

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## Despite rain, FarmAid concert draws 64,000-strong crowd

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Flanked by huge banners reading "Keep America Growing," singer Willie Nelson and a cavalcade of other stars on Sunday braved pouring rain to perform in a marathon FarmAid concert aimed at helping the nation's struggling farmers.

"Thank you very much for coming to the concert for America," shouted Nelson, the driving force behind the 14-hour concert featuring 50 stars of country music, rock and blues.

As a crowd estimated at 64,000 filed into the University of Illinois football stadium, Nelson and Neil Young teamed up to sing "Are There Any More Real Cowboys?" Nelson then brought cheering fans to their feet with "Whiskey River."

A steady rainfall began shortly after the concert opened at 10 a.m. The stage, with a rotating center disk for quick act changes, was covered with a blue plastic roof but puddles still formed and crew members armed with mops tried to keep up.

Some concert-goers covered themselves with sheets of clear plastic, while others huddled beneath umbrellas and hooded raincoats.

"A once-in-a-lifetime thing like this, how could you miss it," said Ken Lewis of Bloomington. "What's a little rain. We'll dry out tomorrow."

Tom Parkinson, a University of Illinois spokesman, estimated that about 64,000 people were in the stadium at mid-afternoon, but said the number could climb.

Despite the rain, the crowd rocked as X sang "Breathless" and swayed as Arlo Guthrie did "City of New Orleans."

Soon after the concert began, country singer Hoyt Axton got some of the rain-soaked audience up and dancing with "Joy To The World," then was joined by Tanya Tucker. By then, television cameramen on stage had their video equipment wrapped in yellow plastic to keep it dry.

Thousands of fans started gathering near the stadium around midnight Saturday, drinking beer and soft drinks and eating pizza delivered by a local restaurant. By dawn, the line stretched more than six blocks across the campus.

"It's history in the making and it will make people aware of the farmer's problems," said Brett Ford, 24, of Indianapolis, who was near the head of the line at midnight. "Everybody's finally helping right here in the U.S., and it's about time."

Darin, Jeanna and Dennis Rexroat of Lincoln agreed it was a good cause but said they were attracted by the all-star lineup of musicians.

The purpose, said Nelson, was not only to raise money to help needy farmers but to "change the attitude of the average American toward their ham and eggs in the morning. This is just the beginning of a crusade."

All of the \$17.50 tickets for the show sold out in three days.

The concert site is in Champaign County, whose rich black soil produces harvests that are among the best in the nation. It also is the main campus of the University of Illinois, location of one of the nation's oldest and most respected colleges of agriculture.

While musical superstars performed in Champaign, telephone operators in Omaha were logging about one-fourth of the nationwide calls.

Telemarketing Corp. of America handled calls for the FarmAid concert, as they did for LiveAid, a July concert to benefit starving Africans.

Karen Gilbert, operations manager for Telemarketing, said Sunday that 200 people were on the phones in Omaha and had been busy since noon. She said an estimate on the number of calls and the money pledged to the farm crisis cause was not yet available. An official count on the number of calls probably wouldn't be available for a couple of days, she said.

## Fewer Nebraskans tie the knot

OMAHA — Economic conditions, population trends and changing social values may account for a drop in the number of Nebraskans saying "I do" in recent years, say three sociologists at the University of Nebraska.

State Health Department figures show the number of marriages has gradually declined since 1981, and the most recent statistics indicate the downward trend may continue, the sociologists said.

In the 1980s, the number of marriages in Nebraska each year declined steadily, from 14,363 in 1981 to 13,274 in 1984, a 7 percent drop. The marriage rate — the number of marriages per 1,000 population — also has declined, from 9.1 in 1981 to 8.3 in 1984.

College graduates who are about 22, the most frequent age for brides and grooms in 1984, may be delaying marriage until they establish themselves

financially, said Lynn White, a professor of sociology.

White said a depressed farm economy also may cause couples to wait to marry until economic conditions improve.

"Whenever you have economic problems, people tend to postpone marriage," she said.

