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THURSDAY

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Senate says no to pleas for trial delay

Impeachment case to begin on Monday

By Melissa Rigg and Walt Nett
The Arizona Daily Star

PHOENIX — The Senate yesterday rejected new pleas by Gov. Evan Mecham's attorneys to postpone his impeachment trial.

His attorneys unsuccessfully argued that the governor could not effectively be represented because his impeachment and criminal trials may overlap — which Mecham says would be unfair.

The attorneys also repeated arguments made last week that publicity during the impeachment trial will jeopardize the governor's chances of a fair criminal trial.

The Senate rejected that argument last week, but granted a one-week delay to give attorneys time to prepare.

Last night senators rejected 21-6 a new motion to postpone the impeachment trial until after the criminal trial concludes.

"We're in an atmosphere now where I'm guilty until proven innocent."

Gov. Mecham

The six senators, all Republicans, who supported the delay were: Jeff Hill of Tucson; Jan Brewer and Pat Wright, both of Glendale; Pete Corpstein of Paradise Valley; James Sossaman of Higley; and Wayne Stump of Phoenix. Absent were Democratic *Sens. Greg Lunn and Jesus "Chuy" Higuera of Tucson and Republican Hal Runyan of Litchfield Park.

The impeachment trial will begin Monday and the criminal trial is scheduled to begin March 22 in Maricopa County Superior Court.

The criminal trial was the result of a state grand jury indictment on six felony charges in connection with a $350,000 loan Mecham failed to adequately report on state disclosure forms.

Meanwhile, Mecham hired a Washington, D.C., attorney this week to represent him in the impeachment trial.

The new attorney, Jerris Leonard, said he needed time to review the 23 counts of wrongdoing alleged against Mecham in order to effectively represent him.

Leonard said he first met with Mecham on Sunday and pleaded with senators to grant a delay on that basis.

"It is not unreasonable to make such a request," he said.

Mecham, who was in Tucson campaigning yesterday for a May 17 recall election (Story, Page 1B), denied that a new attorney was hired to delay the impeachment

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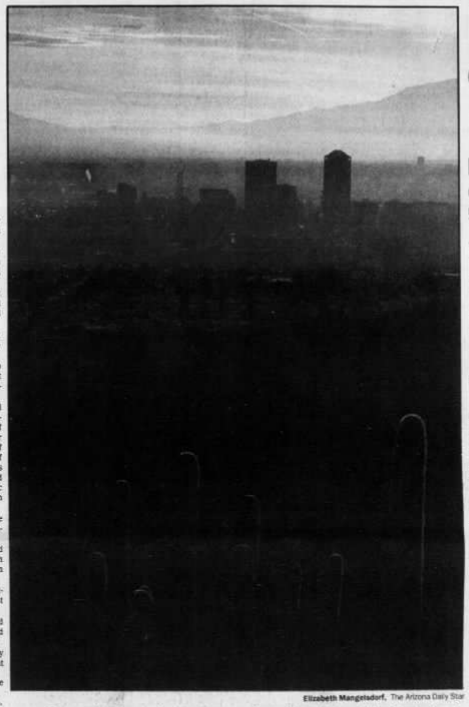
*Lunn is a Republican



Elizabeth Mangelsdorf, The Arizona Daily Star

Brown sky at morning — Downtown appeared through a haze in this view from Tumamoc Hill Road behind "A" Mountain just after sunrise yesterday. A Pima County air quality official blamed the brown blanket on a mix of dust and smog.

Hostage effort 'will not let up'

Reagan disputes Robertson on their 1985 whereabouts

By Terence Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan said last night that "we've never let up and we never will" in efforts to free the American hostages in Lebanon.

He added that if Republican presidential candidate Pat Robertson knew of their whereabouts in 1985, it was "very strange" that "he kept it to himself."

In his first full-dress news conference in four months, Reagan also said he thought outside terrorists had been at work stirring up the Middle East violence on the West Bank that has prompted an Israeli military crackdown.

As is his custom, Reagan opened the nationally televised session in the White House East Room with a quip.

"On the networks at last," he said in a wry reference to the refusal by CBS, NBC and ABC to carry his prime-time Feb. 2 speech on the eve of a House vote on aid to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

The news conference blended international affairs with the domestic presidential campaign swirling outside the White House gates, and Reagan showed his zest for political combat with a few jabs at the field of Democratic contenders.

To hear them, he said, "we're in an economic slump" suffering from a variety of ills. "At the moment none of those things are true," he said.

"So I just think, you know, the kids will play," he said as laughter filled the room.

