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Taxes rile governor's meeting

By EVANS WITT
AP Political Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker called Walter F. Mondale "unpresidential" yesterday for predicting a 1985 tax hike, while two Republican governors said they don't think President Reagan is firmly opposed to such an increase.

Taxes, already a key issue in the presidential campaign, provided the early fireworks on the opening day of the 76th annual meeting of the National Governor's Association here.

First, Gov. Jim Thompson of Illinois and Gov. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee told the opening news conference that Reagan's position is a bit confusing.

Thompson said he understood Reagan has "no intention of raising taxes," and will not do so unless federal spending is cut further.

"I'm not sure I know what President Reagan is saying, I'm not even going to try," chimed in Democratic Gov. John Carlin of Kansas.

Mondale, accepting the Democratic presidential nomination in San Francisco on July 19, said that taxes will have to be raised to deal with the deficit, but that Reagan won't admit it.

Later yesterday, Baker addressed the governors and told reporters afterward that Mondale's stance is wrong.

"It's unpresidential to say that," Baker said. "There is no question that a man who is going to be the president in January, 1985 can say now what is going to be necessary."

"It's the ultimate test of presidential leadership to face facts as they are at the time you must decide," the speaker said.

Baker said he expected the GOP party platform to include a pledge not to raise taxes, but that he personally thought Reagan has not precluded a tax increase in 1985 in



Grand Ole Opry star Minnie Pearl, left, holds a homemade quilt with six of the nation's governors in Nashville, Tenn. Governors, from left, are Richard Riley, S.C.; Robert Orr, Indiana; Lamar Alexander, Tenn.; Christopher Bond, Missouri; Dick Thornburgh, Pa.; and Scott Matheson, Utah.

his recent statements. Last week, Reagan seemed to rule out any tax increases. But at a news conference, the president said that "if we have gotten government costs down to the point at which we cannot go any lower... then you would have to look at the tax structure in order to bring that up."

The governor's meeting, coming between the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, buzzed with talk of the fall campaign for the White House.

Reagan's vacation agenda includes some business too

By MAUREEN SANTINI
AP White House Correspondent

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — President Reagan, after officially opening the Los Angeles Olympics, began an 18-day vacation yesterday at his isolated ranch in the Santa Ynez Mountains.

Horseback riding, clearing brush from riding trails and chopping wood are always the main items on the presidential ranch agenda, but his spokesman said that Reagan also will have to conduct some business.

"There will be a fair amount of business he will have to attend to," deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes told reporters aboard Air Force One on the trip from Washington to Los Angeles on Saturday.

"I'm sure he'll be talking regularly to some of the campaign people and some of the Cabinet members," said Speakes. Secretary of State George Shultz, who accompanied Reagan to the ceremonies opening the summer games, told reporters to stay tuned for a decision on whether the United States will lift sanctions against Poland in light of that nation's release of hundreds of political prisoners.

In addition, the president was expected to receive a set of options on the U.S. negotiating position at anti-satellite talks with the Soviet Union in Vienna in September, although it's still an open question as to whether they will actually occur.

Reagan and other aides in the well-guarded presidential box at the Los Angeles Coliseum appeared to get swept up in the Olympic pageantry Saturday.

At one point, Shultz turned to his wife and said: "Eat your heart out Chernenko," a reference to Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko and the South.

Reagan and the White House aides who accompanied him to California undoubtedly will keep a watchful eye on the political travels of Democratic challenger Walter F. Mondale, who was campaigning this week in the South.

state news briefs

Officials to rebuild plant after blasts

HECKTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Officials of Joseph Ayers Inc. vowed to rebuild their Northampton County plant, which was heavily damaged by a series of explosions Friday in which one man was killed.

Two employees injured in the blast remained in critical condition yesterday.

As the undamaged administrative offices were reopened Saturday, Henry W. Kruschwitz, Ayers' executive vice president, told reporters, "We are going to rebuild." He noted that the Lower Nazareth Township facility is the company's only plant capable of producing certain chemical products.

The series of explosions occurred in an area isopropyl alcohol was being mixed with aluminum particles and oil to create a thickening agent used in cosmetics, lithographic ink and industrial grease, authorities said.

Boy is critical after liver transplant

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A 7-year-old New York boy was in critical condition over the weekend after undergoing a second liver transplant operation, according to hospital officials.

Richard Mignone of Armonk, N.Y., remained in the intensive care unit of Children's Hospital yesterday, said an unidentified hospital spokesman.

"It went as well as it can go," the boy's aunt, Ann Thoma, said Saturday following the 10-hour surgery.

