

Good Morning top of the news

BREEZE AND COOLER. Tucsonans can expect variable high cloudiness, break breezes and cooler temperatures today. The high should be in the middle '70s, and the low should be near 40. Yesterday's high and low were 79 and 57.

local

DEAN REVISIONING. Dr. Neal A. Vance, who became dean of the University of Arizona's College of Medicine three years ago, is taking another job. The controversy over Dr. Eric Prossack played a part in his decision, he says. Page 2A.

MEASLES OUTBREAK. An annually large number of cases of the highly "contagious" measles is reported in Pima County, an increase that follows similar outbreaks in Los Angeles and other parts of the country, a Health Dept. spokesman says. Page 2A.

INSANE AND INNOCENT. William T. Crouch, charged with murder in the death of a woman, was found sane last week, a hearing announced because of insanity, and is ordered committed to the Arizona State Hospital. Page 1B.

arizona

MORTGAGE INTEREST. The House Judiciary Committee approves a bill raising the ceiling on mortgage interest rates from 10 to 12 per cent. The bill is sponsored by state savings and loan associations. Page 2A.

FIT LAWS. The Senate Judiciary Committee passes a measure decentralizing jurisdiction and use of small claims on magistrates. Meanwhile, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee appoints a subcommittee to study a statewide vote on decriminalization for next year. Page 1B.

TRUNKLIP DEFENSE. Nosed bottom at attorney Paul T. Smith is hired to replace Houston attorney Perry Foreman in defending Phoenix contractor Max DeBajo on charges of murdering newsmen Don Bolles. Foreman was dismissed because DeBajo could not meet the Texas lawyer's fee. Page 2A.

national

HAPPY TRAILS. Roy Rogers is no longer singing "Happy Trails to You" and Gene Autry has hung up his lasso, but the two cowboy heroes of films and television are weekly today. Rogers has made a new movie in addition to many appearances, and Autry is riding herd on a business empire that includes the California Angels baseball team. Page 2C.

DEBT COLLECTORS. The debt collection industry has become a major contributor to congressional campaigns since Congress began considering legislation to ban stringency tactics by bill collectors. Contributions to 134 congressional candidates were made last fall by the American Collection Assn., the largest industry group. Page 1A.

TROUBLED TREVINO. Life on the professional golf tour has lost much of its luster for Lee Trevino, once known as the "Honey Man." But these days, the familiar swagger is gone, and Trevino moves more slowly and avoids heading and stopping whenever possible. He is attempting a comeback after back surgery, and one friend says: "I think he came back too soon." Page 1D.

SUPREME COURT. In two major decisions, the Supreme Court opens the door for states to collect millions of dollars in taxes from out-of-state companies and rules that judges must not block a newspaper from publishing information obtained at a public hearing. Page 7A.

global

\$1 BILLION PLEDGED. Saudi Arabia pledges \$1 billion for African development. The promise comes unexpectedly as a summit of 40 Arab and African nations opens in Cairo. Page 1D.

ELECTORAL VIOLENCE. Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party holds its National Assembly majority in violence-scarred districts that have at least eight dead and 130 injured. Page 4A.

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Moral for bad guys in Tucson: Take Mondays off

It was a bad day for bad guys. First, police officers yesterday outstayed three suspects hidden inside a food market. Then a tax appraiser caught a teenager at the door of an upscale residence.

And finally an armed robber met his match in a former high school wrestler. Five-foot-eight Richard Davies said he was surprised when his high school wrestling abilities came back to help him pin the robber in the convenience store where he is a clerk.

Even more surprised was his co-worker, Dennis Frost, 21, who thought the robber had a gun. "I thought he (Davies) was going to get hurt," he said later.

Frost was waiting on customers at the Circle K, 28 E. Speedway, about 8 p.m. when a man came up to him with a brown coat pulled over his right arm and a water bottle in his left hand pointed to the store.

Davies began struggling. Davies picked him up and took him down. He held the man while Frost called police, who arrested John H. Schwan, 24, of a general delivery address, and booked him into Pima County Jail on a charge of attempted armed robbery. Davies slipped through another door and circled around behind the robber.

