

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## Displaced workers not getting the help they need, study says

WASHINGTON — Government and industry are failing to deal with a massive unemployment problem caused by rapid and irreversible changes in technology and international trade, a congressional agency said Thursday.

The Office of Technology Assessment said adult education and job training programs "have not kept up" with the needs of 11.5 million "dislocated" workers — people who lost their jobs between 1979 and 1984 because of automation, plant shut-downs and rising imports.

"Given the incentives leading U.S. firms to invest overseas and take advantage of cheap labor, or to use less labor at home, displacement is bound to continue," the agency said.

Hit hardest by the decline in domestic manufacturing and other changes are blacks and up to 4 million "displaced homemakers" forced into the job market because of divorce, widowhood or the loss of welfare assistance,

said the 436-page report, which concluded a two-year study.

While 60 percent of all displaced workers were able to find new jobs, only 42 percent of the blacks who had held their previous jobs at least three years before losing them had found new employment, it said.

"The report clearly points up the fact that the victims of economic mismanagement are those least able to cope with the costs," said Rep. Parren Mitchell, D-Md., chairman of the House Small Business Committee.

Although Congress passed the Job Training Partnership Act in 1982 to help displaced workers, the agency estimated it is reaching only 5 percent of the people eligible.

The Reagan administration, in its proposed fiscal 1987 budget released Wednesday, asked Congress to cut that aid further, so that the program will reach only 250,000 people next year,

down from the estimated 332,000 it is expected to help in 1986.

The report said one of the most effective ways to help displaced workers find and train for new jobs is through early warnings of large layoffs. Such a program has worked successfully in Canada for 20 years, it said.

It also hailed as a model program a recent six-month joint effort by Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers that helped 83 percent of the workers at a Ford automobile assembly plant in California get new jobs before the plant was closed.

Congress, however, rejected last November legislation that would have required companies to give workers 90 days notice before closing any plant employing more than 50 people. That legislation was widely supported by unions but vehemently opposed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and manufacturers.

## Film raises controversy over president's actions in attack

NEW YORK — What did the president know, and when did he know it?

Those famous questions, posed by former Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. about Richard Nixon in the Watergate hearings, also apply to the fictitious president in NBC's "Under Siege" Sunday night. The answers, and how they are portrayed in the TV movie, caused friction between NBC's broadcast standards department and the filmmakers, according to executive producer Don Ohlmeyer.

The three-hour, \$5 million thriller examines America's response when international terrorism occurs in the United States for the first time. The foreign-inspired acts include a truck bombing on a U.S. military base, booby-trapped planes and a missile attack on the Capitol.

The script was written by three Washington Post reporters, including Bob Woodward of Watergate fame, and was based on their investigative series on terrorism.

Peter Strauss plays the FBI director responsible for solving the crimes. Hal

Holbrook is the president struggling for the appropriate response, while balancing the constraints of U.S. laws against lawless terrorism.

Without revealing too many details from this powerful, provocative film, let's just say that White House officials, in response to the terrorism, permit an illegal act, which the president defends later. Whether the president knew about it beforehand was kept deliberately fuzzy.

According to Ohlmeyer, NBC's concerns were that in the president's after-the-fact rationales for violating the Constitution "he was supporting the illegal act."

Ralph Daniels, NBC's head of broadcast standards, said questions were raised, but once "we saw the film, we found it acceptable."

Previously, Ohlmeyer lost several battles with NBC's standards people over his all-too-realistic 1983 movie, "Special Bulletin," which showed how a network news team would cover a breaking story about nuclear blackmail.

This time, he held firm — and prevailed. "I told them there was nothing sacred about the presidency. A decade ago, a president made a decision that was illegal and unconstitutional over a silly burglary."

In the confrontational scene, in which President Maxwell Monroe articulately gives his reasoning and FBI Director John Garry challenges it, both men raise valid and important points, highlighting the profound problems in tackling terrorism.

"The whole point of the picture is that a free society, which is based on respect for life and law, has developed an Achilles heel in dealing with terrorists who play by no rules and respect no laws," said Ohlmeyer.

Ohlmeyer made certain that the president and the FBI director were shown in a favorable light. "We cast Hal Holbrook because he's one of the most beloved actors around. We didn't want the president to be perceived as devious. He's a good man, trying to do the best he can."

## Fired teacher seeks reform, \$1 in damages

ATLANTA — A teacher who claims she was fired because she protested special treatment of athletes at the University of Georgia testified Thursday that she would accept as little as \$1 in damages if it led to academic reforms.

