

Permit would allow local liquor delivery

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a scotch and water."

Collins said selling liquor "to go" would be legal, and delivery could be legal if a special permit were obtained.

"A package store like J.J.'s can get a local package permit," Collins said. "This would allow them to deliver liquor within a two-mile radius of the city they are located in."

Moati said Fat Burger did not secure any permits. He said the

delivery of daiquiris by the restaurant "just didn't work out."

Sale of liquor away from a licensed premise is punishable by a \$100 to \$1,000 fine and a jail term of up to one year. The violation would also result in suspension of the owner's license.

Collins said no charges had been filed against Moati or Fat Burger. He said no decision concerning charges would be made until the agents who investigated the deliveries filed their reports.

House leaders commit to finding funds to fully support state's education system

AUSTIN (AP) — Some House leaders said Wednesday, in the wake of a decision upholding the state's new school finance law, that they intend to fully fund the education system.

Lawmakers are meeting in a special session, which ends next Tuesday, to write a state budget facing a \$4.8 billion deficit.

State District Judge F. Scott McCown upheld the property tax system created by the state's

new school finance law, but said the \$1.7 billion plan must be funded to be equitable.

However, House members this week approved a two-year state budget that would slash state spending and a \$30 million tax bill that could be up to \$1.5 billion short of paying even for that. Senate leaders say about \$2.5 billion to \$2.8 billion in new revenue would be required for their proposed spending plan.



PENNY DELOS SANTOS/The Battalion

Dig in!

Dwayne Berger, a worker for Young Brothers Construction, clears the hillside of Mt. Aggie for construction of steps. Because of the large amount of rain this summer, one side of the mountain slopes more than the other.

Legislature considers bonds for plant sites

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards on Wednesday opened the agenda of the special session to legislation that would allow the state to issue \$500 million in bonds to help attract a McDonnell Douglas aircraft plant.

Eight sites in the nation are being considered for the aircraft plant, including Alliance Airport in Fort Worth and Ellington Field in Houston.

Last week, House Speaker Gil Lewis, D-Fort Worth, introduced legislation to issue the bonds as part of an incentive package to the St. Louis-based McDonnell Douglas Corp.

The plant would manufacture the new MD-12 jet, a 375-passenger commercial aircraft. It would create 8,600 direct jobs, 14,000 indirect jobs and 12,250 construction jobs, according to the speaker's office.

Lawmakers are meeting in special session to write and pass a 1992-93 state budget. The session ends Tuesday.

Meanwhile voters in Kansas City, Mo., overwhelmingly rejected a proposed property tax increase that would have helped finance the new plant if McDonnell Douglas selected that city for the site.

The vote Tuesday was 26,209 to 42,902, or 38 percent in favor and 62 percent against.

Proponents said after the defeat that they would continue the campaign to get the plant, but consider Kansas City to be much less attractive.

"Had we passed the tax increase, we would have been high above the crowd," Cleaver said. "I think we would've been a shoo-in. Now we are in the running with every other city."

Pat Houtakker, 32, who voted against both proposals, said first, the city should not be subsidizing McDonnell Douglas and second, regressive taxes are high enough.

Settlement calls for state school closure

DALLAS (AP) — A 17-year-old lawsuit over care for the mentally retarded took a sudden turn Wednesday with a proposed settlement that may close two of Texas' 13 state schools.

The action surprised observers and upset some families of the retarded.

The closures, endorsed by Gov. Ann Richards, would be a first for Texas, which has never closed a state school since the system began in 1917.

"We worked very hard to

bring that about," Richards said of the settlement.

Closing schools would result in several hundred residents being placed in smaller care settings in many Texas communities.

In addition, the settlement would mean the gradual end of federal court monitoring of state schools, which has occurred since 1983.

"It's a good agreement for the state and for the plaintiffs," said Paul Coggins, a private attorney

hired by the Texas Attorney General's Office to represent the Department of Mental Health-Mental Retardation. "It's much better to spend state money on the clients than on the litigation."

Before the settlement can be implemented, it requires approval from U.S. District Judge Barefoot Sanders, who is overseeing the case, and creation of a task force to recommend either closing or consolidating state schools.

Otherwise, litigation would continue in the case known as Lelsz vs. Kavanagh.

"If by 1994 a state school is not closed, we're back in court," said David Ferleger, the Philadelphia attorney representing 2,000 of the roughly 7,000 state school residents.

While endorsed by Ferleger, his client and lead plaintiff in the case is furious over the settlement.

Sting operation by Texas Rangers apprehends former chief of police

HALTOM CITY (AP) — A former Azle police chief will be charged with organizing criminal activity for allegedly putting together an outlaw squad to rob drug dealers in their homes, officials said.

David Wilhelm was arrested Tuesday after he rushed into a Haltom City home filled with Texas Rangers in a sting operation organized by a detective whom Wilhelm thought he had recruited, authorities said.

Officers Wednesday issued a warrant for a former Azle reserve police officer, who is believed to be a member of the group. The organization allegedly was going to target about 15 drug dealers in Tarrant County.

Authorities said Wilhelm and the other man believed they had recruited Haltom City Detective Charles Beltram, who had once worked

with Wilhelm.

But Beltram was cooperating with the Texas Rangers and Tuesday led Wilhelm to a house where nine Rangers were waiting.

"I thought this whole thing was a setup," Beltram said. "Once he told me the plans, I contacted the Texas Rangers. They've been aware of this for several weeks."

Wilhelm, 45, of Springtown, was released from the Haltom City Jail Wednesday on a writ of habeas corpus, said Haltom City police Commander Wayne McQueary.

Charges of engaging in organized criminal activity will be filed against Wilhelm either Thursday or Friday, officials said.

Officers have not determined if the group had raided any homes of suspected drug dealers, McQueary said.

Student escapes San Antonio curfew law

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio's new curfew nearly nabbed its first violator, but the Constitution got in the way.

San Antonio police said Adanjes Quavez, 15, co-chairman of Students United for Justice, avoided receiving the first citation early Wednesday by claiming one of the many exemptions in the ordinance.

"He said he was exercising his First Amendment right to assemble," said Patrolman James Jones, who was prepared to write Quavez a ticket shortly af-

ter the curfew went into effect at 12:01 a.m.

"That's one of the weaknesses of the curfew, these exceptions," Jones said.

Officers began enforcing the city's new curfew shortly after midnight after receiving special citation forms and instructions on curfew enforcement.

The ordinance bans youths under 17 from being out in public between midnight and 6 a.m.

Five members of the League of United Latin American Citizens Youth Council 301 gathered on a

sidewalk to greet the start of the curfew with a protest. Chavez joined the group.

Patrolman Jones and Patrolman Patrick Gallagher confronted the youths who had gathered for the protest.

"Hey Adan, you gonna be the first?" Jones asked. As Jones prepared to write the citation, Quavez and the others told the officers they were exercising their First Amendment rights to assemble peacefully.

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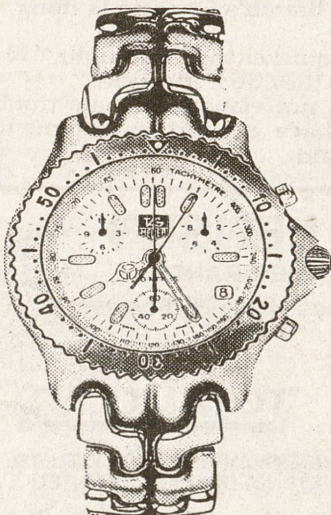
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