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Supreme Court ruling could affect district lines

Texas Democratic and Republican leaders disagreed last week over the effects of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that the Constitution does not permit racial gerrymandering for the purpose of electing minority candidates.

In *Shaw vs. Reno*, a North Carolina case, the Supreme Court broke its precedent of defending race-conscious districting—a trend that grew out of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Republican Party Chairman Fred Meyer said the Supreme Court ruling gives Texas the right to challenge racially gerrymandered district lines.

Republicans have filed challenges in the 1992 reapportionment which created three new congressional districts with large minority populations represented by U.S. Reps. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Dallas; Frank Tejeda, D-San Antonio; and Gene Green, D-Houston.

Democratic Party executive director Ed Martin said the ruling would not apply to Texas because the state's new minority districts, while not compact or geographically consistent, do not resemble North Carolina's 160 mile long, snake-like 12th District, which group much of the state's black population.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the majority, said a voter isolated in a district created by members of a different race could be deprived of political representation.

According to a copyright story in the New York Times, the ruling could be "a potentially far-reaching setback for blacks and Hispanics."

In-State Processing Pushed
Texas farmers and businessmen need to concentrate on processing agricultural products within state lines, state Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry told the Texas Press Association members at the group's 114th Annual Summer Convention last week in San Antonio.

Only 8% of Texas products currently take place in Texas. If Texas businesses would do 5% more of the processing, it would have a \$2.5 billion economic impact, Perry said.

Since Perry was elected in 1991, the State Agriculture Dept. has lent \$25 million for value-added processing.

Failure rates were highest among black and Hispanic students with about two-thirds of minorities failing the exam.

Insurance Policies in Spanish
The State Board of Insurance last week voted 2-0 to tentatively approve a proposal that would require auto insurance companies to make available copies of policies printed in Spanish.

Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin, said he favored the proposal, but added that U.S. residents should be fluent and proficient in the use of English.

Under the proposal, the Spanish version of the auto policies would contain a disclaimer stating that the English version of policyholder receives is the legally binding version.

Guerrero to Speak at Schools
Former Texas Railroad Commissioner Lena Guerrero is expected to resurface this fall as speaker in Southwestern Bell's campaign urging students to stay in school.

Guerrero was picked by Gov. Ann Richards to serve the unexpired term of John Sharp, who was elected state comptroller. In a 1992 bid for election to her appointed post, Guerrero was forced to acknowledge that she had not graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, as she had publicly alleged. The acknowledgment sent her into a political tailspin.

A Bell spokesman said Guerrero will talk to students across the state in an effort to persuade them to stay in school and graduate.

Minority Scores Lag
Test scores of minority students who took the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) for the first time lag behind white students who took the exam, according to a report in the *Austin American Statesman*.

Fifty one percent of 208,000 high school sophomores failed at least one portion of the exit level exam this spring. Students have six opportunities to pass the three-part exam which tests reading, writing and mathematics skills. Students must pass all three portions of the exam in order to receive high school diplomas.

In May, 13,377 or 74% of the state's 180,206 seniors did not graduate because they failed to pass at least one portion of the TAAS.

The Texas Index of Leading Economic Indicators has increased by 2.6% from one year ago, which means that the Texas economy should enjoy modest economic growth in the future according to Texas Comptroller John Sharp.

He commented that Texas should experience a slightly higher rate of growth than the rest of the nation.

The index was developed by the Comptroller's office and has been in use since 1986 to predict future changes in the state's economy.

The index helps forecast significant economic upturns and downturns several months in advance. It is comprised of 10 parts, including consumer confidence, oil prices, retail sales and unemployment claims.

The index currently is at 119.5 points, almost unchanged from a month ago but up 2.6% from a year ago. The U.S. leading economic indicator stood at 152 points in April, up 2.5% from a year ago.

Leading the list of positive indicators is the Texas Stock Index, a measure of investor confidence in Texas companies. It rose 28.7% from April 1992. Texas companies to provide a favorable business climate as seen by the 24.7% increase in new business corporations over the past year.

Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

November 28, 1968
The new Rice High School architect's model was unveiled here this week. The school will be constructed 2-1/2 miles west of Altair on Hwy. 90A.

Goose Bowl King Bob Griffith was crowned Friday night during halftime ceremonies at the powder puff game. He was escorted by Miss Judy Melzner.

Sheridan coach Bob Renfrow and assistant Bill Glaister were dunked by their football team following Sheridan's victory over Danbury Friday night for the district title. They go to bi-district against Chester High School in Magnolia Saturday.

The Schneider-Ware Company will close Friday for inventory and change of ownership. Mrs. Ware announces the new owners for the International Harvester agency will be the Havinco Bros. of East Bernard.

The Eagle Lake 4-H Club held a fashion show Nov. 16 to model the garments they have made.

Thanksgiving service speaker, Rev. Fr. Edward Geiser, urged the listeners to give thanks to the Lord. The community program was sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance with Revs. Dennis Engler, Thomas Kirby, Dale Eberhart, Robert Griffith, Obie Rhodes, E.E. Mulliner and Irvin Kracka participating.

Helen Farris and her daughter, Candy, demonstrated floral arranging at the Dallas Market Center Oct. 20.

City Manager T.J. Smith was elected vice president of the Guadalupe Valley Water and Sanitation Association in Cuero last Thursday.

Folger's, Maryland Club and Maxwell House coffee were on sale for 33¢ a lb. can last week.

Sgt. Gilbert L. Kiel has opened a new highway patrol office in Columbus and will supervise patrolmen in Colorado, Fayette and Austin Counties.

