The Battalion

ol.82 No.91 USPS 045360 12 pages

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, February 4

Iran confirms

U.S. journalist

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran confirmed Tuesday that it arrested

American reporter Gerald F. Seib as

a "spy of the Zionist regime" who en-

tered the country in the guise of a

spondents by invitation from the fundamentalist Shiite Moslem regime. He was arrested Saturday and

not allowed to leave with the other

United States had asked for his release, but did not say when or how the request was made and gave no

Iran invited Seib and the other journalists to visit the border battle-

front between Iran and Iraq, which

have been at war since September

Its official Islamic Republic News Agency reported during the weekend that a "spy of the Zionist regime" (Israel) had been arrested af-

ter entering the country with a false

passport disguised as a journalist, but it did not identify him.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Monday that

the Swiss Embassy, which handles U.S. interests in Iran, protested

The Tehran radio broadcast was Iran's first official confirmation that Seib was under arrest. It also said the

Seib, a 30-year-old correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*, went to Iran with 56 other foreign corre-

journalist.

journalists.

details.

1980.

arrested as spy



Where's The Beach?

Denise Scanlin, a senior education major from Houston, gets ready early for Spring Break 1987 by sunning herself at a tanning salon. Photo by Doug La Rue

These beds use the same rays as the sun, but the FDA has limited tanning on this type of bed to 30 minutes to lessen risk of skin cancer.

Senator: Liability crisis in Texas initiated by insurance industry

By Frank Smith Senior Staff Writer

State Sen. Kent Caperton on Monday refuted the arguments of tort reform proponents in the insurance industry, saying Texas' liability dinsurance crisis was brought about by "an unresponsive, irresponsible Classific insurance industry" rather than the civil justice system.

a.m Caperton, D-Bryan, made his comments during an afternoon news conference in his local law office. He also submitted the text of the minority report of the House-Senate Joint Committee on Liability Insurance and Tort Law and Procedure, a report to the Legislature that he coauthored with Rep. James Hury, D-

Caperton said the insurance industry reaped \$11.5 billion in profits in 1986 — a 500 percent increase over the \$1.9 billion reported in 1985.

"Despite such earnings, the insurance industry continues to claim that our civil justice system needs reform," he said. "They claim that excessive jury verdicts have caused them to have to drastically increase premiums. Yet, they are unwilling to provide data to support such claims."

Caperton shared speaking time at the news conference with Billy Rogers, executive director of Texans for Civil Justice — a two-month-old grass-roots organization battling

"Now tort reformers are here in Texas and they're lying to us again," he said. "They're telling us that lawsuits are the cause of the problem. Lawsuits are not the cause of the problem in Texas. Texas ranks 44th

out of 50 states in lawsuits per capita. "There is no lawsuit crisis in Texas and we don't need tort reform.What we do need is insurance reform."

Caperton concurred. To illustrate that need, he recalled that he had asked an insurance representative to justify drastic rate increases for day care centers.

"I said, 'Surely these rates are going up . . because your statistics show that it's more hazardous in taking a child . . . from the day care center to the library or to the plays or whatever they do,' " Caperton said. "He said, 'No, it's really just the unknown.'

Republicans join in overriding veto on clean-water bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House, with scores of Republicans ignoring a final plea by President Reagan, voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to override the president's veto of \$20 billion water-quality legislation.

The 401-26 roll-call vote sent the issue to the Senate, which was expected on Wednesday to follow the House's lead and hand Reagan a defeat in the first big spending confrontation of the 100th Congress.

nally voted for the popular legislation, the veto last Friday "changes the complexion of the situation."

Michel said that with Congress and the White House \$6 billion apart on spending, the cleanliness of America's waterways was not the issue — "wise and prudent use of tax dollars, that's the issue."

But Michel's plea was quickly undercut by calls for a veto override by Reps. John Paul Hammerschmidt, R-Ark., and Arlan Stangeland, R-Minn., two of the key GOP members in the process of drafting the authorization bill.