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Gas diverted improperly by major firm

WASHINGTON — Transco, Inc., which runs one of the nation's largest natural gas operations, improperly diverted gas contracted to interstate customers and sent it instead to Texas subsidiary that could charge much higher prices, the company disclosed yesterday.

The amount of gas covered by those transactions since 1963 appeared to be substantial, he was probably not an important factor in the winter's gas shortage.

Transco said in a document filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission that it uncovered the diversion while preparing its defense against suits brought against it for failure to deliver gas to two corporate customers.

It estimated the volume sold to its Channel Industries Gas Co. subsidiary in Texas during the period at 300 billion cubic feet.

But it said only "some" of this represented gas released from contracts for interstate sale through intermediaries, "which may have failed to meet all regulatory requirements" under the Natural Gas Act.

A company spokesman at Transco's Houston headquarters said he would not comment on the registration statement, or on a petition Transco filed with the Federal Power Commission Feb. 28. The petition sought a decision on whether additional approvals to take gas from interstate customers should have been obtained and whether it might still be possible to get them. A copy of the petition could not be obtained last night.

An FPC official said that the commission on at least one recent occasion dealt rather severely with a case involving failure to fulfill gas contracts. She added, however, that such cases were rare and that she could not recall any company ever admitting such conduct.

Diverting gas earmarked for interstate pipelines is financially advantageous since the interstate price is limited by the FPC. The highest rate permitted now, applying only to gas delivered since Jan. 1, 1972, is \$1.41 per 1,000 cubic feet. The interstate price, but subject to federal controls, now ranges between \$1 and \$2.25.

In 1963 the range for interstate gas was between \$1 and 2 1/2 cents.

Since the United States now uses about 30 billion cubic feet of gas each year, it appeared that even if the entire 300 billion cubic feet sold over 18 years to Channel instead of to Transco Gas was irregular, but under one per cent of consumption was affected. The contracts were between various unaffiliated producers and Transco Gas.

Tenneco said some of the questionable transactions dated back to 1958 — the only year before 1963, and was included in the 300 billion cubic feet sold in the SEC filing — and that its records covering them "may be incomplete." It added that the circumstances in which they were negotiated and their legal implications are still unclear. The investigation is continuing.

Tenneco's disclosure came in part registration statements covering \$20 million worth of 20-year debentures and a \$8 million share of common stock to be issued in acquiring the Monroe Auto Equipment Co.

Board OKs incorporation of Marana

By VIKKI PORTER The Arizona Daily Star

Marana became Pima County's fourth incorporated community yesterday when the board of supervisors accepted 20 signatures supporting the move to self-government.

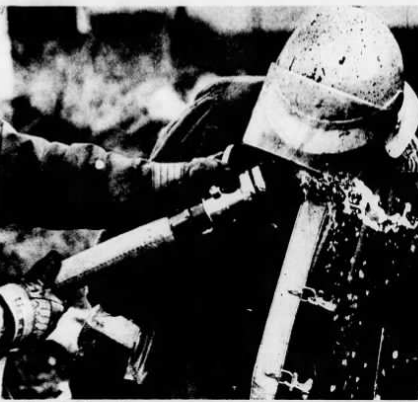
"We're going to have the best little community in the county," said incorporation leader Pat Garrett. "It's just what we can speak for ourselves."

The 130 residents of Marana, 23 miles northwest of Tucson, join Tucson, South Tucson and Oro Valley as the county's six incorporated areas.

The supervisors, under state law, had no choice but to declare Marana incorporated after County Recorder Sid Mac Smith verified that more than two-thirds of Marana's 201 registered voters supported incorporation.

Garrett said the supervisors will be asked to appoint a temporary town council.

(Continued on Page 4A, Col. 3)



Coals to Newcastle — Fighting even small fires can produce a pretty sizable thirst, and when there's no water fountain handy, as was the case for fireman Bill Pepper of Station 10, there's always the hose that was used to put the fire out. Pepper didn't mind some sloppy sipping yesterday after his crew put out a trash fire at Country Club and Irvington roads. (Star photo by Scott Braucher)

Water 'on request' hits city

By SANDAL LINGH The Arizona Daily Star

Customers in some Tucson restaurants will have to order water if they want it with their meals, a policy revealed yesterday.