There were some complications, although surgeons didn't immediately explain them to the family, Thoma said.

"It's very hard on them having to go through a second one. It's a very unsure thing at best," she said.

A surgical transplant team began operating on Richard at 8:45 p.m. Friday. Earlier in the day, President Reagan had offered the use of an Air Force jet to deliver a donor organ.

nation news briefs

McDonald's site is not a park yet

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A McDonald's Corp. official who toured the scene of the nation's worst single-day mass killing by one man lauded community efforts to create a memorial park, but said yesterday a decision on the site's future is not imminent.

"If anything positive can come out of a tragedy like this, it is the closeness of that community. There is a real spirit of working together," Richard Starman, a McDonald's vice president, said in a telephone interview from Chicago.

Starman and other McDonald's officials met with San Diego officials and several community groups in San Ysidro during a three-day visit to the West Coast. The town is about 20 miles south of San Diego.

"We talked with a variety of people in the community but that doesn't mean any decision is imminent," Starman said. "I would guess it's going to be a little while."

All that remains is the brick shell of the McDonald's restaurant where James Oliver Huberty killed 21 people and wounded 19 others in a 77-minute hail of gunfire July 18 before being killed by a police sharpshooter.

L.A. reservoir closes for Olympics

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The pine-shaded jogging path around Hollywood Reservoir seems an odd tourist target, but the city's "best place to jog" is closed for the Olympics so police can protect water supplies from poisoning.

Authorities recently slapped up "no parking" signs where many joggers usually park, and police have given violators warning tickets and stepped up car and helicopter patrols near the reservoir.

Similar security measures are being taken at other major reservoirs — Los Angeles, Stone Canyon and San Gabriel — and smaller ones such as Silver Lake, although access to those reservoirs normally is more restricted than at Hollywood, said Steve Hinderer, chief spokesman for the city Department of Water and Power.

So Hollywood Reservoir — located beneath the famous "HOLLYWOOD" sign and deemed an "inner city jogging paradise" in the recently published paperback "The Best of L.A." — is off limits to the public until Aug. 14, two days after the Olympics end.

Break-dancers cause mall infestation

PALESTINE, Texas (AP) — Merchants hoped a break-dancing contest would attract a few hundred customers, but some had to close up and the event was canceled when more than 200 people jammed Palestine Mall.

The contest started at 2 p.m. Saturday, but within 30 minutes mall manager Kathy Huddleston called police and declared the contest canceled.

"It was just total chaos," Huddleston said. "There were just too many people. Contestants couldn't get out on the floor to perform."

Youngsters tried anything to see the 50 dancers — from pushing to climbing on telephone booths and shopping carts.

"I even heard some kids were climbing on top of the building to look down through the skylights," Huddleston said.

The shopping center's parking lot filled to capacity, and people parked their cars on the banks around the lot and at a neighboring discount store.

world news briefs

Soviet cosmonauts return to earth

MOSCOW (AP) — Three cosmonauts, including the first woman to walk in space, finished a 13-day mission yesterday and returned safely to Earth, the official news agency Tass said.

The Soyuz T-12 space capsule, with commander Vladimir Dzhanibekov, flight engineer Svetlana Savitskaya and Igor Volk aboard, landed just before 5 p.m. Moscow time (9 a.m. EDT), southeast of Dzharkagan in Soviet Central Asia, Tass said.

All three cosmonauts were in good condition after the landing, Tass said.

Their craft docked with the Soviets' orbiting space station, Salyut-7, during its mission.

Savitskaya became the first woman to travel in space twice when the mission began on July 17. On July 25 she became the first woman to walk in space.

During more than 3½ hours outside the space station, she and Dzhanibekov tested a new tool for cutting, welding, soldering and painting, Tass said.

Savitskaya, a veteran test pilot, made her first space trip in August 1982 when she spent nine days aboard the Salyut-7.

Separated Siamese twin very sick

TORONTO (AP) — One of infant Siamese twins separated by Toronto doctors during the weekend was "very sick" yesterday and rapidly losing blood, a spokesman at the Hospital for Sick Children said.

He said that 2½-year-old Win Htu of Burma was taken back to surgery and still bled after a "significant number of blood transfusions."

Lin and Win Htu, born joined at the pelvis, were surgically separated Saturday night in a complicated operation that took doctors just over 12 hours.

Lin was said to be in satisfactory condition, although still in intensive care. The hospital said both children were on respirators and receiving blood, fluids and antibiotics.

Lin and Win were born male, but because of the way the bodies were connected, with shared genitals, the operation changed the sex of Win, who is now a girl. The infants have lived their entire life in a hospital.

