

BETA THETA PI

POOL TOURNAMENT
BENEFITTING
BRYAN BOYS CLUB

SUNDAY APRIL 24: \$5. per person
STARTING TIME: Mens doubles 1:00 p.m.
Mixed doubles 2:00 p.m.

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Court: Alcoholism can be called 'willful misconduct'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Wednesday the government may continue viewing alcoholism as "willful misconduct" rather than an uncontrollable disease when awarding veterans education benefits.

But the justices did not attempt to decide whether alcoholism is a disease, noting that the medical community remains sharply divided on that issue.

Instead, the 4-3 decision said the Veterans Administration did not violate a law protecting the rights of the handicapped when it refused to extend education benefits to two men for more than 10 years after they left the service.

The two men said they failed to apply earlier for the GI benefits because they were disabled by their alcoholism.

Wednesday's ruling is not expected to affect veterans medical benefits.

The VA provides medical benefits to help ex-GIs recover from alcoholism without imposing any time limit.

Groups that help alcoholics said they were disappointed by the ruling, while suggesting its impact may be limited.

Christine Lubinski of the National Council on Alcoholism said, "Certainly, this is a blow to us, and to morale. However... we feel the state of the art in terms of both public awareness about alcoholism as well as the successful treatment of alcoholism will prevail."

The decision was welcomed by Norma Phillips, president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. She said it might encourage

judges to give tougher sentences to drunken-driving cases even that was not even indirectly in the case.

Justice Byron R. White, for the court in the alcoholism case, said the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 does not force the VA to treat alcoholism as a disease.

The law bars federal agencies from discriminating against individuals solely because of a handicap.

"In our view, it is by no means clear that (the law) and the characterization of primary alcoholism willfully incurred disability as a reconcilable conflict."

Those who believe there is a conflict should ask Congress to change the law, he said.

House passes bill to extend amnesty law

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House voted 213-201 Wednesday for a bill that would make the first change in the nation's landmark immigration law, by extending the amnesty deadline for illegal aliens from May 4 to Nov. 30.

House passage of the measure sent the proposal to an uncertain fate in the Senate, where opponents could use delaying tactics.

The Reagan administration opposes the bill, and the chief of the nation's immigration service, Alan Nelson, said he would recommend a veto if the measure reached the president's desk.

The immigration law signed by President Reagan in November 1986 was finely tuned legislation that carefully balanced a legalization program for illegal aliens with penalties for employers who knowingly hiring undocumented workers.

Under the law, those who have lived illegally in the United States since before Jan. 1, 1982, had one year — until May 4 — to apply for temporary residency.

Approval by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for temporary residency allows the aliens to live and work in the United States while they go through a longer process for permanent residency and citizenship.

Those favoring the extension contended the INS was slow in writing rules for the temporary amnesty program, and said many of those who initially feared the agency were at first reluctant to come forward and apply.

The fears existed, the supporters said, even though the law prohibits immigration officials handling amnesty claims from sharing their information on illegal aliens with the INS enforcement agents.

"I am convinced that hundreds of thousands of potentially eligible applicants have not applied and may not be able to apply by the current May 4 deadline," House Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino, D-N.J., said.

Rep. Romano L. Mazzoli, D-Ky., the sponsor of the extension, said 1.2 million aliens have applied for amnesty and 729,000 have received temporary residency cards. Another 400,000 have applied for legalization under a separate program for agricultural workers, but that program is not affected by the bill.

Mazzoli said the number of applicants for the general amnesty program was sizeable but "falls short of the numbers anticipated."

He said that leaving additional illegal aliens in the country would also mean a greater potential pool of undocumented workers.

National Briefs

Panel: Natural gas aids clean-air effort

WASHINGTON (AP) — Glory days may be over for the oil giants of Texas, but the vast potential of natural gas awaits as the nation grapples with cleaning up polluted air, environmentalists, producers and politicians agreed Tuesday.

"There's not much future for the domestic oil industry," said Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens, general partner of Mesa Limited Partnership. "But there is a lot of potential for the natural gas industry."

Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro pulled together environmentalists, politicians and oilmen in what he called a historic meeting to forge an unlikely alliance to lobby for a larger role for natural gas.

"The squeaky wheel gets the oil, but natural gas hasn't been squeaky enough," Mauro said. "It's not told its story loud enough."

Many of those attending the daylong symposium agreed natural gas, the cleanest-burning fossil fuel, can play an important role

in efforts to rid cities of pollution from industry and vehicles.

But officials said a switch to natural gas or alternate fuels by power plants and automobiles is several years away.

Congressman Mike Synar, Okla., vowed Congress will prove legislation by Aug. 1 will yank highway and other funding from states that do not comply with clean-air requirements.

Congress has lifted a ban that cities meet standards until the end of August.

According to an office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 72 cities are not meeting clean-air requirements and are benefiting from the cost reprieve.

"There will be no more clean-air cities," Synar said.

When the debate on clean-air legislation was underway, Synar and Mauro urged gas producers to get into the fray to ensure a role in any bill.

Court upholds control on oil prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld the power of states to control gasoline prices and oil industry profits in a ruling that state officials say will help protect the public when there are energy crises.

The justices voted, 8-0, to reinstate regulations in Puerto Rico that limit oil company profits and prevent an excise tax from being passed on to consumers.

Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for the court, said the absence of specific federal legislation on gasoline regulation leaves the states free to adopt such rules.

The ruling treats Puerto Rico,

a commonwealth, as were a state and territories.

Scalia rejected oil industry arguments that Congress intended a free market in products.

There may be a "pro-gressional desire" for a free market, he said.

"But unenacted regulations and desires are not law," Scalia added. "Without a specific federal law (of state power) it is not a free market as defined by federal law."

Senate OK's Japanese reparations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate voted tentatively Wednesday to give \$20,000 tax-free payments to thousands of Japanese-Americans who were forced from their homes and sent to internment camps during World War II.

The votes came as the Senate worked toward passage of a reparations bill designed to make amends for the losses suffered by about 120,000 Japanese-Americans who were put in the camps after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941.

The bill would require the

United States to apportion mass roundups.

It would make cash payments of \$20,000 to survivors for \$20,000 payments.

On votes of 67-30, the Senate defeated a strip the bill of the while retaining the

The sometimes-heated debate brought Sen. Hiram Boren, D-Ore., to the floor. He said an elderly Japanese-American being killed by gun fire when he was close to a camp fence.

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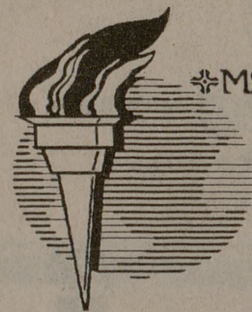
- * Former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara
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- * Former Senator John Tower of Texas

in a series of seminars to be conducted on the 26th of April at 2:30pm.

These gatherings will be limited in size and invitations will be awarded on the basis of an application process only.

Applications are available in Room 216 MSC and are due back by 5pm April 25th. Invitations will be posted in Room 216 MSC by 9pm that evening.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS TO TIFFANY RYAN AT 845-7627.



MSC Wiley Lecture Series

MSC CAMERA GENERAL MEETING



Monday April 25 Rudder 402 7 p.m.
Topic: Studio Photography--Still Lives and Portraits.
Work will be shown and discussed by Dino Marcaccio, studio photography teacher for University Plus.
New members of any major are welcome.