Seib's detention to Iranian authorities and demanded his release. "His continued detention is un-

warranted," Redman said. He said Tuesday that the Swiss had been unable to obtain an appointment with Iranian officials to discuss the

pointment with Iranian officials to discuss the arrest. White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the Swiss had been denied access to Seib, so "we don't

denied access to Seib, so "we don't have anyone who has talked to him or seen him." Seib had sought assistance from

beib had sought assistance from the Swiss Embassy after immigration authorities impounded his passport last Thursday while he was preparing to leave the country. He is based in Cairo.

Warren H. Phillips, chairman of the Wall Street Journal, said Monday: "We believe that a dreadful mistake has been made in the detention, and we fervently hope that the government of Iran realizes it has made a mistake and will set him free."

Commission gives GSU new rate hike

AUSTIN (AP) — The Public Utility Commission on Tuesday gave troubled Gulf States Utilities a tongue-lashing and less than half the \$82 million rate increase the company says it needs to avoid bankruptcy next month.

PUC Chairman Peggy Rosson said the panel was given "the onerous burden of having to say once again to Texas ratepayers, 'You must step forth and save this company from itself.' "

Rosson favored an increase of \$17 million to \$25 million, but the two other commissioners voted for a \$39.9 million increase.

GSU President Linn Draper said the approved increase would help but will not guarantee financial salvation.

"It's clear that we're not out of the woods," Draper said. "We've got a long way to go. The fact that we have gotten some supportive treatment in Texas is certainly helpful. We now need help in Louisiana and we need support from the financial community."

Galveston.

As a member of the joint commitce, Caperton listened to the testimony of 86 witnesses over the course of the committee's year-long hear-

auc

aurant

DENU

Review

"Not a single witness, including many representing the insurance inlustry and others involved in the soalled tort reform effort, claimed or would even admit that proposals to later our civil justice system would ower the cost of liability insurance or increase its availability or coveringe in Texas," he said. "In fact, the major complaint of many of those witnesses was the profit picture of he insurance industry and the fact hat their profits were not as large as some of the Fortune 500 compaagainst tort reform.

Rogers joined Caperton in condemning the joint committee's majority report, a 248-page, 500,000word document that contains 30 tort reform proposals.

"Not one sentence in that report mentions the core question of the whole controversy: Will any one of their 30 recommendations for tort law change lower your insurance rates?" Rogers said. "You won't find that sentence in there because the answer is 'No.' Tort reform is a plan by the big insurance companies and some of their allies to take away your right to a fair jury trial and raise your rates at the same time."

Rogers said similar legislation adopted by Florida last year had those results.

By Cray Pixley

Reporter

many conflicts in today's society

because they are living in two

very different worlds - the In-

dian and the Anglo-American

The conflict arises because the

American Indian is living in two

distinctly different cultures in

which the values of each clash,

said Charmaine Bradley, an Acoma Pueblo Indian and a doc-

"Indians are not taught to be independent," Bradley said.

"We're taught to help each other,

but in the Anglo society, you go

out and get it on your own. The

taught in a setting that may con-

tradict the values of the culture,

values which are being taught at

Indian children are being

toral student at Texas A&M.

value is independence.'

home, she said.

world.

Young American Indians face

"I'm not going to take that kind of answer. I mean, that's just nonsense. The insurance industry is literally getting away with murder. And we need to put a stop to it."

Caperton also expressed opposition to several specific tort reform proposals, including measures that would limit contingency fees for lawyers, place caps on the amount of damages a person can receive in personal injury cases and place ceilings on the amount of punitive damages that can be levied against a defendant.

See Senator, page 12

Anglo culture causes conflict of values

the second s

Several hours before Tuesday's vote, Reagan sent a message to Capitol Hill through Republican leaders that he wanted GOP members to support his position that the legislation is too expensive in times of huge budget deficits.