Undercover alderman hunts street hookers

By MARIO FOX
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — Acting like a big spender on the prowl, Bernard J. Hansen works undercover to help police arrest prostitutes working the streets. Then he changes into a three-piece suit and goes downtown to represent the 44th Ward in City Council.

Some police say the alderman is wasting his time on a victimless crime, but Hansen counters that he's helping reduce a crime whose victims include those he helps arrest.

On the mornings he plays his undercover role, the former Cook County sheriff's officer drives his Lincoln Continental up and down Broadway's "New Town" entertainment strip, a collection of taverns, discos, fast-food joints and record stores — and prostitutes.

It's almost 7 a.m., but the hookers are still at work, as men looking for sex cruise Broadway after leaving bars at 4 a.m. and eating breakfast.

Hansen stops his car near a busy intersection and is greeted by a woman on the sidewalk.

The woman, in her mid-30s, gets into Hansen's car. Their silhouettes can be seen from an unmarked police car.

Then Police Lt. James Crowley, who has been tailing Hansen in the unmarked car, walks over and opens the passenger door.

"OK," Crowley says. "You're under arrest."

The alderman has already handcuffed the woman.

Later, at a police station, she insists that Hansen called her over and that she thought he was going to give her a ride.

"I didn't say anything. I didn't solicit him," she says.

Hansen snaps back: "Sure. You were collecting money for the Crusade of Mercy."

Her arms bear needle marks, and she admits to a \$50-a-day heroin habit. She says she lives with her three children and works as a hair cutter, not a prostitute.

Police records show she had been arrested eight times in connection with solicitation and drugs.

Hansen, 39, began his crusade against prostitution while an aide to another alderman and continued it after he was elected in April 1983.

He has made 40 trips out with police. When he goes out, he carries a handgun, handcuffs and a two-way radio and dresses in slacks, a sports shirt and tennis shoes.

"I want to look casual," explained Hansen, who is married, has two sons and works as a real estate and insurance salesman.

Hansen said he started his undercover work because of complaints from residents of the Broadway area, where condominiums can run \$100,000.

"They're tired of their kids seeing guys getting oral sex in the hallways and their wives on the way to the supermarket having guys honking horns and yelling things at them," he said.

He said he also has been working with a special grand jury seeking evidence against pimps.



Chicago's 44th Ward Alderman Bernard J. Hansen helps Chicago police put prostitutes behind bars by patrolling the streets in his ward.

Venezuelan jetliner hijackers demand military weapons

By The Associated Press

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad — Five gunmen, demanding that Venezuela give them military weapons, hijacked a Venezuelan jetliner yesterday with 87 people aboard and forced it to land here while they negotiated with authorities.

Four Americans were among the passengers on the Aeropostal airline's DC-9, according to officials in Caracas, the Venezuelan capital. They said the hijackers also were demanding that they be flown to Haiti.

The Channel 2 television station in Caracas played a recording that it said was a radio report from the pilot, Arturo Reina, saying the hijackers claimed they had gasoline and pistols and threatened to "blow up the plane" if their demand were not met.

The recording also said the sky pirates wanted "a batch of weapons, including machine guns, revolvers, pistols and grenades in order to have the plane freed."

Security forces at Port of Spain's Piarco International Airport surrounded the jetliner when it landed here after it was hijacked on a flight from Caracas to Curacao, an island in the Netherlands Antilles.

A Venezuelan police spokesman, Rafael Pichardo, said the jet landed in Trinidad after refueling. He also said the hijackers offered to release the children aboard the craft and asked that a helicopter be sent to pick them up. It was not known how many children were among the hostages.

Pichardo said in a television interview in Caracas that the identities of the hijackers has not been determined.

The aircraft was packed at the end of the runway at the Piarco airport, which was closed after the plane landed shortly before 3:30 p.m.

There it was given fuel for the flight to Trinidad off Venezuela's northeastern coast. Trinidad is one of the islands that form the Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago about 350 miles east of Caracas.

Authorities in Caracas said the hijackers were among the 82 passengers and the DC-9 had a crew of five.

They gave this listing of passengers according to nationalities but did not release the names: Four Americans, 52 Dutch, 13 Venezuelans, four Portuguese, three Lebanese, four Argentinians, and one person each from Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Venezuela's minister of transport and communications, Pedro del Moral, said in a statement to journalists that the Venezuelan government was working with authorities in Trinidad to negotiate the release of the hostages and the plane.

The DC-9 had left Caracas' Simon Bolivar airport at 2:10 p.m. for Curacao, an island 175 miles northwest of Caracas.