Patricia Knaub, associate professor of human development and family, said the "baby boomers" are getting older and past the age of marriage. Fewer people between the ages of 18 and 24, the age group that made up more than half of Nebraska marriages last year, means fewer marriages.

Knaub said the number of divorced persons who remarry also has declined. Some marriage experts have projected that remarriage may drop by as much as 10 percent by 1990, she said.

Some divorced people no longer feel

they have to remarry because they have discovered they can make it on their own, she said.

"Remaining single is more acceptable now," she said.

"More women are delaying the age at which they get married because more of them are in the work force," Booth said.

More couples are choosing to live together and fewer women feel they have to be married to have children, White said.

"The willingness of unmarried women to bear children has removed one of the sticks we used to beat people into marriage," she said.

"Pregnancy is no longer a reason for getting married." Out-of-wedlock births in Nebraska increased by about 15 percent from 1980 to 1984, according to state statistics.

## More than 3,000 dead in quakes

MEXICO CITY, Mexico — Mexicans buried their dead Sunday and prayed that there were more living as rescue teams, bolstered by aid from around the world, worked to remove the devastation left by twin earthquakes.

Mayor Ramon Aguirre said 1,641 bodies were recovered and 2,000 more remained trapped under collapsed buildings and were feared dead.

Other officials said 6,000 people were injured in the jolts Thursday and Friday that left the center of the city in shambles.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Dan Lawler said the Mexican government had raised the official death toll to 3,461.

Four Americans have been confirmed

killed, Lawler said.

The first quake rocked the city Thursday morning. It measured 7.8 on the Richter scale. The tremor Friday measured 7.3 on the scale.

Airplanes from around the world shuttled aid to the stricken capital, the world's largest with about 18 million people. Nancy Reagan, wife of President Reagan, was scheduled to arrive today. Governments of more than 20 countries and international organizations sent tons of food, medicine and other provisions. Foreign relief teams, some aided by dogs, fanned out to help rescue workers, many of whom had not slept since the first quake.

More than 400 buildings were partially or totally destroyed, said Aguirre.

He said 149 were on the verge of collapse. Occasionally, the crews pulled out a child or an adult, still alive, after more than three days. Aguirre said that since rescue operations began, 1,011 people had been pulled alive from the rubble.

Five thousand homeless were sheltered at schools and other public buildings. Some huddled in parks and streets. Many left the city to stay with family and friends in towns unhurt by the quake.

The U.S. State Department has set up a special number for arranging messages between U.S. citizens in Mexico City and their families. The number is 202-653-7959.

## Newsmakers

A roundup of the day's happenings

**Former Environmental Protection Agency chief** Anne Burford was charged with public drunkenness Sunday after Washington police said she cursed and yelled at authorities who were booking her husband on a drunken driving charge.

**Michael Spinks wouldn't mind a rematch**, but Larry Holmes says his fighting days are over. Spinks became the first light heavyweight champion to become a heavyweight champion, scoring a close, but unanimous 15-round decision over Holmes on Saturday for the International Boxing Federation title.

**The red, white and blue 1955 Buick** in which singer-satirist Randy Newman cruised through his hit video "I Love L.A." was bought for \$7,000 by Richard Ardie,

28, of Northridge, Calif., who says he plans to remake the video starring himself and his friends.

**Ronald Ward, 15** was sentenced to death in the stabbing deaths of a classmate and the classmate's two elderly great-aunts, one of whom was raped, making him the youngest person sentenced to die in Arkansas. He was moved immediately to Death Row.

**At their annual get together**, former Nazi SS soldiers embraced a group of U.S. World War II veterans in a controversial reunion in Frankfurt, West Germany, both agreeing to continue their decade-long friendship despite criticism from Jewish leaders. The two divisions fought each other in the Battle of the Bulge.

## In Brief

### S. African troops pull out of Angola

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Nearly 500 South African troops Sunday ended their weeklong invasion of Marxist Angola after killing 15 guerrillas and capturing 49, the military said.

The strike achieved "large-scale disruption" of the command structure and supply lines of rebels fighting South African rule in South-West Africa, said Maj. Gen. George Melring.

