

Monday, November 27, 1989

Marchers say racism led to death

MALONE (AP) — A weekend march to protest the death of a burglary suspect in this central Texas town drew only about 30 people.

The sign-carrying demonstrators who marched around the small Hill County town for about an hour on Saturday also said they intend to ask the FBI to investigate the death of James Oliver King Jr., 24.

King, who had a felony record for burglary, died on Oct. 9 after being chased for several miles and more than a hour by several townspeople. He apparently died from his body being compressed by three men who finally captured him and held him down until sheriff's department officials could arrive in the town without police protection.

At least three of the many involved in the chase were carrying guns and were within yards of King at times, but no shots were fired during the chase.

A Hill County grand jury cleared the three men, one of whom was Mayor James Lucko.

"I feel like injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. There's always been justifiable homicide when it comes to the death of a black person."

— Rev. Marion Barnett,

The men said they had not tried to kill King, but explained it had taken great force to take away a brick he was holding.

The marchers said they find fault with the grand jury's decision to no-bill the three, and they contend King would not have died if he was white instead of black. The three men who restrained him were white.

"I feel like injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere," said the Rev. Marion Barnett, pastor of Hill Avenue Baptist Church of Dallas, who was one of the marchers. "There's always been justifiable homicide when it comes to the death of a black person."

Marcher Johnny Miller, 42, a mechanic from nearby Itasca, acknowledged that King had been found in the home of an elderly woman.

"Even if the individual was guilty, it was not a crime punishable by death," Miller said.

Most of the marchers were from other towns, including Fort Worth and Dallas, according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

As the procession wound through the small town, residents quietly watched from front porches, storefronts and street corners.

Former Gov. White plans to finish agenda after announcing gubernatorial candidacy

HOUSTON (AP) — Former Gov. Mark White, expected to announce his gubernatorial candidacy Wednesday, says he wants to complete an unfinished agenda.

"He felt like he wasn't through — that there were things he wanted to get accomplished," Betty Fortinberry, White's sister, said. "We all feel hesitant to get back into it. Let's face it, it's not fun not to win. But he thinks it's worth putting it on the line."

White, an attorney, plans to take on State Treasurer Ann Richards and Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in the March primary.

White, who served as governor 1983-87, lost a re-election bid by 300,000 votes to Bill

Clements, whom he unseated in the previous election in 1982.

White admits the defeat, at least in part, came in response to his support of sweeping educational reforms that included a no-pass, no-play provision for students and teacher literacy testing.

But he said the prospect of more educational changes from an overhaul of the state's school financing plan has attracted him to the position for a second time.

"I'm not running just to hold the office," White said. "I'm running to make changes over the next four years."

White said he is proud of his accomplishments as governor. He was hailed for attracting business and industry to Texas, guar-

anteeing increased funding for highway repair and construction and making major overhauls to the state's public education system through the Education Reform Act of 1984, or House Bill 72, as it was more commonly known.

While some Texans were upset by disruptions to high school football programs or threatened careers of teachers, White said the work has improved student test scores and assured a strong body of teachers.

"The bottom line is kids are doing better in schools," White said.

"We changed the lives of a lot of people," White said. "We upset people. But now we don't have to look over our shoulders and say we don't have teachers who can't pass a test.

We will never have to do that again."

White also was criticized for the passage of \$4.8 billion in new taxes and major increases in state fees to help fund the school reforms and highway improvements. In addition, it was during his administration that the price of oil plunged the state into a deep recession.

"People recognize now that even though it was a discomfort to them at the time, it was in everyone's best interest," White said. "I think the evidence is clear now that we did the right thing."

While Clements focused on White's tax record, the Republican governor was forced in 1987 to approve the largest tax increase in state history in 1987: \$5.7 billion.

Scientists build space-age wind tunnel

ARLINGTON (AP) — Scientists at the University of Texas at Arlington are putting final touches on a new project that may be a significant step toward the development of commuter space travel.

A sophisticated wind tunnel—one of the largest to be ever built—should be ready to use next month, officials said.

The project is being built to support development of the National Aero-Space Plane, an experimental aircraft designed to fly at up to 25 times the speed of sound. The aircraft would be able to reach Earth's orbit, then return using conventional airports.

The speed of sound is about 761 mph at sea level, and officials say the UTA wind tunnel will generate

bursts of air up to 18 times that fast. It is far faster than most conventional test facilities can create and far greater than the top speeds of conventional aircraft.

The new wind tunnel at UT-Arlington cost \$200,000, not including about \$150,000 worth of test-chamber equipment donated by the LTV Corp., according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Frank Lu, an assistant professor of aerospace engineering at UTA, said scientists will use the new tunnel to conduct basic research to see how air flows around aircraft that travel at hypersonic speeds. Those air speeds five times the speed of sound or more.

"With hypersonic, we really don't know too much," Lu said. "We know

the interactions will be very severe. We need to explore the fundamentals by understanding the physics."

