

Pay hike includes inactive jurists

Senior federal judges get big raise if Congress approves plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Observers in Congress, universities and public interest groups questioned the fairness and wisdom Monday of giving big pay raises to dozens of senior federal judges who, like former Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, do no legal work.

All 306 senior federal judges — even those who no longer wield a gavel — will see their salaries rise by about 50 percent unless Congress disapproves raises due for top federal officials Feb. 8.

Burger's salary, for example, will increase by \$60,000 to \$175,000 a year.

"We need to look into this much further," said Rep. Carlos Moorhead, who last year sidetracked an effort to lower the eligibility age for senior status.

"It doesn't seem fair," said the California Republican, who sits on the House courts subcommittee and is a member of a national commission studying the future of the federal judiciary.

Moorhead said the commission might look at the issue, and Congress may want to study "establishing some minimum work to qualify for the raises."

David Keating of the 150,000-member National Taxpayers Union, a public interest group that promotes tax and spending reduction, decried giving more money to all senior judges.

"It's appalling that they're getting huge salaries for doing nothing and now are receiving substantial pay raises for continuing to do nothing," Keating said. "There ought to be some minimum standard of work to qualify for any pay raise."

Older federal judges who opt for senior status qualify for active-duty pay raises even after stepping down from full-time duty. When he retired as chief justice in 1986, Burger's salary was \$108,400. He chose senior status, and in 1987 his judicial salary rose to \$115,000 when his successor's pay rose to that level.

Burger, who is working full-time as the unpaid chairman of the anniversary celebration of the Constitution, declined to discuss his pay increase other than to say, "I'm too busy to sit."

Judges who retire through resignation — the other option provided by Congress — keep for life the same salary they received on their last day of work.

Senior status is available to any judge who is at

least 65 with 15 years experience, or 70 with 10 years.

Administrative records obtained by the Associated Press indicate that roughly one in five of the nation's senior judges do no judicial work whatsoever. Only 13 former judges have passed up senior status to choose full retirement.

The law allows senior judges to turn down any work they don't want.

Lloyd Cutler, a prominent Washington attorney who chaired the commission that recommended the pay raises, said this pay system was intended by Congress and will have little impact on the giant federal deficit.

But Cutler added, "You may have a point that if they don't work they shouldn't receive more than retired judges."

For those senior judges who do not work, reasons can differ dramatically.

James Noel Jr., a senior judge in Houston, performed his last judicial duty in 1978 when his annual salary was \$54,500 — \$80,500 a year less than he stands to begin receiving next month.

Asked why he chose senior status and not resignation, Noel said, "It was just a matter of choice."

What's Up

Tuesday

- COSGA: will have a general committee meeting at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder.
- N.O.W.: will meet at 7 p.m. in 507 Rudder.
- FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: will have a Bible study at 7 p.m. in 604 Rudder.
- MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder.
- NUTRITION CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. at Mr. Gatti's.
- TAMU SURF CLUB: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder.
- OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ART COLLECTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS: will have a lecture at 4 p.m. in Rudder Exhibit Hall.
- STUDENT Y: will meet at 7 p.m. in 601 Rudder.
- GAM STUDENT SERVICES: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 305 Rudder.
- TAMU METEOROLOGY SOCIETY: will meet at 7 p.m. in the observatory.
- KLEIN HOMETOWN CLUB: will meet at 8 p.m. at the Flying Tomato.
- RECREATIONAL SPORTS: will have registration for team bowling, racquetball singles, wallyball, slam dunk, archery doubles and a backpacking trip from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in 159 Read.
- STUDENTS AGAINST APARTHEID: will meet at 7 p.m. in 507 Rudder.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's student center.
- ON CAMPUS CATHOLICS: will meet at 9 p.m. at All Faiths Chapel.
- ETA KAPPA NU: will meet at 7 p.m. in 104B Zachry.
- SILVER TAPS: will be at 10:30 p.m. at the Sul Ross statue.
- PRETHEOLOGY SOCIETY: will meet at 7 p.m. in 228 MSC.
- TRIATHLON CLUB: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 230 G. Rollie White.
- AGGIE SPACE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY: will watch "Marooned" at 5 p.m. in 105 Architecture.
- TAMU SAILING TEAM: will meet at 8 p.m. in 104 Zachry.
- TOASTMASTERS: will meet at 7 p.m. in 105 Zachry.
- ALL NIGHT FAIR: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 310 Rudder.
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at noon. Call the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for details.
- COCAINE ANONYMOUS: will meet at 8 p.m. Call the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for details.
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: The international week committee will meet to coordinate Buffet International at 7 p.m. in 502 Rudder.
- THE SPANISH CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. at 747 Plantation Oaks. New members are always welcome.
- TAU SIGMA DELTA: will have an informational meeting at 7 p.m. in 207 C Langford Architecture.