The Angolan raid provoked widespread condemnation from Western governments. South Africa also was criticized after admitting it had aided anti-Marxist rebels in Mozambique, the region's other former Portuguese colony, in violation of a peace treaty with that country.

Within South Africa, police headquarters reported sporadic anti-apartheid rioting in black townships in the Cape Town area, the eastern Cape Province and near Johannesburg, but no deaths.

The South Africans said they stormed into Angola last Monday to attack an estimated 400 to 800 guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organization, or SWAPO.

### General Debate sets stage for summit

UNITED NATIONS — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet counterpart meet this week to prepare for the November super-power summit. They also join a parade of about 100 world leaders addressing the U.N. General Assembly in a monthlong commemoration of its 40th anniversary.

The assembly's so-called General Debate, an annual event, opens today with Brazilian President Jose Sarney as the first speaker. He is expected to emphasize the economic crisis faced by developing countries like Brazil, which has a foreign debt of more than \$100 billion.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze addresses the 159-member assembly Tuesday.

Unconfirmed news reports have said he carries with him new proposals to break the deadlock in U.S.-Soviet arms reduction talks, which resumed Thursday in Geneva.

### Senate facing Superfund deadline

WASHINGTON — With eight days remaining before America's toxic waste cleanup program expires, the Senate resumes debate today on its "Superfund" renewal bill as House members scurry to get their bill ready for the floor. Still to be confronted by the Senate are how to pay for a greatly expanded Superfund and how to apportion cleanup cost liability among people responsible for creating toxic dumps.

The Senate on Friday easily beat back an effort to set Superfund spending through 1990 at \$5.7 billion. This all but guaranteed that the \$7.5 billion in the Senate bill will be the least that Congress will approve.

### Economist predicts more farm losses

OMAHA — Agricultural economists predict if the current economic trend continues, there will be a desettlement of rural Nebraska which will lead to the failure of up to 30 percent of the state's farms.

Bruce Johnson, associate professor of agricultural economics at UNL, said the number of farms in Nebraska could decline by 25 percent to 30 percent by the end of the decade.

Since 1950, in Nebraska the number of farms has fallen from 197,000 to an estimated 58,000 today. The economists predict that number could be 40,600 by 1990.

### Budget official says he knew about bill

LINCOLN — State Budget Administrator Larry Bare said he knew almost immediately that the Legislature on June 5 had sent the governor a defective Commonwealth Savings Co. claims bill. But Bare said he didn't consider the flaw a serious impediment to the payment of the \$8.5 million settlement with depositors because state government commonly issues checks, including tax refunds, without a specific legislative appropriation.

LB713, hurriedly drafted on the floor of the Legislature in the waning days of the 1985 session, failed to include the phrase "there is hereby appropriated." A 1979 law requires that language for a valid appropriation of state funds.

### South, North Korean families reunited

SEOUL, South Korea — Delegations of 151 members each from South and North Korea crossed through the demilitarized zone Friday for the first exchange of visits by families separated for 40 years by war and political strife. They passed through the DMZ at the truce village of Panmunjon for reunions Saturday.

The South Korean group — 50 people hoping to meet relatives, 50 artistic performers, 20 support personnel, 30 journalists and a delegation chairman — continued on to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. A North Korean delegation, divided into the same categories, arrived in Seoul.

Sources in Seoul said as many as 20 to 30 family members of the North Korean visitors have been located.

An estimated 10 million people were separated from their families when Korea was divided into a communist North and anti-communist South at the end of World War II in 1945 and later by the ravages of the 1950-53 Korean War.

In the years that followed there have been visits to the two capitals by Red Cross and government officials from the opposite sides, but no exchanges of private citizens hoping to meet their relatives.

### Survivors could get AIDS-like disease

WASHINGTON — Survivors of a nuclear war would not only face darkness, cold, famine and radioactive fallout but also could develop a condition similar to AIDS, according to a scientific study.

Dr. David S. Greer, dean of medicine at Brown University, said environmental stresses on nuclear war survivors could attack the body's immune response, much like acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The resulting immune system depression could leave survivors susceptible to potentially deadly infections, as does AIDS, a fatal condition believed caused by a virus that cripples T-cell functions.