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# Another finalist for commission drops from race

AUSTIN (AP) — Another finalist for executive secretary of the Texas Racing Commission has withdrawn, leaving only one, the commission announced Thursday.

Nancy Fisher, commission deputy secretary, said G.A. Acevedo of Santa Fe, N.M., had withdrawn his name from the list of finalists because his family wished to remain in New Mexico.

Acevedo, 47, has been owner and president of a homebuilding firm in that state since 1977.

Fisher said Acevedo was the first person interviewed by the staff, in July, and "he was looking forward to working with us."

Acevedo worked for the American Totalisator Co. from 1963 to 1977, at race tracks in Arizona, Colorado, California, New Mexico and Mexico. The company leases and services equipment for pari-mutuel business needs.

On Aug. 9, finalist Terence Dunleavy accepted a position similar to the Texas job with the Wisconsin Racing Commission. Dunleavy, 30, of Palos Park, Ill., had been interim executive director and general counsel for the Illinois Racing Board Commission.

The only remaining finalist is Anthony Fasulo, 48, of Deerfield Beach, Fla., 48, but that does not necessarily mean he will get the job, according to Fisher.

She said the staff would review the 78 applications for the job, and present more than one name to the racing commission. "I don't know a solid number — two, three or four — but everyone feels we don't want to go with one."

Racing commission chairman Hilary Doran also said the search committee "wants to submit more than one name for the executive secretary slot to the commission for their consideration."

"I have assured the commission that additional names will be submitted no later than the October formal meeting for their consideration," Doran said.

Fasulo has worked for the Florida Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering since 1982 and has been director of operations since 1987. Before that he was an investigator.

He also has been a counselor-child abuse specialist in Florida and a financial planner in Arizona. According to his resume, as director of operations in Florida he has been responsible for supervision of 33 pari-mutuel facilities, including horse and greyhound tracks and jai alai.

The Racing Commission meets next on Sept. 12 to vote on rules for licenses for pari-mutuel racing, as well as proposed rules for operating a race track.

# Corporation takes control of prison after lengthy fight

PECOS (AP) — Management of a prison owned by Reeves County passed Thursday from the sheriff to a Tennessee-based corporation.

Corrections Corporation of America will now run the county's Law Enforcement Center under terms of a contract approved Monday by county commissioners.

The 532-bed center, which housed 445 federal prisoners on Thursday, had been the object of a three-month power struggle between Sheriff Raul Florez and the federal Bureau of Prisons.

The Bureau of Prisons sends federal prisoners — mostly illegal aliens and people convicted of non-violent crimes — to the county-owned jail. U.S. Marshal's prisoners awaiting trial in federal courts also stay at the LEC.

Because the Bureau of Prisons and U.S. Marshal's service pay Reeves County to house the prisoners, the detention center is intended to be a revenue-raiser for the county.

But in the spring, the Bureau of Prisons stopped sending long-term prisoners and started sending only short-term prisoners to the LEC, citing concerns with Florez' management. The bureau became even more concerned after Florez replied to bureau officials with a letter filled with slang and containing profanity, BOP spokesman Wally Blinde said.

"The letter, in tone, complexion and nature of the reply, was totally and wholly unprofessional," Blinde said after receiving the letter in June.

Florez contended that he was supposed to run the center under state law because it was a legal extension of the County Jail. After the county approved the contract with Nashville-based CCA, Florez said he had no objections.

The Board of Prisons acted quickly after CCA administrator Sandy Estes began managing the prison Thursday, said CCA spokesman Peggy Wilson. The BOP notified the facility that it planned to send 50 or 60 more prisoners there by the end of the week, she said.

Commissioners selected CCA after reviewing proposals from three prison-management companies. Wilson said the LEC's 100 employees will stay on.

Under terms of the agreement, CCA will receive a \$36,000 monthly management fee and will be reimbursed for operating costs of up to \$279,000 a month, County Attorney Scott Johnson said.

The county receives \$31 a day for each federal prisoner and \$33 a day for each U.S. Marshal's prisoner. That money goes to pay CCA and what's left goes into the county's coffers.

# Grocery prices to rise, show drought's effects

**From Staff and Wire Reports**  
 Bryan-College Station consumers may find grocery specials hard to come by once the Labor Day marketing push is over and prices begin to more closely reflect the effects of the drought, said Dr. Dick Edwards, an agricultural economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M.

Although stores will probably still feature special prices on some items, the sales should be less frequent and prices will likely be higher than usual for September.

"The drought has had a direct impact on meat, poultry and egg prices and the late summer produce," Edwards said.

"It's also caused havoc in food retailing, because marketing programs which include special pricing, promotions, advertising and coupons are planned months in advance. Many fall promotions won't be started because of uncertainty of available supplies," he said.

For September, Texas Agricultural Extension Service economists and marketing specialists report the following "best buys":

**Vegetables** — Plentiful supplies of potatoes from the Texas High Plains and other producing states make weekly specials likely. Onions, carrots, cauliflower, green peppers and

lettuce are also in good supply, but prices may not reflect it.

**Fruit** — Apple and pear crops are smaller than last year's record harvest, but prices should be at or just above last year's 49 cents per pound.

**Meat** — Beef prices dropped slightly in July because of herd sell-off, but the effects are lessening and animals now being processed were fed on higher priced grain. Specials will probably be limited to low-price cuts.

**Poultry and eggs** — Chicken prices will continue to increase because of higher feed prices and loss of flocks due to heat. The last remaining bargain may be the leg-high quarter, averaging 59-69 cents per pound, although last year the going rate was 29 cents per pound.

**Breakfast foods** — Despite the increase in grain prices, consumers still benefit by manufacturers' specials prompted by competition among cereal makers. Other price specials may be found on sausage, breakfast bars and coffee.

**Dairy products** — Since prices paid to dairy farmers for fluid milk are relatively stable, they should be less impacted by rising farm expenses. Discounts may be found on milk, cheese and margarine.

**Snack foods** — The stores will continue to feature items popular for school lunches and after-school snacks.

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