Wednesday

- WOMEN'S STUDIES: will have a free film "I've Heard a Mermaid Singing" at 7 p.m. in 200 Harrington.
- BLACK AWARENESS COMMITTEE: will have an executive officers meeting at 5 p.m. in 146 MSC, and will telecast "Beyond the Dream: A Celebration of Black History" at 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. in 701 Rudder.
- PHI BETA LAMBDA: will have a smoker at 7 p.m. in 206 MSC.
- CLASS OF '90-'91 BALL: will have a class ball meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder.
- ADVERTISING ASSOCIATION: will meet at 7 p.m. in 150 Blocker.
- MEXICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder.
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: will have auditions for the dress parade and the talent show from 7-10 p.m. in 226 MSC.
- STUDY ABROAD OFFICE: The deadline for exchange program applications are due by 5 p.m. in 161 Bizzell West.
- NEWMAN: will meet at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will have a Catholic single's happy hour at 6 p.m. at the Sundance Club in the Hilton.
- CATHOLICS ON THE QUAD: will meet at 9 p.m. in Lounge B on the quad.
- OBJECTIVIST CLUB: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 231 MSC.
- MSC VISUAL ARTS: will have a general committee meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder.
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at noon. Call the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for details.
- NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at 8:30 p.m. Call the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for details.
- TAMU RACQUETBALL CLUB: will meet at 8 p.m. by Court 7 in Read.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We only publish the name and phone number of the contact if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are run on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3315.

Advocates condemn hormone treatment of beef, ask for ban

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer groups sided Monday with Europe's ban on hormone-treated beef from the United States, urging federal regulators to develop a way to grade drug-free meat for domestic and overseas consumption.

Consumer advocates also asked President Bush to negotiate a 90-day truce in the trans-Atlantic dispute over hormone-treated beef before it escalates into a trade war, and to reverse the administration's position against letting Texas and other states export hormone-free beef to Europe.

The European Economic Community has warned it will slap tough tariffs on American walnuts and dried fruit if no progress is made by Feb. 20 to end the dispute over hormones used by domestic producers to fatten cattle more quickly.

The EEC on Jan. 1 banned imports of beef treated with hormones, contending they are a health threat. The United States disputes those claims and retaliated against the loss of about \$100 million in annual beef sales by setting \$100 million in higher tariffs on a variety of Common Market goods.

In the meantime, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower has been working with the European Economic Community to certify hormone-free beef from Texas and find buyers for the Lone Star exports.

But the U.S. Trade Representa-

tive's office last week said such a deal would not be allowed because the U.S. Department of Agriculture has no way to certify beef is hormone-free, a prerequisite for export.

Rod Leonard, executive director of the Community Nutrition Institute, said he believes USDA "can do a certification procedure if it wants to" and questioned the administration's decision to ban such exports as farmers, inching toward recovery after their worst recession in decades, have an opportunity to find new markets.

"The first thing out of the gun is that the Reagan administration and now apparently the Bush administration is clamping down on that export market for no economic reason," Leonard said Monday.

Leonard said a 90-day cooling off period would give Bush time to develop a hormone-free beef certification procedure, and so "cooler heads can get together and try to resolve this issue without retaliation."

"If the European Community and the United States proceed in the direction that they're going we very well could have a real trade war in which consumers on both sides of the Atlantic are really going to be the ones who get hurt," Leonard said.

The Consumer Federation of America said the EEC's ban is "an issue of consumer protection and not trade protection."

Police suspect suicide in cult defector's death

HOUSTON (AP) — Police are investigating the apparent suicide of the estranged daughter of the founder of a polygamist cult because of the cult's reputation for "blood atonement" against defectors.

Lillian Chynoweth, 33, a daughter of the late Ervil LeBaron, founder of the Church of the Lamb of God, was shot once in the right side of her head, homicide Lt. Richard Holland said.

Chynoweth, dressed only in a housecoat, was found dead on the sitting room floor of her northwest Houston home Saturday morning by her 13-year-old daughter, who was awakened by the gunshot. A .357-caliber pistol lay nearby.

The pistol, Holland said, had been given to Chynoweth's 14-year-old son by a family friend — for protection in light of the killings last June of Chynoweth's husband, her brother-in-law and a niece.

There were no signs of forced entry or foul play, Holland said. In addition, he said, Chynoweth had been seeking treatment for depression and had "recent conversations of suicide with friends and family."

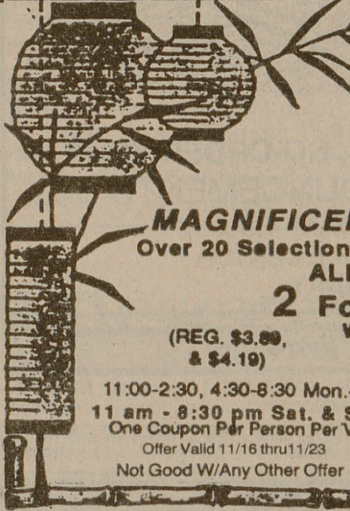
"Violent death seems to follow these people," Holland said, referring to the cult's reputation for "blood atonement" against members who defect from the church.

Preliminary evidence in Chynoweth's death points to suicide.

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PHI ETA SIGMA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society will this year award \$35,000 in graduate and undergraduate scholarships and awards to selected members of Phi Eta Sigma across the nation. There are \$2,000 awards for seniors who plan to enter graduate or professional schools in Spring 1989. There are \$500 awards that are to be given to juniors and sophomores for the Fall of 1989. Any eligible member of Phi Eta Sigma who is interested in applying for one of the awards or scholarships should get in touch with Dr. Curtis Lard in 109 Kleburg, phone 845-3712. Only Phi Eta Sigma members are eligible for the scholarships. The deadline for applications is February 14, 1989.

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