

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SATURDAY

Weather Page 3A

Mostly sunny and a little warmer — now, that's weather to make a snowbird happy.

Today's high: high 50s. Low: lower 30s. Yesterday's high: 54. Low: 28.

'La Boheme'

Arizona Opera does it well

— Accent, Page 11B

The Arizona Daily Star

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Memo links Reagan's OK, hostages

By David Hess and Owen Ullmann
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The White House released secret documents yesterday that for the first time described President Reagan's decision to set U.S. arms to Iran as an explicit attempt to exchange weapons for the American hostages in Lebanon.

White House officials insisted that the two classified documents did not contradict Reagan's repeated assertions that he did not intend to trade weapons for hostages. Rather, they said the documents support his contention that his primary motive was to encourage "moderate" political elements in Iran to take control of the government and to halt sponsorship of terrorism.

But one of the documents, a three-page memorandum meant to convince Reagan to approve the arms

• Texts of Poindexter's memo to the president and Reagan's "finding." Page 5A.

sales, made it clear that winning release of the hostages was an integral part of the administration's decision to approach Iran.

Noting the administration's frustration at its inability to deal with radical Islamic factions in Beirut to gain the hostages' release, the memorandum declared that "this approach through the government of Iran may well be our only way to achieve the release" of the kidnapped Americans. The word "only" was underlined for emphasis.

(Sen. William Cohen, R-Maine, the Senate Intelligence Committee's vice chairman, said distribution of

the document would hamper future investigations because it would give future witnesses a "road map" by which to tailor their testimony. The Associated Press reported.

(And he criticized the White House for insisting on release of the report. "The White House is interested in shifting the burden of disclosure of the facts to either the House or the Senate for its own tactical purposes," Cohen said.)

But even though the White House released the documents to bolster Reagan's defense of his controversial arms sale decision, the memorandum raised new questions about the affair and the extent to which Reagan was directing the Iran policy.

• There was no evidence that Reagan even saw the memo, though he was "briefed verbally" on its contents by Vice Adm. John M. Poindexter, then his national

security adviser. Several White House officials, noting that Reagan did not personally initial the memorandum, said that to their knowledge, it was unprecedented for that to happen on such an important policy decision.

• The president may have been distracted. Later that same day — Jan. 17, 1985 — he traveled to Bethesda Naval Medical Center for a post-cancer examination of his colon and the removal of three intestinal polyps as well as a non-cancerous lump on his face.

• The memo implied that the president knew of or prior shipments to Iran, even though his senior advisers have acknowledged he had approved arms shipments by letter in 1985.

• The memo said former Attorney General William French Smith, who left the administration in early 1985, had "determined" that Reagan could authorize the CIA

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Tankers topped — Crews gather along Santa Fe tracks near Luke Air Base, where four tank cars carrying about 30,000 gallons of liquid petroleum gas derailed Thursday night. Twenty to 30 residents were evacuated, but no gas leaked and no one was injured. The cause of the accident was under investigation.

Joblessness at lowest since 1980

Wholesale prices dip 2.5% from '86

By Matt Yancy
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States ended 1986 with 2.4 million new jobs, the lowest unemployment rate since early 1980 and wholesale prices 2.5 percent below a year earlier, the government reported yesterday.

Unemployment dropped two-tenths of a percentage point last month to 6.7 percent, the lowest since March 1980 when it was 6.8 percent, the Labor Department said. And wholesale prices held steady in December after rising slightly in October and November.

The twin reports buoyed the Reagan administration's optimism that



the economy will perform better in 1987 than it did last year. Several private economists, however, saw sawtooth come to the numbers.

The 2.5 percent total decline in wholesale prices since December 1985 was the first yearly drop since 1963 and the second largest on record, behind only a 4.6 percent

plunge in 1949. However, virtually all of it was due to a dive last winter in oil prices that in recent months have been on the rise.

Without that record 39.1 percent decline in energy prices, which left the U.S. oil patch in recession, the overall wholesale price index would have risen 2.7 percent, the government said.

Consumer prices, a much more widely used indicator of inflation, are expected to show a modest 1.9 percent increase in 1986 after the December figure is reported.

See **JOBLESSNESS**, Page 4A

Shooting motive may have been 'skateboard' haircut of victim

By C.T. Revere
The Arizona Daily Star

A Catalina Poolsite youth was shot in the chest early yesterday by a man who apparently didn't like his haircut, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Andrew Hertz, 17, of the 7800 block of North Calle Sta Davida was shot once with a .21-caliber handgun during an argument outside the ABC supermarket (formerly Alpha Beta) at 6319 N. Oracle Road, Sgt. K.C. Coch said.