The president also confirmed anew that Vice President George Bush expressed reservations during the Iran-

See REAGAN, Page 4A

CBN knew where hostages were, Robertson says

By Lee Bandy
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Republican presidential hopeful Pat Robertson said yesterday that the news staff at his broadcasting network once knew the whereabouts of American hostages in Lebanon and he suggested "they could have been freed" had the Reagan administration picked up on the information.

"We identified in our news department at CBN the location of those hostages in Lebanon very shortly after they were taken, and they were in a position where they could have been rescued. They were in Beirut, and they could have been freed," Robertson said during a news conference in Atlanta.

During the conference, Robertson complained of inadequacy in U.S. intelligence in the Middle East.

Robertson, founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network, did not elaborate.

Told of Robertson's statement, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater asked, "Why didn't he tell us where they were?"

Asked if he had notified the Reagan administration, Robertson replied, "I broadcast it on national television; they monitor our programs virtually every day."

A senior White House official said Robertson's statement about the hostages was "probably as credible as his Cuban

See ROBERTSON, Page 7A

High court OKs Hustler parody of Falwell

By Stuart Taylor Jr.
© 1988 The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court, in an 8-0 ruling yesterday, broadly reaffirmed and extended its rules protecting criticism of public figures as free speech, even if the criticism is "outrageous" and offensive.

The court overturned a jury's $200,000 award to the Rev. Jerry Falwell for "emotional distress" from a Hustler magazine parody that portrayed him as an incestuous drunk.

The decision was written in sweeping language by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who has often taken a narrow view of the First Amendment's protection of free speech.

He said that "graphic depictions and satirical cartoons have played a prominent role in public and political debate" throughout the nation's history and that the First Amendment protects even "vehement, caustic and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks."

Press groups and civil libertarians applauded the decision as a welcome protection for editorial cartoonists in particular and commentators in general.

The court effectively shut off an effort to make it easier for public figures to muzzle criticism and satire. "It is an essential win because the lower court had found a way to end-run and potentially abort all the protections that the Supreme Court previously had accorded to the media in libel cases," said Henry R. Kaufman, general counsel for the Libel Defense Resource Center in New York.

Falwell criticized the ruling as giving a "green light" to a "sleaze merchant like Larry Flynt," Hustler's publisher.

Hustler's "ad parody" portrayed Falwell as discussing with a fictional interviewer a drunken incestuous rendezvous with his mother in an outhouse and saying, "I always get sloshed before I go out to the pulpit."

Rehnquist said the parody was "doubtless gross and repugnant in the eyes of most." But he ruled that it was protected by the First Amendment because it did not

See HUSTLER, Page 4A

WEATHER

Rodeo clouds. Clouds will be gathering over the rodeo parade, but only a slight chance of rain is forecast by afternoon. Today's high will be in the mid-70s, and the low tonight will be in the low 50s. West winds will be 5 to 15 mph. The high yesterday was 83, and the low was 50.

Elsewhere in the state, those clouds could bring rain and even some snow today amd tomorrow. Temperatures yesterday were in the 80s in the deserts, while highs in the upper 50s and 60s were common in the northern high country.

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The Associated Press

Sen. Bob Packwood shows off his arrest warrant

Packwood arrested, hauled into Senate, drawing cries of 'banana republic' tactic

By Robert M. Andrews
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans complained of "banana republic" tactics yesterday after armed Capitol police broke into GOP Sen. Bob Packwood's locked office, arrested him and hauled him feet-first into the Senate chamber during a round-the-clock filibuster.

On a motion by Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., Sergeant at Arms Henry K. Giugni was handed warrants for the arrest of absent Republican senators, thus forcing them to answer a quorum call. Without a quorum the Senate would have to adjourn and Democrats pushing campaign finance legislation would lose their leverage over Republican opponents.

It was after midnight, more than 10 hours after the filibuster began, when Giugni and five armed plainclothes Capitol policemen began stalking Senate hideaways and senators' suites in nearby office buildings.

"I had to shove in the door to get into his office. I think he hurt his finger."

Henry K. Giugni
Senate Sergeant at Arms

Giugni found several senators' offices empty but saw Sen. Steve Symms, R-Idaho, running down a hallway to escape arrest. Then in an extraordinary incident that the Senate historian said had not occurred since 1942, Giugni used a passkey to unlock Packwood's office door.

Bob Witeck, a spokesman for the Oregon Republican, said Packwood resisted and somehow jammed a finger he had broken two weeks ago in a fall. "He tried to hold the door closed with his shoulder, but they were able to push it open," Witeck said.

"I had to shove in the door to get into his office," said Giugni, a stocky Army veteran of World War II and former vice squad policeman in Honolulu. "I think he hurt his finger. He was very courteous."

Packwood walked with Giugni

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