

Chairman of DFW says Dallas official threatens negative publicity

Councilman fights restrictions against Love Field

FORT WORTH (AP) — The chairman of the board that oversees DFW Airport said a Dallas city councilman threatened negative advertising against the airport and its major carrier, American Airlines, unless flight restrictions against Dallas Love Field are eased.

Another in a series of attempts to overturn a 1979 law known as the Wright Amendment failed Tuesday in the U.S. Senate. The legislation prohibits airlines from providing service between Dallas Love Field and destinations outside of Texas and its four surrounding states — Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and New Mexico.

Former House Speaker Jim Wright, a Texas Democrat from Fort Worth, sponsored the provision to ensure that DFW International Airport would become the re-

gion's primary airport.

DFW Board chairman William Cooper played for a Fort Worth Star-Telegram reporter what he regarded as a threat from Dallas city councilman Jerry Bartos over DFW's lock on interstate air travel out of the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"Bill, we've been friends for a long time," said a message from Bartos on Cooper's telephone answering machine.

"Now we're going to unleash 6,000 consumers in Dallas County, probably Monday, if we don't get some sort of signal or compromise on this Wright Amendment thing. We'll be coming out with newspaper ads against American, coming out against expansion."

Bartos denied Thursday in a telephone interview with The Associated Press that he

intended his comments as a threat.

"I called Mr. Cooper, who used to be a personal friend, to tell him we ought to try to craft a compromise on this issue because I knew of two groups totaling 6,000 who are going to be more active and who are frustrated over the continued stonewalling of this issue and who were going to take out newspaper ads," Bartos said.

"People are sick of this thing," said Bartos, who is chairman of the Dallas City Council's transportation committee. He said he's not personally involved in any planned advertisements against DFW Airport or the Wright Amendment.

Love Field is the only airport in the United States with such a regulation, Bartos said.

"They say you need to do it all with one

airport. That's a myth. Los Angeles has four airports. Chicago has two and they're building a third. New York has three. What they're doing is holding the market hostage for premium air fares."

Bartos said Dallas-Fort Worth residents pay an average of 17 percent above the national average for air travel.

"The Wright Amendment is like communism. It's doomed. It's just a question of when the people have had enough of it. It isn't free market, it isn't competitive, it isn't free enterprise," Bartos said.

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., attempted Tuesday to force consideration of a proposal to ease flight restrictions at Love Field. He later backed off the proposal but vowed to continue challenging the Wright amendment.

FBI accuses financier in fraud case

EL PASO (AP) — An El Paso financier, scheduled for arraignment Friday on state felony charges, also faces new charges accusing him of writing \$1.5 million in bad checks.

A nine-month FBI investigation resulted in a federal indictment Wednesday charging Maury Kemp of committing fraud and conspiracy via the bad checks.

Kemp was indicted earlier this year along with 10 other prominent El Paso business people and 16 companies on state felony charges. They are accused of bilking insurance annuity investors of \$9.6 million.

An arraignment of the defendants in that case was scheduled for Friday.

Kemp also is facing state securities fraud charges in the insurance case.

The recent federal indictment focuses on a series of checks totaling \$1.5 million written on accounts at MBank-El Paso — now State National Bank — and First Interstate Bank of California between April 1990 and January 1991, Assistant U.S. Attorney David Rosado said.

Two of Kemp's bookkeepers also were indicted.

"The checks varied from small amounts ... to as much as \$70,000 each," Rosado said.

The checks were made out to a variety of businesses and to Kemp himself, according to the indictments.

TEA program loosens rules to help students

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Education Agency is looking for public schools that want to work with it to improve student achievement, and it's offering maximum flexibility in state rules to schools that join the effort.

The agency said Thursday that it has mailed information about the program to all Texas school superintendents and more than 6,000 principals.

TEA said that school administrators interested in taking part in the program should mail back a form by Oct. 15.

As many as 80 campuses could be named "partnership schools" for 1992-93, the program's first year of full implementation. The campuses will be teamed with TEA for three to five years to work on improving student learning and closing achievement gaps among different groups of students.

Partnership selections will be announced at TEA's Mid-Winter Conference at the end of January, said agency spokeswoman Jorjana Price.

"This program teams the state with schools whose staffs believe that schools need to operate differently before meaningful student

achievement can occur," said Texas Education Commissioner Lionel "Skip" Meno.

The schools also will be encouraged to develop partnerships with individuals and such entities as universities, businesses, community groups, government agencies and other public schools.

Those chosen for the program will be given as much leeway as possible in state laws and regulations that the schools think are hampering their education efforts.

For example, the schools could be allowed to offer up to 15 days of staff development.

