

Tuesday, November 20, 1990

Tickets remain for Bolshoi productions

The Bolshoi Ballet-Grigorovich Company will present "The Nutcracker," and "The Best of The Bolshoi," a mixed repertoire that includes Act II of "Swan Lake."

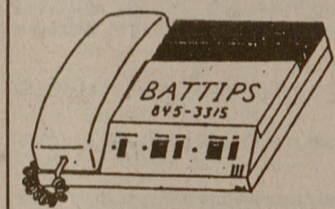
The performances are scheduled as follows:

- "The Nutcracker"
 - Friday at 8 p.m.
 - Saturday at 8 p.m.
 - Sunday at 2 p.m. (Sold Out) and 8 p.m.
 - Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. (Sold Out)
 - Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. (Sold Out) and 8 p.m. (Sold Out)
- "The Best of The Bolshoi"
 - Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.
 - Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.

The prices of the remaining tickets on sale are:

- For this weekend's 8 p.m. performances — \$30 for a balcony seat, \$40 for the last 13 rows in the orchestra level and \$50 for the first 13 rows on the orchestra level, the mezzanine and the boxes.
 - For all other performances — \$15, \$25 and \$35 for the same seats.
- For more information on ticket availability, call the MSC Box Office at 845-1234.

BATTIPS



Anyone with story suggestions can call BATTIPS, The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers. The BATTIPS number is 845-3315. Ideas can include news stories, feature ideas and personality profiles of interesting people.

Dallas county commissioner, police officer meet to discuss altercation

DALLAS (AP) — County Commissioner John Wiley Price and Dallas police officer Robert Bernal met face-to-face Monday for the first time since their Nov. 5 altercation that heightened racial unrest in the city.

The two met in the office of Bernal's attorney for about two hours while community leaders got together to discuss the incident and the inflammatory effect it's had on race relations.

Community leaders on Monday called for Price and Bernal to apologize to each other and to the people of Dallas. The groups expressed hope for an out-of-court resolution and encouraged citizens to avoid violence.

Price and Bernal's meeting was cordial and no resolution was made, said Bernal's attorney, Bob Baskett. He said the two will meet again Tuesday.

"It certainly wasn't hostile and was gentlemanly conducted," Baskett said. Neither Price nor Bernal were available for comment on the meeting.

A grand jury this week is scheduled to review Price's actions during the altercation, sparked by Bernal, who was off-duty when he approached Price while jogging and allegedly uttered a racial slur.

Bernal told his superiors that Price chased him down and pointed an Uzi submachine gun at his head. Price contends he was holding a pellet gun, which he denies pointing at Bernal, who was not in uniform.

Bernal denies using any racial slurs, but acknowledges yelling a derogatory remark while jogging past the commissioner's home.

Bernal was taken off patrol duty after the incident and an internal affairs investigation is continuing. On Friday he was granted his request for paid leave until the matter is resolved.

Baskett has said Bernal was angry at Price over Price's comments in September that a violent street war would erupt if the city replaced fired police chief Mack Vines with a "good old boy" insensitive to minority concerns. Price said he and others would shoot at police, a comment he later said he shouldn't have uttered.

Black and Hispanic civic leaders met Monday to talk about ways to ease the tension. Price is black; Bernal is Hispanic.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we will engage in a potentially violent reaction if this matter is not settled," said Michael Gonzales, president of the Dallas Hispanic Citizens Council. "That's why we need to come, as black and Hispanic leaders, together to attempt to diffuse the situation before a bad situation becomes worse."

Representatives from the NAACP joined the Hispanic Citizens Council in a statement directing Price and Bernal to apologize to each other and to Dallas.

The Mexican-American Bar Association and the J.L. Turner Legal Society also met and asked the pair to settle their differences out of court.

Limited hours observed by University

Much of Texas A&M will be closed Thursday and Friday as faculty, staff and students celebrate the Thanksgiving holidays.

Because of Friday's performance of the Bolshoi Ballet Grigorovich Company and Saturday's football game with TCU, however, some facilities that ordinarily would be closed Thursday through Sunday will be open but observe limited hours.

The following facilities will be closed Thursday through Saturday: the barber shop, browsing library, craft center, and student finance offices in the MSC.

The MSC bookstore will be closed Thursday and Friday, and the box office will be closed throughout much of the long weekend, but will be open one hour prior to each ballet performance.

Specific offices and holiday hours are as follows:

- MSC main desk and post office lobby — open 24 hours.
- Rudder Tower: closed Thursday; open 3 to 11 p.m. Friday; open 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
- Bookstore: closed Thursday through Friday; open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday.

- MSC Cafeteria: open 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday; closed Thursday; open 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday; open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday.

- P.O. Window: closed Thursday, open 10 a.m. to noon Friday; closed Saturday and Sunday.

- Student Programs Office: closed Thursday through Saturday; open 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

- Visitors Information Center: closed Thursday and Friday; open 9 a.m. to noon Saturday; closed Sunday.

