



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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(409) 234-5521
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Produced By:
Jeannine Fearing • Susie Jackson
Shirley Lueddecke • Betty Dymalla
Janet Dupré, Sheridan

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Lawmakers call onon Pres. Clinton to help oil industry

Thirty U.S. House members from Texas and 77 other members of Congress are calling on President Clinton to convene an energy summit to find ways to shore up the battered domestic energy industry.

In a letter to Clinton, the bipartisan group of lawmakers from 29 states pointed to the "alarming deterioration" of the industry.

Since oil prices slumped last Oct., more than 13,500 jobs have been lost in the domestic industry — which lost half a million jobs in the last decade.

"The statistics speak clearly to the crisis which the domestic industry and nation face," the lawmakers wrote in the letter coordinated by Sen. David Boren, D-Okla.

Last year, the nation posted its lowest domestic oil production since 1938, averaging 6.8 million barrels a day. The members representing one-fifth of Congress want to talk to Clinton about tax incentives to encourage new drilling, production and regulatory relief.

"The collapse of oil prices that began last Oct. has driven U.S. prices below the cost of much of our production," the congressmen wrote.

The White House has stood firm against intervention to halt the downward spiral of oil prices and the administration rebuffed attempts by independent producers to obtain a floor on import prices or an oil import fee.

Meanwhile, the index of Leading Texas Economic Indicators indicates moderate growth during the third quarter of the year, according to the state comptroller's office.

"Last month some of our indica-

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
and Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

tors dipped slightly suggesting that there might be a few clouds on the summer horizon," said Comptroller John Sharp. "But those clouds seem to have blown over."

Sharp said the price of oil, down 25% from a year ago, is the only negative economic indicator on the index.

Bullet Train in Jeopardy

A proposed bullet train may be derailed unless the franchise holder responds by the end of this month.

State officials last week notified Texas TGV Corp. that they will consider termination of the franchise to build an \$8.4 billion high speed rail system.

Texas TGV, a French-American group was awarded the franchise in 1991 to link the state's major cities. The company missed a deadline Dec. 31, 1993, to come up with \$170 million in equity financing.

Since then, Gov. Ann Richards and legislators have called on the High-Speed Rail Authority to revoke TGV's franchise.

But before the authority can start a termination proceeding, it must give Texas TGV a chance to show the company has done what was required to retain the franchise. The High-Speed Rail Authority has given Texas TGV until March 31 to respond.

David Reese, president of Texas TGV, said he thought the company had met the requirements of the franchise agreement and that the project could be built.

Health Textbook Withdrawn

A textbook publisher has decided to stop marketing its high school health book in Texas rather than make changes ordered by the state Board of Education that deal mainly with sex education.

"We simply cannot produce a

product that does not provide children with adequate instruction on life-threatening issues," said William Talkington, president of Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.

Talkington's comments came in a letter to Education Commissioner Skip Meno. Talkington wrote that "mandated revision of the product results in a Texas only program, which makes the venture economically unfeasible to pursue."

Other Highlights

• A former Teacher Retirement System executive had filed a \$1 million libel lawsuit against Texas Attorney General Dan Morales, saying Morales issued an inaccurate report that led to his firing. Owen Reichman, 51, former director of the TRS real estate division, was fired last year.

• Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry has asked the attorney general for an opinion on the legality of a proposed coastal management plan backed by Land Commissioner Garry Mauro. Perry, a Republican, says the draft plan circumvents state law by giving an overseeing body power over development. Mauro, a Democrat, has defended the proposal.

• Mainstream Austin Coalition, composed of political, religious and business representatives, has organized to oppose attempts to repeal Austin's policy that provides insurance benefits for unmarried partners of city workers. City voters will decide in an election on May 7 whether to keep the domestic partners policy.

• A Texas A&M University search team has picked three finalists for the school president's position. The finalists are Ray M. Brown, interim president of Oklahoma State University; James N. Corbridge Jr., chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder; and Louis M. Proenza, acting vice president of academic affairs and research, University of Alaska system.

• Speaking at a medical convention in Atlanta, Ross Perot denounced President Clinton's health plan and urged the nation's doctors to mail him \$1,000 apiece to help draft a better one. Perot promised to chip in \$1 million himself.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

July 3, 1969

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce prepares to celebrate the Fourth of July with a golf tournament, barbecue and stage show...

A wreck east of town at the intersection of two county roads put four people in the hospital. Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Salady in one vehicle and Larry Lawrence and Carl Mascheck in the other were all injured in the two car collision...

Among Eagle Lake citizens traveling abroad are: Miss Elizabeth Burke and friend Mary Ann Hoskins of Van Horn with Mrs. Nita Engelhorn in Europe; Joe Ed Johnson left Monday for Spain with friends from Houston; and Mr. & Mrs. Dexter Anderson left last week for Tokyo, Japan, for the Lions International meeting...

28 year old Adelaido Salcido from Matthews was drowned in the Colorado River Sunday, in an accident during a picnic... Eagle Lake Police Chief Roy Chisum reminds citizens that shooting fireworks is illegal in the city limits... Fire Marshal W.M. Thomas warns against fireworks this holiday due to the very dry grass...

Miss Louise Borchers of Schulenburg and John L. Drymalla, son of Mr. & Mrs. Rublee Drymalla of Eagle Lake, plan to wed Aug. 16... Mr. & Mrs. Thomas (T.J.) Smith of Eagle Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Wanda Lynn, to Samuel E. Center, son of Mr. & Mrs. M.J. Huffman of Belleville...

Adolph Mike Krenek, 81, of Garwood, passed away June 22 in the El Campo Hospital... Albert Pustejovsky was honored for 29 years of perfect attendance during the Eagle Lake Rotary banquet June 24...

Harry Supak was awarded a state Health Dept. citation for work proficiency. He is the assistant director of public works for Eagle Lake... Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Till of Garwood announce the engagement of their daughter, Helen Jane, to Franklin Fojtik, son of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fojtik of Needville...

November 2, 1945

Earl H. Rodgers, Sp(1)-c, son of County Commissioner & Mrs. E.H. Rodgers, arrived in Eagle Lake Sunday from California where he landed a week ago... Sgt. Alvin Wiese was discharged at El Paso Oct. 21 from the Army field artillery...

The Eagles beat rival Richmond Friday night by a stirring 33-0. This brings their record to 216 points with 6 points by their opponents thus far.

Reed still holds the scoring record with 64 points and White is second with 48. Braden is third with 30... Mr. & Mrs. Otis Poncey left for Columbus where he has assumed the position of foreman of the Rancho Tesoro, owned by Dr. H.F. Poyner...

Mr. & Mrs. Louise M. Shiller to Benjamin David Shiller Jr., at 252.82 acres, part of S.B. Raymond Survey, Abstract No. 490, 1-18-94.

Cpl. Chester Glaeser received his discharge in San Antonio Tuesday and returned home.

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