State law requires 180 days of classroom instruction — up from 175 last year — and at least three days of staff development. But the Legislature gave the education commissioner power to authorize more staff development time, replacing class days, for schools with critical teacher development needs.

The commissioner may not waive regulations in certain areas, such as restrictions on extracurricular activities, health and safety, elementary school class size limits, bilingual education and special education.

Magazine rates lawmakers Texas Monthly rakes legislators over coals

AUSTIN (AP) — Now that the Texas Legislature has finished its work and is safely out of town, Texas Monthly magazine Thursday released its biennial picks for best and worst lawmakers.

As a whole, the magazine said, "This was a year when the Legislature was as bad as the public has always suspected."

The magazine accused lawmakers of fumbling key education, prison and tax issues, producing "only patches on leaky tires."

The legislators chosen as this

year's "10 Worst," according to executive editor Paul Burka, "seemed to personify the failings of the 72nd Legislature — the absence of courage, comity, vision, integrity, independence, leadership or commitment to the state."

House Speaker Gib Lewis, criticized by the magazine as having "contributed neither ideas nor leadership" to the session, slammed the article as "smearing the reputations and careers of some dedicated members."

"I have always been disgust-

ed by the superficial and simplistic analyses of the members of the Legislature in the Texas Monthly best and worst listings," said Lewis, D-Fort Worth.

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, appeared on the list but was given a "special exemption" for helping defeat "a bad bill encouraging development of environmentally sensitive South Padre Island."

"I rank Texas Monthly among the 10 worst publications in Texas," was Truan's response.

Wastewater dumping spawns protest

EL PASO (AP) — A group of residents, including the mayor, oppose an ordinance before Albuquerque's City Council that would allow a laboratory to discharge radioactive waste into the Rio Grande.

About a third of El Paso's drinking water comes from the Rio Grande. Environmentalists and other opponents say the discharges will contaminate the river.

The controversial proposal, to go before the Albuquerque council Monday, would allow discharge of low-level radioactive wastewater

from Sandia National Laboratories into that city's municipal wastewater treatment plant. Sandia is a nuclear weapons development laboratory.

The lab would discharge wastewater that contains cobalt 60, cesium 137 and cesium 144. The wastewater has been in a storage tank for about a year. It was used as a shield for shipment of fuel rods, which were later installed in an experimental nuclear reactor at the laboratory.

Officials in Albuquerque and at El Paso's

Public Service Board say the level of nuclear contamination of the 50,000 gallons of wastewater is beneath the hazardous limits set by federal authorities.

Sandia spokesman Rod Geer said Wednesday that two glassfuls of the treated wastewater now in the storage tank contained the same amount of radioactivity as one glass of tap water from Albuquerque's water system.

But that argument doesn't satisfy some El Pasoans.

Merrill Lynch

is hosting a reception for
Dennis Reens and John Martin
of
Merrill Lynch Asset Management, Inc.

Wednesday, September 25, 1991

5:30 p.m.

Briarcrest Country Club, Bryan

RSVP, 776-5636

Topics of discussion:

- Market Overview
- Merrill Lynch Asset Management asset allocation strategy
- Retirement goals for your ORP/TSA*

*Whether you are currently participating in an ORP/TSA, or would like more information about starting one, we encourage you to attend this reception.

Hors d' oeuvres

Casual



What's all the Hullabaloo?



It's Post Oak Mall's colossal tailgate party. You can win the ultimate tailgate: this 1991 Nissan pickup fully equipped with air conditioning, AM/FM Cassette sound system, anti-theft alarm, chrome wheels and more!

You could be driving it to Bonfire. But you've got to shop Post Oak Mall every chance you get. Especially before the next Aggie home football game, when Rock and Raquel of Aggie 96 - KAGG-FM raise those 12th Man Aggie spirits with lots of music and fun.

Just eat at any participating Food Court restaurant. Get coupons for delicious discounts and pick up your Tailgate Party entry form. Then place that entry form into the Tailgate Party box in participating Post Oak Mall stores. On Wednesday, November 27th, we'll award the pickup and a \$1,000 Post Oak Mall shopping spree.

Stay tuned to Aggie96 for complete details on how you can win the Post Oak Mall-Douglass Nissan Pickup, a \$1,000 mall shop-

ping spree, Aggie football tickets and more! Hump It to Post Oak Mall and register often.

No purchase necessary. You must be present to win. To receive an entry form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Marketing Director, Post Oak Mall, 1500 Harvey Road, College Station, TX 77840. Only 1 entry form per request. Official rules available at Mall Customer Service Booth.

POST OAK MALL

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Harvey Rd. at Texas 6 Bypass • College Station