

Clinton orders American pilots back to work early in strike

NEW YORK (AP) — The word "strike" does not conjure up such scary images to the flying public anymore. That is the precedent set by President Clinton in ordering American Airlines pilots back to work within minutes after they declared a strike early Saturday, averting chaotic disruptions to hundreds of thousands of passengers. If pilot negotiations at four other of the nation's biggest airlines get to the brink of a walkout, airline chiefs and passengers almost certainly will be looking to the White House to keep the planes in the air. Clinton made a popular decision by effectively removing the one potent negotiating weapon in the American pilot union's arsenal.

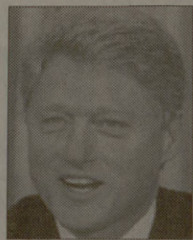
There was little sympathy for the pilots in their quest for more compensation, largely because at \$120,000 a year they are already among the most highly paid professionals in the country. But Clinton also sent a signal to all airline workers, particularly pilots, that could severely restrict their bargaining power. Encouraged by the stronger possibility of presidential interventions to prevent strikes, airline bosses now have little incentive to accept union demands. "I think it has some implications for the industry that aren't all good," said Ron Kever, an American pilot. "Management can just sit back and let the government step in, instead

of negotiating in good faith." American pilots have not been the only ones trying to squeeze more money out of the U.S. airline industry, which has become healthy and profitable again after years of painful losses. Pilots at United, Northwest, Continental and USAir also are haggling over new contracts and have been keeping a close watch on the American negotiations. The United branch of the Air Line Pilots Association, which recently turned down a 10 percent four-year pay increase proposal, warned pilots that if Clinton got in the way of an American Airlines strike, it would weaken their bargaining position. Pilots at Continental are prepar-

ing for contract talks to start this summer and hope to get a piece of the company's profits after years of enduring lower pay relative to colleagues at other airlines. All six of the unions at Northwest Airlines are in negotiations and looking for higher pay while the company is asking for increased productivity. At USAir, managers are trying to cut pay. The company recently offered pilots a 12.5 percent pay cut in return for a seven-year contract without layoffs. Clinton's decision marked the first time in 30 years that a president

declared an airline strike an emergency and ordered the workers back to their jobs. But he did so with the comfort of knowing that not too many union leaders were going to complain about it. Unlike the Air Line Pilots Association, which is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, American pilots are a splinter union known as the Allied Pilots Association. The American pilots had even angered some in ALPA — by far the nation's biggest airline pilot union — suggesting ALPA members at American's turboprop sister airline, American Eagle, were not

qualified to fly jets. To some extent, Clinton's decision to intervene was a special circumstance that would not necessarily apply to future crises. He held in his hands the fate of holiday travel plans for families traveling with children who got a week break from school. Clinton's action also does not mean an American pilot's strike days. Under law he can not block from striking again, although progress has the ability to impose a settlement on the union and the company. Ironically by some accounts, both sides were extremely close to an agreement in the hours immediately before the 12:01 a.m. Saturday strike deadline.



Clinton

GOP committee head says probe will be broader than expected

► Twenty-five subpoenas have already been issued in the investigation of the president's campaign contributions.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House committee investigating campaign fund-raising activities said Sunday his probe will be far broader than originally anticipated. As justification, he cited new allegations of official Chinese attempts to help the Democratic Party. The White House aide handling the prob-

lem, counsel Lanny Davis, countered that suggestions that President Clinton encouraged improper campaign contributions in any way were "flat out wrong." Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind., chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, said on NBC's "Meet the Press" he has issued 25 subpoenas already, 20 of them Saturday night for documents related to his investigation. The hearings are still weeks away. "We are going to look into every area where there is the possibility of illegal activity as far as influence peddling, illegal contributions, possible involvement of White House personnel and things like that," he said. "The investigation unfortunately is going to be much broader than I would like," he said. The

committee has 500 people it wants to talk to. Burton said hearings will begin in April or May with "no way to know how long it's going to go." The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, under Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., is conducting a parallel investigation. That committee has issued 52 subpoenas. Both committees are seeking documents and testimony from former Democratic National Committee fund raiser John Huang and the Indonesian conglomerate where he worked before joining the Clinton administration. Huang, Burton said, "may very well have given information that he shouldn't have to the Chinese and others." The Washington Post reported last week that evidence has emerged that the Chinese

embassy in Washington was interested in providing money to the Democratic Party. That would be illegal under U.S. law, and no proof has been presented that the Chinese did so. Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., a member of Thompson's committee, said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that the senators will look into the matter. "This is a very, very serious allegation," Nickles said. Also appearing on NBC, Davis said Clinton is "very seriously monitoring" the China issue. He insisted, however: "There's no policy affected by contributions to this president. There's no governmental actions affected by contributions to this president. The president has made that very clear." Excesses have occurred in campaign fi-

nancing, Davis said, but "it's another to say that the president encouraged or proved it. That's flat out wrong." Another potential problem for the Democrats emerged Sunday with a report in Washington Post that the administration changed a key policy toward Guam after Democrats made a major contribution to the Democratic Party. Davis said the administration official in charge of Guam confirmed the policy changes "had been determined before" the contributions. Davis also said the White House had had coffee, informal small-group meetings, Clinton that have aroused controversy because some guests had raised, or would later raise large contributions to the Democratic Party.