Speakers for four of nine restaurants quoted said they have passed such orders across the country as serving water only if customers ask for it. One other said he is considering the conservation measure.

Irv Benjamin, executive director of the Southern Arizona Restaurant Assn., said the policy has disclosed the idea and will decide on it as the next meeting.

"A glass of water may seem a small use, said Benjamin, "but when you consider that only 80 per cent of table water is drunk, plus the energy saving on making and washing glasses — they must be washed even if not touched — it all mounts up."

John Banks of Phoenix, executive secretary of the Arizona Restaurant Assn., said the movement began on the East Coast more than a year ago and has become widespread in drought-stricken areas of California. He said the association began urging its members this week to adopt the policy. "We are asking members to instruct employees to provide water cheerfully when it's asked for."

Groundwater plummets to record lows in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The continuing drought dropped groundwater levels to record lows in many parts of the nation in February, and stream flows were below normal in 80 per cent of the country, the U.S. Geological Survey reported yesterday.

"Groundwater normally supplies most of the nation's streamflow during dry periods and is often tapped for emergency water supplies," said Carroll Lohrer, chief of the survey's current water conditions group. "The continued decline of groundwater levels in many parts of the country is of growing concern."

Geological survey officials said some streams in the Pacific Northwest carried less water last month than in any February in 79 years despite month-long storms that temporarily increased flows.

"Reflecting the widespread and continuing drought, the combined flow of the nation's big five rivers — Mississippi, St. Lawrence, Columbia, Ohio and Missouri — averaged 80 per cent below normal in February, the third straight month of below normal flow," Lohrer said.

At least 16 recording stations reported the lowest February flows on record. These stations were in California, Colorado, Illinois, Idaho, Michigan, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Despite flows in the Northwest at the end of February, the water content of the snowpack there remains well below normal.

Counties would pay state share U.S. ruling lifts Medicaid hopes

By DIANE JOHNSON The Arizona Daily Star

PHOENIX — Medicaid supporters have in a bid to influence federal ruling that would pick up the costs of the medical assistance program in operation here in August — even if it is rejected out of the legislative budget before then.

The ruling is by a Health, Education and Welfare Dept. official and says that present state law would require individual counties to pick up the costs of the medical assistance program in operation here in August — even if it is rejected out of the legislative budget before then.

If the option is backed up by the incoming general counsel of HEW and other department officials, Sen. Majority Leader Alfredo Gutierrez said yesterday, Medicaid can be scheduled to begin Aug. 15.

Looking for a way around that GOP roadblock, Gutierrez urged the governor's office to stand upon a federal interpretation of state funds that they apply to Medicaid.

The \$73 million program — paid for jointly by the federal government and the state — is designed to provide medical care for the poor.

Arizona two years ago passed a law setting up the program, but the Legislature never appropriated funds to get it started. Last week, Gov. Raul Castro vetoed a proposal to repeal the program. The Senate and the House are expected to vote this week on the program's operation when it is scheduled to begin by law Aug. 15.

Gutierrez is confident he can get enough votes in the Senate to stop an override of the veto. But Republicans in the House are just as positive they can hold up any state appropriation that could pick up the program's operation when it is scheduled to begin by law Aug. 15.

HEW officials last week, however, it would not be necessary for the state to directly appropriate funds for the program. The money instead would come totally from the counties, funneled through state coffers, and end up as the state's contribution to get the program going.

The reasoning, as reviewed in a letter from James S. Dwight Jr., HEW's former administrator of social and rehabilitation services, is complicated. But it hinges on the fact that the present state Medicaid law requires contributions from the counties. These contributions, said Dwight, are in effect levies over which the state has total control. They therefore can be taken as the state's sole contribution to Medicaid, he concluded.

If the option holds up, it could mean an increase in the amount of money the counties would be required to put up for the program.

(Continued on Page 4A, Col. 7)



Mideast visitor — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin speaks during ceremonies at the White House yesterday as he arrived for talks with President Carter. Carter told Rabin he supports Israel's need for "defensible borders." Story on Page 6A (AP)