

Metro • Regional

Beatrice

strewn over a wide area. Large fragments were blown across U.S. 77. Don Fitzwater, airport manager, said there was no damage to planes.

At Beatrice Marine and Auto, just north of the airport, several large windows were blown out and a boat display room sustained considerable damage from flying glass. Several sailboats parked outside were damaged by the wind.

In the same area at the Holiday House complex, several windows were blown out and a fence was ripped up. A large duplex sign was blown down.

A semitrailer was overturned at a Beatrice beer distributor, many power lines were down, chimneys were knocked from homes and business display signs were destroyed. Wichita said.

A large barn belonging to Beltrus

Construction Co. was destroyed just north of town off U.S. 77.

At the F.C. Schank home on West Court Street, a large oak was blown over.

A flash flood watch was in effect Monday for portions of southern and eastern Nebraska, where heavy thunderstorms continued to develop rapidly.

Holstein received up to 1.5 inches of rain in a very short time Monday morning. The Nebraska State Patrol reported marble-size hail and heavy rain with small creeks out of their banks near Geneva.

A thunderstorm in western Johnson and One counties produced damaging winds, small hail and heavy rain.

Monday was the fifth consecutive day of rainfall in western Nebraska, where creeks and streams were rising

slowly. The ground was becoming saturated, and more locally heavy rains were expected to cause small streams and creeks to reach bank-full quickly or overflow.

In eastern Nebraska, rain was expected to continue through Tuesday, with heavy thunderstorms at times. The National Weather Service said there was a chance of some lowland flooding along streams in that area.

Swanton, 28 miles southwest of Lincoln, received 2.8 inches of precipitation Monday morning. Swan Creek was reported to be running bank-full at Swanton, and all small creeks and gullies also were running bank-full.

Liberty received 2 inches of rain. Beatrice 1.6 inches, Hickman 1.35, Falls City 1.06 and Hebron 1.02.

Tax boost

State Revenue Department officials have said they think much of the March shortfall in receipts should be made up by income tax payments being made at the Monday deadline.

Warner took a swipe at Exan in his prepared message to the Legislature on the prospects of a tax increase and the need to override some of Exan's vetoes.

"I understand that the governor will play his game of condemning the Legislature for 'fiscal irresponsibility,' but facts cannot be ignored," Warner said. "I realize that because of the complexity of the issue, his action and the effect of his action will not be fully explained to the citizens of the state."

But reasonable legislation does not have to be so complex. Exan's veto of the bill to increase the state income tax to 7 percent is a case in point.

Warner said, to meet statutory requirements that cannot be changed this late in the session, other Exan vetoes merely defer programs and projects until next year, when he no longer will be in office, he said.

A tax increase may be avoided only at some risk, Warner said. In setting rates, the board must use a 2 percent or 7 percent factor as a reserve to hedge against lower-than-anticipated revenue.

Exan and Warner have said the reserve should be at least 1 percent.

The board might go for a lower figure

to avoid an increase in the income tax rate, Warner said. To do so, however, could create state government cash flow problems.

The Legislature will have to decide which Exan vetoes to override during scheduled votes Monday and Tuesday.

Among the items the Appropriations Committee is recommending for override is the \$250,000 in planning funds for renovation and additions to the Legislative Hall and the Temple Building at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A new theater area addition is proposed for the Temple Building.

There has been dispute about whether Exan can cancel the projects with a veto.

The vetoes have been part of \$250,000 appropriation for the projects plus renovation and reconstruction of the Agricultural Engineering Building on the East Campus. Exan said he left in the \$250,000 for the Agricultural Engineering Building.

"The governor can't do what he tried to do" with the veto, said Sen. Douglas Berwick of Omaha. In attempting to override the veto, the committee decided not to recommend an override of another \$250,000 for NU building maintenance.

The committee voted 4-5 not to recommend an override of the \$250,000 Exan vetoed to continue the renovation of legislative space in the Capitol. Sen. Shirley Marks of Lincoln said the money is needed to continue improvement of

legislative space and provide a woman's restroom close to the chamber.

A floor-initiated move to override the Capital renovation funds is expected. It would be opposed by Warner, who led the opposition to an override in committee.

The largest share of the \$4,300,000 that the committee is recommending for override would be used for special programs in school districts. Exan scratched more than \$2 million during the current fiscal year and the next for special education programs, transportation of the handicapped and payments for grants of the state to school districts where they are not residents. All of these vetoes would be overridden, along with nearly \$400,000 for community-based mental retardation programs, under the committee proposal.