- The Sterling C. Evans Library: closed Thursday; open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Will resume regular hours Sunday.
- The Medical Sciences Library: open until 5:30 p.m. Wednesday; closed Thursday; open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 10 p.m. Sunday.

- The University Police Department will remain open throughout the holiday period, but other offices and facilities will be closed.

Greyhound Lines Inc. files for reorganization

DALLAS (AP) — Greyhound Lines Inc., the nation's largest intercity bus line that sought bankruptcy protection after a strike, filed a reorganization plan Monday that transfers most of the company's value to creditors and keeps its routes operating.

The plan, entered in federal bankruptcy court in Corpus Christi, will reduce Greyhound's debt by \$171 million and reshape its corporate structure. Creditors will receive new common stock and \$165 million in securities under the plan. Equity held by Greyhound's present owners will be canceled.

Greyhound filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy code in early June, three months after its 6,000 drivers went on strike over wages and benefits.

"It's important that everyone recognize the fast track we have followed in getting this plan on file," said George W. Hanthorn, senior vice president and general counsel for Greyhound. "We think having the plan move forward and be confirmed quickly is in the best interests of everybody, most especially our creditors."

All of Greyhound's routes will

continue and customers will see no difference in the operation as the plan proceeds through court, Hanthorn said.

The expense of fighting the strike and a fall in revenue after the strike siphoned cash Greyhound needed to operate, the company said when it sought bankruptcy protection June 4.

Greyhound lost \$108 million in the first three quarters of 1990, including \$50 million in the first quarter. Company debts totaled \$384 million at the end of the first quarter, the legacy of a leveraged buyout three years ago led by Greyhound chairman Fred G. Currey that took the company private.

Greyhound's debt rose to \$631 million by the time it sought bankruptcy protection. Under the plan, Greyhound's debt would fall to \$460 million.

"We believe it is a prudent level of debt for the company to maintain and operate with," Hanthorn said.

Completion of the plan hinges partly on how bankruptcy Judge Richard S. Schmidt views unfair labor practice charges leveled at Greyhound by the National Labor Relations Board.

Bell accused of over-collecting Consumers call for lower telephone rates

AUSTIN (AP) — A state consumer advocate, accusing Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. of overcharging customers by \$1 billion, stepped up a call Monday for Texas regulators to reject as inadequate a proposed rate case settlement.

The telephone company disagrees with the figures from consumer groups, saying they leave out legitimate expenses.

The state lawyer for residential and small commercial ratepayers, C. Kingsbery Ottmers, charged that Southwestern Bell has over-collected \$1 billion from customers in the 22 months its case has been before the Public Utility Commission.

Joined by groups including Consumers Union and a coalition of 103 cities, Ottmers said the PUC should reduce Southwestern Bell's rates by at least \$392 million a year right away. Consumer groups opposing the settlement say the telephone company is overcharging customers more than \$1 million a day.

"What is the response of (PUC's) general counsel and Southwestern Bell to this situation? They've told ratepayers either take the crumbs

we've offered you, or continue the over-collections while we hold new hearings," Ottmers said.

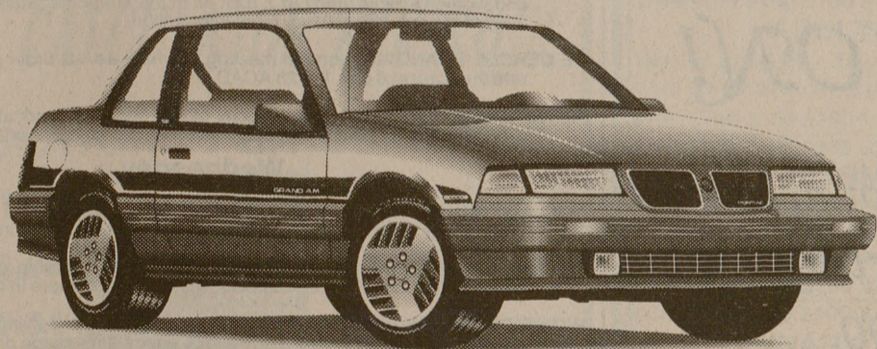
The PUC general counsel, Bob Rima, is among parties that support the proposed Southwestern Bell rate case settlement. Ottmers contended at a news conference that Rima instead should join the call for temporary rates.

Rima said if the settlement is rejected by the PUC, he would resume a plea that Southwestern Bell's current rates be made temporary. That could allow any overcharge to be refunded at the conclusion of a full-blown rate case.

Ottmers wants telephone rates to be reduced at least temporarily, until such a rate case is concluded. The telephone company says the law does not provide for interim rates in a case like this one, which was initiated by the PUC rather than the utility.

Southwestern Bell says the proposed settlement would be worth \$1.2 billion to customers over four years, but consumers say the annual revenue reduction to Southwestern Bell is far less, at \$73 million a year.

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