot "reported that a single-engine Cessna passed right under the nose of his plane."

Edelstein said the pilot, who has not been identified, filed a near mid-air collision report.

Officials said the pilot of American Flight 654 from Austin, Texas, had to raise the nose of the Boeing 727 after the small plane came within 100 feet vertically and one

mile horizontally of the jet.

Planes flying near a major airport are supposed to be separated by five miles horizontally and 1,000 feet vertically.

"He did not have to pull up sharply to avoid missing the aircraft, but he did bring his nose up and level out a little bit," Hotard said.

The incident occurred about 8:45 a.m. Friday, officials said.

Hotard said the pilot was not warned that the small plane was in his vicinity.

Phillip Wood, a lawyer representing more than 20 air traffic controllers, said the FAA's Chicago Air Route Traffic Control Center in Aurora used to have "four or five" controllers assigned to warn commercial traffic about nearby small planes.

But since a 1981 strike that led to mass firings of controllers, he said, the positions have remained unfilled.

Fugitive minister, son sustain minor injuries

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Texas fugitive minister W.N. Otwell and his son escaped with minor injuries, but a man who warned them of an approaching car died when the trio was struck while trying to assist at an accident.

Terry Wayne Corbett, 21, of Ardmore, Okla., was killed early Saturday, officials said.

Corbett was warning the Otwells of the oncoming car at the scene of an accident in which three women were trapped in a vehicle, a spokesman for the Oklahoma Highway Patrol said. The car then struck the Otwells and knocked them into a ditch, the spokesman said.

Otwell is pastor of a suburban Fort Worth church that is under court order to license its boys home.

Otwell fled Texas several weeks ago to avoid a contempt of court citation.

"A highway patrolman said it was a miracle that we were not killed," Otwell told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram Monday.

Otwell and his son Randall Scott Otwell, 26, were driving south on Interstate 35 just before 1 a.m. Saturday. They stopped their car on the shoulder a half-mile north of the Main Street exit to Norman when they saw a three-vehicle collision in the northbound lane, Otwell said. They stopped to aid the people trapped in the cars.

Otwell and his son were taken to Norman Regional Hospital, where they were treated for cuts and bruises and released, a hospital official said.

Worker sues maker of ovens used to bake microchips

AUSTIN (AP) — A high-tech assembly worker who said she was disabled from a 1984 chemical leak has settled out of court with the manufacturer of an oven used in microchip production.

Terri Timmins, was one of 46 workers exposed to the chemical Dowtherm A on Jan. 25, 1984, at a Motorola plant.

Timmins filed suit against Trio Tech International. She alleged that the California-based company was negligent in the design, testing and inspection of the oven, where the leak occurred. Motorola was not named as a defendant in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit had been scheduled for trial Monday in state District Court.

Jack London, Timmins' attorney, declined to disclose the amount or details of the settlement.

Timmins said in the suit that she suffered from chronic coughing, nosebleeds, bronchitis, asthma, headaches, blisters around her eyes, and bleeding gums and mouth.

"I'm disabled," Timmins told the Austin American Statesman. "I can't work. Not like this."

Timmins said she was being

treated with medication and respiratory aids.

Attorneys for Trio Tech could not be reached for comment.

In an answer to Timmins' original complaint, the company denied any negligence in connection with the oven. Two other companies involved in the manufacture of the oven were brought into the lawsuit by Trio Tech as third party defendants.

The chemical leak occurred inside an oven used to heat memory chips and components used in products from computer games to pacemakers.

London said the leak developed in a bend of a heat exchanger inside the oven's walls and spread through several rooms at the plant before the building was evacuated. He said Timmins was in the room where the oven was located.

"She probably got the biggest dose," London said. "She was closest to the oven."

Motorola officials said 44 of the 46 workers exposed to the chemical returned to work the day after the leak. Timmins is listed as a Motorola employee on extended leave but said she has not worked since July 1985.

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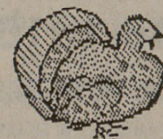


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