Quick fix

American health industry cashes in on search for elusive medical miracle

WASHINGTON (AP) — Matt Aukofer had heard all the hype about zinc helping colds. So he popped the lozenges when his sniffles hit — and suffered a week with the flu, a virus that zinc is not known to affect. "I had a hard time telling if it helped or not," said Aukofer, 34, of suburban Washington, who is considering giving zinc another chance on his next cold. Zinc lozenges are selling as fast as stores can stock them, the latest in a series of health fads that have Wall Street and manufacturers raking in big dollars even before science determines

whether the therapies really work. "I never told anybody it was a cure for the cold," Dr. Michael Macknin of the Cleveland Clinic said, whose study of Cold-Eeze zinc lozenges kicked off the fad — and who then found himself embroiled in controversy when he made \$145,000 on Cold-Eeze stock. "This doesn't deserve the publicity it's gotten for a preliminary study," he said. But the \$6 billion, mostly unregulated dietary supplement industry is growing 10 percent a year, fueled largely by news reports touting pre-

liminary research that send consumers racing to the store. "We're a quick-fix society," Dr. Lewis Green, an Emory University family physician said. "We get blindsided with patients coming in with all kinds of demands for things that haven't been tested and proved." Fads like zinc fall into a gray area: scientifically promising but unproven. Macknin performed a 100-patient study at a respected hospital, which passed scientific scrutiny to be published in the Annals of Internal Medicine in July. Macknin said he "got goose bumps"

as he compared the data and discovered those who took zinc every two hours starting within a day of the first symptoms got well three days sooner

than people who took a placebo. But he stressed that one small study is not proof. Indeed, he said, earlier zinc research was skewed because so many people disliked the taste and stopped taking zinc, then told researchers they felt better. Still, Macknin bought 9,000 shares of tiny Quigley Corp. after his study was finished — but before he finished preparing the data for publication. By January, when stores had ordered \$12 million worth of Cold-Eeze, the stock had risen above \$30 a share, from below \$1 last spring. Critics began questioning Mack-

lin's findings after public records last month disclosed he made a profit of \$145,000. "It would take a superhuman person not to be influenced in any way they write up the data," Dr. Ney Wolfe of the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen said. Macknin said lawyers and others he consulted had okayed his purchase, and the medical journal decided it was not important enough to disclose. Macknin, working with independent scientists on his own search, argues it's unfair to expect researchers never to invest.

"This doesn't deserve the publicity it's gotten for a preliminary study."

Dr. Michael Macknin
Researcher, Cleveland Clinic

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At These Locations:
• University Drive
• Southwest Parkway
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• Post Oak Mall

Now Playing AT THE REC

TAMU Outdoor Spring Schedule

Outdoor Jamboree
A Smorgasbord of Adventure Demonstrations, Clinics, and Presentations

Saturday February 22
Come try or watch demonstrations on fun outdoor activities like:

- SCUBA
- Outdoor Cooking
- Kayaking
- Texas Wildflowers
- Outdoor Photography
- Bird Watching

Backpacking/Canoeing
Mar. 8-14 \$250/288*

Horseback Riding
Mar. 12-16 \$362/398*

Spring Break Trips

Sport Clubs
Come Cheer Your Team to Victory

Handball National Championships
Come see some hard Handball action here at the Rec Center Friday-Sunday, February 21-23.

Pistol Tournament Sat. 10am-4pm Sun. 2-4pm
Spend a day watching pistol shooting this Saturday and Sunday, February 22-23 at the Read Range.

Pump Some Iron

TAMU Weightlifting Club
Private weight facility located inside the Rec Center behind the Indoor Soccer Courts.
\$50/semester
\$40 for first 50 members!

Intramurals

More Than Just Fun and Games

Kyle Field RAMP ROMP

Saturday, March 22, 9:00 am

Run a beautiful 5K course around campus and then challenge yourself with a mile run of the Kyle Field Stadium ramps.

Register Today

Sport	Registration	Fee
Eight Ball Doubles	Feb. 10-18	\$2
Free Throw Contest	Feb. 10-18	free
Badminton	Feb. 17-25	free
Pickleball	Feb. 17-25	free
Kyle Field Ramp Romp	Feb. 17-Mar. 18	\$7*

*\$10 for non-Rec Members

Feature Program
WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE

Only \$10 for Rec Members

Mon. & Wed. Feb. 17 and 19 7:30-9pm

Dr. Steven W. Powell, an 8th Degree Belt and instructor of Blinn College's Self Defense Kinesiology programs, will teach women practical defense skills that do not require size or strength for effectiveness.

Golf Course Department Scramble

Challenge Another Department

\$30/Player with cart includes ditty bag

Game features 18 person scramble ABC players and starts. One student is allowed from each department. Registration forms at TAMU Golf Course, Rec Center, For information, call 845-1723.

Rec Sports FREE Healthy Living Lecture Series

You Need To Know Wednesday 5:30-6:30 PM 281 Rec Center

February 19 Massage Therapy

Johnny Ray Ward, licensed and certified massage therapist will explain the benefits of chair massages.

Planet Funk JAM

This ain't No Ordinary Dance Class

Whether you have the groove or not, this class is for You!

Chicken McNugget Extra Value Meals!

6 piece McNuggets \$2.99
9 piece McNuggets \$3.59
20 piece McNuggets \$4.99

Each meal includes large french fries & medium drink

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