Also being recommended for spending to which Exan objected is \$400,000 to finance small research and retrofit construction. Exan left only \$100,000 for water projects in the \$500,000 contained in the 1977-78 main-line appropriations bill, LB951.

Many items, such as the special education and school building programs, are one override motion. Other items will have to gain 20 yeas required for an override individually. Voters approved a 1976 constitutional change to allow the Legislature to take up line-item vetoes either together or one at a time.

Ambulances

eliminate the fragmentation which exists in current operations.

Councilman Bob Jarmey, a member of the panel, said there are a number of details that need to be laid down before the recommendation is made. The final recommendation is to two weeks away, he said.

At this point, it appears the final recommendation will contain the following proposals:

- That Lincoln's two ambulance firms, Eastern Ambulance, 410 Vine St., and Shurtliff Ambulance, 600 S. Ninth St., be allowed to continue providing non-emergency ambulance transport services. Whether the hospitals or a non-profit corporation would be set up to own the ambulances and equipment from the private firms has not been worked out.
- The Lincoln Fire Department would continue to respond to heart attack and life support cases.
- The hospital-based ambulances, and perhaps a fourth unit in the northern part of the county, would provide countywide services.

Emergency ambulance and medical services would be under the direction of a central administrative setup, included in the organizational structure would be a medical director and a systems director, Jarmey said.

The city government presumably would continue to help subsidize the cost of the ambulance services.

Jarmey said the cost of operating a new system or proposed changes have not been determined.

Jarmey said he hopes the proposed city subsidy will "at least remain at about its present level, which is \$120,000 annually. He said he would support a modest increase, but nothing larger.

The current city budget earmarks a \$60,000 subsidy for the Bryan Heart Team and \$60,000 to Eastern and Shurtliff.

The recommendation apparently knocks out an earlier joint proposal by the fire and health departments that those agencies take over the emergency duties of the two private ambulance companies.

Fire Chief Dallas Johnson said he supports the expected recommendation from the Emergency Medical Services Council but questions the amount of time it will take an ambulance to reach west Lincoln under the proposed system.

The Lincoln General Hospital ambulance would be the closest to the West Lincoln area, he said.

Johnson suggested it would be a good idea to station an ambulance at a West Lincoln fire station to serve the western part of Lincoln and Lancaster County.

Don Shurtliff of Shurtliff Ambulance was out of town Monday.

Marty Miller of Eastern Ambulance said he is unaware of a recommendation to strip the two ambulance companies of emergency service. He left out the possibility that private ambulances would be based at the hospitals.

Critics of the current emergency system have said it is inefficient and fragmented. The Fire Department, the Bryan Heart Team, an ambulance company and the police may all respond to one accident.

Maxey fails to block measure on sale of beer at State Fair

Beer sale at the State Fair was given second-round approval Monday by the Legislature despite an attempt by Sen. JoAnn Maxey of Lincoln to block it.

On a 19-16 vote, senators rejected Maxey's move to kill the beer sales provision in a series of amendments by Sen. Don Dwork of Columbus to LB951. Amending the bill required 25 votes.

Mrs. Maxey was joined by Sen. John Murphy of South Sioux City and Ron Cope of Kearney in arguing that the annual 10-day fair is a family event where beer should not be sold.

Her amendment attempted to restore the current prohibition on beer sales during the fair. The State Fair Board holds a license for serving beer and liquor at other events, such as during horse-racing season.

Senators accepted an amendment by Sen. Frank Lewis of Bellevue to allow non-profit organizations to continue to be granted one-day liquor licenses for special events. Dwork's amendment eliminated that provision.

Rejected was an amendment by Sen. Orval Keyes of Springfield that would have prohibited restaurant and bar owners from employing persons 18 to 19 years old to clear tables where liquor was served.

Dwork's amendments, which he said were suggested by liquor retailers, replaced the contents of the bill approved by the House.

Other changes included in the bill before it was advanced on a voice vote:

- Restaurants would have an absolute defense against prosecution for liquor law violations if they used false identification to buy beer.
- Liquor stores with Class C licenses (on and off sale of beer, wine and liquor) would be able to carry outside events.
- A new class of license would be created for restaurants that would serve beer and wine only.