The UTA wind tunnel consists mostly of a 37-foot-long steel pipe, 6 inches in diameter. At one end is a small chamber where air or helium is compressed up to 6,000 pounds per square inch. At the other end is a test chamber, where small-scale models of structural components will be placed.

The compressed air or helium is released through a system of diaphragms, which creates a shock wave that flows the length of the pipe and into a nozzle mechanism. The compressed air picks up speed and moves into the test chamber, where it expands into a smooth, even and

extremely high-speed flow that last only about five one-thousandths of a second.

Aerospace engineering professor Don Wilson said engineers spent hours designing and building aerodynamically exact models and wiring them with sophisticated electronic sensors that will record and analyze a variety of pressure and temperature readings.

UTA officials say a second hypersonic tunnel will be built next summer that will allow tests as long as 30 seconds. It also will allow scientists to alter conditions during tests.

"Between the two, we'll have a lot of flexibility," Wilson said.

The research and development phase of the space-plane program is now expected to run through 1992.

Police await rape suspect's DNA results

DALLAS (AP) — McKinney police are awaiting results of court-ordered DNA tests on hair and blood samples taken from a 15-year-old boy suspected of raping and killing a 12-year-old McKinney girl on Thanksgiving Day 1988, officials said.

The test results probably will determine whether the 15-year-old will be charged in the rape and fatal stabbing of Amanda Miller.

The court order came from a state district judge in Dallas County. The order was moved to a Dallas court after the suspect moved with his family from McKinney, in Collin County, to a Dallas suburb after Miller's death, police said.

Officials have been trying for several months to conduct the tests on the suspect, whose identity is being withheld because he is a juvenile and because he has not been charged in the crime, said McKinney Police Chief Ken Walker.

The 15-year-old is the prime suspect in the rape and stabbing of Miller on Nov. 24, 1988, in her home north of downtown McKinney, police said.

The boy, who was 14 at the time of Miller's death, emerged as the prime suspect within a month, Walker said.

The boy knew Miller and had been seen near her house the evening of the crime, officials said. They said he also had a history of attacking people with knives.

The suspect would not voluntarily consent to the DNA testing.

DNA can be determined by blood samples or other body fluids taken from individuals or from crime scenes. The testing shows the band pattern that represents the signature or "fingerprint" of an individual's DNA.

Caravan travels from Indiana to Guatemala in an effort to provide supplies for needy

DALLAS (AP) — For the fifth straight year, a caravan of emergency vehicles will travel from Indiana to Guatemala so that people who can't afford medical supplies, clothes and eyeglasses will have them.

The 3,200-mile pilgrimage began on Thanksgiving Day and is scheduled to arrive in Guatemala on Saturday.

In 1984, Indiana cattle farmer Jim Cameron went to the Central American country to distribute eyeglasses to needy people.

But Cameron noticed that people needed other supplies as well.

"I realized they could use anything we could bring them, especially emergency vehicles," said Cameron, a member of Lions Club International.

So Cameron organized the caravan, which this year has 14 vehicles and 42 volunteers.

Another ambulance is being shipped from Sweden and will be added to the caravan when two Swedish Lions Club members join the group in McAllen on Monday.

The group was in Dallas over the weekend.

The volunteers will spend four days in Guatemala before flying back to the United States, Cameron said.

"We'll leave the vehicles in the country because they don't have very many, and we'll dispense the eyeglasses," Cameron told the Dallas Morning

"These things don't mean a lot to us, but they mean a whole lot to people down there where they don't have anything."

— Wallace Huffman
volunteer

News. "We'll probably fix about 4,000 people with eyeglasses."

The ambulances were donated by members of local chapters of Lions Club International, Cameron said.

Members of the Carmel, Ind., chapter spon-

sored fish fries and sold oranges and grapefruits to raise the money to buy the ambulance being driven to Guatemala by 64-year-old Reid Compton.

Compton, who is making his second trip, said his visit last year convinced him that the cause was worthwhile.

"We took a firetruck last year, and you would think they were going to eat it up," Compton said. "The mayor came out, and they brought a band to play for us."

Cameron said the group has also collected 12,000 pairs of used glasses, including 19 pairs donated by first lady Barbara Bush, to deliver to Guatemalans.

Wallace Huffman, 71, of Warsaw said he and his wife Virginia look forward to making the sojourn because the people they help really seem to appreciate their efforts.

"These things don't mean a lot to us, but they mean a whole lot to people down there where they don't have anything," Huffman, who is making his third trip this year, said.

MSC *University* PLUS

Presents...

1989

Christmas Craft Festival

Nov. 28th & 29th

9am-5pm

Rudder Fountain Mall

Quality handcrafted items at affordable prices!

Jewelry

Pottery

Woodworks

Novelties

T-Shirts

Creative Clothing

Needleworks

and much more...