Mr. & Mrs. M.E. Isenhour have returned to their home in Lissie after an extended stay in Missouri. Emil Vaska passed away Nov. 22 following an extended illness.

March 16, 1945
Arthur L. Barnett, radar M 3-C, arrived Monday on a visit to his parents, Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Barnett. He has been away 14 months and wears service bars for the Mariana invasion, a medal for liberation of the Philippines and combat ribbon of the American Theater, Asiatic Pacific and Philippines engagements.

Henry Becker Jr. arrived this week from New London, Conn., on a brief leave from the Navy. He is a member of the Sea Bees, was visiting friends this week. He is stationed in California.

Letters have been received this week from J.D. Alley in Belgium, who has been promoted to sergeant, and from the Philippines where Pfc. Ray Zahradnick said he was just out of the hospital and is in the midst of another campaign.

Pfc. Earl L. Braden has been slightly wounded in Luzon according to a message received by his wife. At Advanced 1st Tactical Air Force Fighter Base, France, P.O. Jerrald P. Eivorit of Eagle Lake was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement in aerial flight.

Friends were deeply grieved Saturday morning at the death of Mrs. Frank J. Kallina which occurred in a Corpus Christi hospital.

Mr. & Mrs. I.M. Cole announced (See 24 & 48, Page 3)

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Cancer support group forms
Volunteers, cancer patients and staff are forming a cancer support group at Gulf Coast Medical Center. The group will meet each Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the GCMC classroom A. The support group is open to all cancer patients, former patients, families and friends.

They will meet to encourage, support educate and communicate with each other. Qualified speakers will provide information and discussions on topics related to cancer, and the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the group. For more information about the group contact Delores Cox at 409-532-6151.

FAST! JEWELRY REPAIR
in by 10 a.m. — out by 5 p.m.
111 W. Conner, Wharton
Ring Engraving (inside)
Repair Chipped Crystal

Bible verse of the week
"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity." — Psalms 37:1
Submitted by Neddy Phillips

Views On Dental Health
SEALING — PREVENTS DECAY
At the forefront of preventive dentistry are sealants, mainly used to protect children's cavity-prone teeth. A sealant is a clear and shaded plastic material that is applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth (premolars and molars), where decay occurs most often. This sealant acts as a barrier, protecting the decay-prone areas of the back teeth from plaque and acid. Children receive the greatest benefits from having sealants applied to their teeth, especially to newly erupted permanent teeth. Each tooth takes only a few minutes to be sealed. Most dentists recommend that sealants be applied as soon as permanent teeth erupt.

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COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DEEDS
Deed: Walter Broyles to Michael F. Kiesel, trustee, certain mineral interests and royalties in tracts out of the Peter K. Bartleson League, Abstract No. 84, et al, filed 5-18-93.

Deed: Mair Hannah Duncan to Sally Margaret Voskamp, 48.80 acres out of the T. Fitzgerald Survey, Abstract No. 213, 5-19-93.

Deed: Filipp Sanders to Tina Laurie Sanders Kocurek, tract of land situated in the James G. O'Farrell Survey, Abstract No. 36, 5-20-93.

Deed: Joyce Hanzelka to Tina Laurie Sanders Kocurek, tract of land situated in the James G. O'Farrell Survey, Abstract No. A-36, 5-20-93.

Deed: Anna Lee Miller to Clifford W. Burger, 10.227 acres out of the Five League Grant, Abstract No. 4, 5-20-93.

Deed: Anna Lee Miller to Veterans Land Board of the State of Texas, 16.00 acres out of the Henry Austin Survey, Abstract No. 4, 5-20-93.

Deed: August Henry Jones, et al to W.E. Lattimore and Rhonda Lattimore, 1.9282 acres located in the James Stewart Survey, Abstract No. 507, 5-20-93.

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Deed: Howell H. Rowe Jr., Independent Executor of the estate of Cecil Crenshaw to Arthur Ray Beken, 28.39 acres, part of the Reddin Andrews Survey, Abstract No. 52, 5-20-93.

OIL & GAS LEASES
Lease: Philmore Folk Jr. to Enron Oil and Gas Company, 50.53 acres out of the Joseph Grant Survey, Abstract No. 233, filed 5-18-93.

Lease: McGraw to Enron Oil & Gas Company, 4.286 acres out of the S.A. & M.G. R.R. Co. Survey No. 17, Abstract No. 539, 5-18-93.

COUNTY COURT ARRAIGNMENTS
Leander Schuette, New Uim, two counts driving while intoxicated (DWI), reset to 7-14-93.

John Steven Mitchell, Austin, DWI, reset to 7-18-93.

Derek Sewell, Columbus, assault, dismissed.

Guadalupe Alfaro, Rosenberg, DWI, reset.

Jackie Jones, Columbus, theft, dismissed.

Lethan Shirley, Columbus, unlawfully carrying a weapon. Defendant failed to appear. State moved for Capias for Arrest. So ordered.

Dan Daltmeyer, Fayetteville, theft by check. Defendant failed to appear. State moved for Capias for Arrest. So ordered.

Frankie Gonzalez Lopez, Schulenburg, failure to stop and give information. Defendant failed to appear. State moved for Capias for Arrest. So ordered.

Victory Domingoni, Columbus, motion to revoke probation. Continued to later date.

David Michael Diaz, Houston, possession of marijuana. Reset for 7-28-93.

Paul Geoffrey Allen, Buda, driving while license suspended (DWLS), dismissed. DWI: Defendant pled guilty. Court found defendant guilty. Fined \$500 plus court cost, 60 days jail, six months probation, 20 hours community service or payment of \$5 per hour not accomplished.

Kris Maura, Lissie, illegal fishing. Reset for 9-21-93.

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