Except for the 26 Republicans voting to sustain the veto, the plea which was not accompanied by any heavy White House lobbying — fell on deaf ears. Joining the 254 Democrats voting to override were 147 Republicans.

House GOP Leader Robert Michel of Illinois urged party unity, saying that although he had origi-

"I believe President Reagan has listened to the wrong advice," Stangeland said. "This body needs to send a strong message to the president and the American people that this Congress won't tolerate delays in the cleaning up of American waters."

The dispute between Capitol Hill and the White House centers on \$18 billion authorized by the bill to provide assistance to the states through 1994 to construct wastewater and sewage treatment plants. The interim increase will raise the price of 1,000 kilowatt-hours for GSU residential customers in Texas from \$68 per month to about \$74. GSU's request would have raised it to \$77.

The Beaumont-based company, which serves about 250,000 customers in Southeast Texas and approximately an equal number in Louisiana, is awaiting a court ruling on its challenge of Louisiana regulators decision against an emergency rate increase.

Applications for degrees Vie due by Friday

The Degree Audit Office has announced that all graduating seniors and graduate students who expect to complete degree requirements by May, 1987, must make formal application for their degrees no later than Friday

Late applicants will be unable to receive a diploma.

Undergraduate and graduate degree applicants who did not have their diploma fee assessed with their tuition fee must pay a \$15 diploma fee in the Fiscal Office, 4 Coke Building.

Undergraduate students must then take their paid fee slips or diploma fee receipts to the Registrar's Office, 105 Heaton Hall. Graduate students must take their paid fee slips or diploma fee receipts to the Graduate College, 125 Teague Building.

All graduating seniors must complete the necessary degree application forms that are available in the Registrar's Office, 105 Heaton Hall. Graduate students can pick up forms in 125 Teague Building. "They begin to wonder, 'Am I doing this for myself or for my people?' " she said.

"They need to have a sound foundation of who they are as American Indians and what they can contribute to both the Indian and Anglo worlds," Bradley said.

Bradley, who is from the Acoma Pueblo, west of Albuquerque, N.M., stressed that being confronted with two different cultures can be confusing to American Indians.

This problem is made difficult when the Anglo world doesn't acknowledge or accept Indian values, she said.

One of the most important cultural values is harmony with nature, Bradley said. "Many of our religious ceremonies and social activities are centered around that single value."

People who come to visit the reservation, but who aren't very

knowledgeable about the Indian world, think the ceremonies are just for fun, she said.

'American Indians must face 2 worlds'

They don't realize the prayer and preparation that go into cere-

"Indians are not taught to be independent. We're taught to help each other, but in the Anglo society, you go out and get it on your own. The value is independence."

- Charmaine Bradley, Acoma Pueblo Indian

monies such as the rain dance, she said, nor do they understand the meaning behind the ceremonies. Another problem for Indians is they have to integrate with people of different values. This problem is growing because of their dependence on the money of Anglo America, she said.

Many Indians must leave the reservation or seek outside funds in order to survive, she said.

"Money is a whole different value system, which is again contradictory to the Indian values," Bradley said.

American Indians do not, however, have to live on reservations to maintain their values in the Anglo world, she said.

"To be Indian comes from the heart," she said. There are many urban Indians who may never have been on a reservation, but know they are Indian; they know they are different, she said.

"It is a sad conflict which will continue between white men and Indians unless the Anglo becomes familiar with Native American values," she said.

Bradley says she would like to help her 8-year-old daughter learn the beauty of her culture and the history of her people.

Many people still have misconceptions about American Indians, she said. "They expect to see braids and feathers."

Marriage between Anglos and Indians is another problem American Indians face, Bradley said.

In some traditional pueblos, she said, an Indian woman who chose to marry a white man couldn't live on the reservation.

In some cases, an Indian man who married a white woman lost his rights as an Indian.

The pueblos are trying to maintain the culture, Bradley said.

"So many of the ceremonies are sacred and only Indians can See Indian, page 12