Adjusted gross income tax bill advances

By United Press International

An adjusted gross income tax bill would replace property taxes as the revenue source for public schools under a bill that received 25-19 second-round approval in the Legislature Monday.

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Prosecutor outlines Williams' trail

By Jim Accoin

In his opening statement to the jury Monday morning, defense attorney Tom Hagel acknowledged that his client, Robert C. Williams, is responsible for the death of two young Lincoln women on Aug. 11, 1977, but said Williams was mentally deranged when the deaths occurred.

Williams, 41, is on trial for the murder of Patricia McGarry and Catherine Brooks, both 25, and the first-degree sexual assault of Mrs. Brooks.

In his opening statement to the jury, Lancaster County Attorney Ron Lahners outlined what he said was Williams' trail from Aug. 11, 1977, when Miss McGarry and Mrs. Brooks were killed, to Aug. 13, when Williams was arrested in a west Lincoln train yard.

The first to testify at the trial Monday morning were friends of Miss McGarry and Mrs. Brooks.

They told of how each woman spent the night before their deaths. Mrs. Brooks had dinner with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hall, at their home. Miss McGarry was with friends at her home.

Both women were home alone, the friends testified, by 11 p.m. Aug. 11, 1977.

Throughout the opening statements and testimony, Williams stared at the wall behind the judge or looked down, rarely looking at the jury or the witnesses. He occasionally surreptitiously took notes in a small spiral notebook.

Linda Ode, 2524 Dudley St., testified she had met Williams at Miss McGarry's at least three separate times the summer of 1977. She described him as "introverted and nervous."

He made me uncomfortable," she said.

Lahners traced what is believed to be Williams' steps from Miss McGarry's duplex

at 1400 N. 44th St. to a third 25-year-old north Lincoln woman's residence. Lahners said Williams held her captive for several hours, sexually assaulting her several times.

Lahners said Williams then drove to Fremont, where he purchased beer and gasoline before leaving for home.

In Iowa, Lahners said, Williams then traveled to the St. Paul, Minn., area. Lahners said, "I think he forced a 25-year-old coed at a liquor store, shooting her twice, raping her and leaving her in a wooded area for dead."

Hagel told the jury the defense wouldn't offer evidence concerning the other crimes alleged. Constitutionally, Hagel said, the other incidents should not be dealt with since Williams is on trial in Lancaster County on the murder charges.

Williams returned to Lincoln to turn himself over to authorities, Hagel said.

"There wasn't any plan to this," Williams returned to Lincoln to turn himself over to authorities, Hagel said.

The trial doesn't concern professor.

The last in a series of abortion issue debates is scheduled for Sunday, 3:30 p.m., and will be broadcast live on the Nebraska Educational Television Network.

Participants include Hilber, Barbara Galtier, executive director of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union; Ann Bowen, Nebraska director of the National Right to Life Committee; and Philip Hagly, a UNL philosophy professor.

Viewers will be able to question the debaters on a toll-free telephone line.

before the alleged killing spree.

Hagel acknowledged that Williams bought the items, but said the former machinist for Burlington Northern purchased the weapon to commit suicide.

Hagel said Williams "was a time bomb ready to explode" and had grown paranoid about white people. His wife, Marjorie, who is white, Williams is black, filed for divorce last August, setting off a chain of events which led to the deaths of Miss McGarry and Mrs. Brooks.

Williams "had no idea what was going on," Hagel said. Williams was taking so many drugs and drinking so heavily he began to hallucinate, Hagel said.

Hagel said Williams went to Miss McGarry's apartment to talk about his problems and when Mrs. Brooks, a neighbor, came into the duplex, Williams began hallucinating, thinking Mrs. Brooks was his wife, Marjorie. "He freaks," Hagel said.

"He (Williams) heard people saying at him and somewhere in the confusion, these two women were shot," Hagel said.

Williams returned to Lincoln to turn himself over to authorities, Hagel said.

"There wasn't any plan to this," Williams returned to Lincoln to turn himself over to authorities, Hagel said.

Conversation with the Candidates



Lively primary election battles are predicted for both Democratic and Republican candidates in the fight for Nebraska's 1st Congressional District seat.

Lincoln Journal reporters and editors questioned two Republican and three Democratic candidates on a wide range of issues. Read their responses exclusively in the Wednesday editions of the

Lincoln Journal