The bullet narrowly missed his heart, Coch said.

She said Hertz, who sports a "skateboard" haircut, which is close-cropped on one side and long on the other, was taken to University Medical Center. UMC had no record of his being admitted, a hospital spokeswoman said last night.

Two men, Mike Strassman, 19, and Paul Perret, 18, both of the 2200 block of West Orange Grove Road, were arrested shortly after they left the area and reportedly robbed an 18-year-old motorist at gunpoint, Coch said.

Hertz was with six friends outside the store when two young men confronted them, Coch said. After a brief argument, one of them walked across the street, returned with a gun and fired a shot, Coch said.

Statements from the others failed to reveal a motive.

"The only thing we can think of is that they didn't like the way he looked," Coch said. The people with Hertz all have conventional haircuts, she said.

About four minutes after the shooting, two men flagged down a motorist on West Ina Road near North Thornydale Road, Coch said.

Thinking the men were friends, the motorist "rolled down his window, and they asked a gas in and said they wanted money," Coch said. The men took \$130 cash and drove away, she said.

Police arrested Strassman and Perret soon afterward, Coch said. Both are charged with attempted first-degree murder, six counts of aggravated assault and armed robbery. They were being held in Pima County Jail on \$50,000 bond each, a jail spokeswoman said.

Antlers gone, mouse lets cow off hook

By John Donnelly
The Associated Press

MONTPELLIER, Vt. — The deity that made a livestock mouse devote 78 days to weaning Jessica the cow apparently dropped off with his antlers, and he deserted the Herford of his dreams the next morning.

"He looks like he's hit the road," Donald Gallus, a Vermont game warden, said yesterday. "It appears he is ... going home."

The 780-pound mouse showed up at Larry Carrara's hilltop farm in Marsbury in October, during mating season, and took a shine to Jessica.

The mouse was last seen at the farm Wednesday night. On Thursday morning, the mouse was on the loose about a mile from the farm.

The mouse's departure, say wildlife biologists, was apparently triggered by the loss of his antlers Wednesday. Gallus said since a mouse loses his antlers, he loses his defenses — and his sexual urge.

But during the courtship, more than 75,000 people went to Carrara's farm to get a glimpse of the odd couple, and those who couldn't visit could hear a song called "Harvest Mouse" written about the pair.

Biologists said it is impossible for a mouse and a cow to produce offspring, but the mouse nevertheless closely shadowed Jessica, often snuggling her and

See **LOVESICK**, Page 2A

NASA picks 5 space veterans to resume shuttle flights

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Five astronauts who flew some of the most ambitious shuttle missions were named yesterday as the crew of the first U.S. space flight since the Challenger accident.

Frederick H. Hauck, who led a 1984 shuttle mission that plucked two broken communications satellites from orbit and returned them to Earth, will command the crew, NASA administrator James Fletcher announced in Washington, D.C.

The other members of the crew are Air Force Col. Richard O. Covey, 45, the pilot; and John M. Lounge, 46, George D. Nelson, 36, and Marjorie Majd David C. Hilmers, 34, the mission specialist.

It was the first time a space shuttle crew was made up entirely of astronauts who had flown in space before.

Shuttle flights were halted after the Jan. 28, 1986, explosion of Challenger that killed all seven crew members. The flights are scheduled to resume in February 1987, but some experts believe that first mission may be delayed until later in the year.

"The naming of the crew for the



Richard O. Covey **David C. Hilmers** **Frederick H. Hauck** **John M. Lounge** **George D. Nelson**

next flight is a major event in the process of returning the shuttle to flight," said Richard H. Truly, NASA's associate administrator for space flight. "I am particularly pleased to assemble a group of such experienced individuals, led by one of our senior space flight veterans, and I am very proud of them."

Hauck, 45, has been acting as associate administrator of NASA for external affairs since August. He is a Navy captain who flew as the pilot on a shuttle mission in 1983, and commanded the satellite recovery the following year.

In November 1984, Hauck guided the space shuttle to a rendezvous with the Westar and Palapa communications satellites. The broken craft

were captured, placed into the cargo bay of the shuttle and returned to Earth.

In a 1984 spacewalk, Nelson flew unattached on a jet backpack from the shuttle and attempted to capture the aging Solar Max satellite by hand. A capture device failed, and the satellite was later snared using the shuttle's robot arm.

Covey was the pilot on a 1985 mission during which two spacewalking astronauts repaired a large communications satellite called Syncom. Lounge was a mission specialist on that flight.

Hilmers was a mission specialist for an October 1985 shuttle flight that conducted secret experiments for the Defense Department.

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