Jan Kemp is seeking reinstatement, back pay and damages in the U.S. District Court trial of her lawsuit against two university officials. The lawsuit does not specify a damage amount.

In response to questions from defense attorney Hale Almand, Kemp told the jury that she would settle for \$1 "as long as the university was cleaned up."

She acknowledged that she would accept more because of debts, but she insisted that "money never was my primary motivation" and that "principles are far more important."

She said she initiated the lawsuit "to get the university's attention and get them to clean up the academic corruption that pervades the campus."

Kemp, now an English teacher at an engineering school in suburban Atlanta, was expected to be one of the final witnesses at the trial.

The defense rested its case Wednesday after University of Georgia President Fred Davison testified that athletes are not just "raw material" used by the school to make money.

That description has been attributed in court to Leroy Ervin, one of the defendants in Kemp's suit. Ervin is director of the remedial studies program, which employed Mrs. Kemp for four years until 1983.

The other defendant is Virginia Trotter, the university's vice president for academic affairs.

Georgia football coach and athletic director Vince Dooley preceded Davison on the witness stand, testifying Tuesday that he favors academic exemptions for athletes, but only in special cases.

Almand, who represents Ervin and Trotter, questioned Kemp at length Wednesday and Thursday, trying to discredit the testimony she gave when the trial began five weeks ago.

He suggested that she lacked "the phenomenal memory" she claimed and that she decided to protest the preferential treatment athletes received in the remedial studies program only after she learned she would be fired.

"That's a bald-faced lie," Kemp responded.

The trial has gone beyond the free speech issues in Kemp's lawsuit, evolving into a debate over whether college athletes, who generate millions of dollars in revenue for their schools, should be given special treatment in the classroom.

## In Brief

### Philippine elections today

MANILA, Philippines — Filipinos cast ballots today to determine whether they will be led by Ferdinand E. Marcos, 68, who has held power for two decades, or Corazon Aquino, 53, whose husband was the president's main political rival until he was assassinated.

Aquino issued an election eve statement in the form of a prayer: "Deliver us from this evil, this crisis which 20 years of evil rule has brought us." She holds Marcos responsible for Benigno Aquino's death.

Marcos said in his final statement that the election was "not a battle between good and evil." He accuses Aquino of leading the country toward communism.

Marcos supporters predicted he would win with 53 percent of the vote. Aquino said she would need 65 percent to compensate for the fraud and cheating she expected from the president's people.

The election attracted widespread interest in the United States because of the close political, financial and military relations between the two countries. Both candidates have pledged to retain the strategic U.S. bases located here — Aquino at least until 1991 when the current agreement expires and Marcos beyond that time.

### FDA probe reveals illegal vet sales

OMAHA — U.S. Food and Drug Administration agents posing as farmers and ranchers say they made illegal drug purchases last fall from 32 veterinary clinics, drug distributors and feed stores in Nebraska.

FDA Regional Director Clifford Shane said veterinarians and clerks allowed the agents to buy eight drugs without prescriptions and without proper animal examinations.

Two of the drugs can cause spontaneous abortions in pregnant woman who touch them, Shane said. All of the drugs can harm animals if given improperly and can harm humans who eat beef products containing drug residues, he said.

Undercover agents also made similar illegal drug purchases last fall in Kansas and Missouri, Shane said. Earlier last year, FDA agents caught Iowa veterinarians selling drugs illegally.

He said 28 Nebraska veterinarians have received warning letters and could be prosecuted if they continue illegal sales.

### Fraternity kicked off San Diego campus

SAN DIEGO — Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity was kicked off the San Diego State University campus for at least five years Thursday for its role in an alleged rape of a freshman sorority pledge at a party, a university spokeswoman said.

In addition, 30 of the fraternity's 110 members face administrative charges which could lead to expulsion from the university, spokeswoman Sue Raney said.

The action against the fraternity is effective immediately and means it will lose recognition on campus and be forced to disband. The university is asking Pi Kappa Alpha's national headquarters to remove the charter from the local group.

### Flu season hits Nebraska

ATLANTA — The U.S. flu season has hit full stride, with doctors seeing their heaviest patient loads this winter and 31 states reporting new outbreaks, federal health officials said Thursday.

Thirteen states and the District of Columbia last week reported "widespread" flu outbreaks — or outbreaks over areas including at least half their populations, according to the national Centers for Disease Control. Another 18 states reported more limited "regional" outbreaks.

Reporting "widespread" outbreaks last week were Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

### Reagan feeling 'fine' on 75th birthday

WASHINGTON — President Reagan celebrated his 75th birthday with prayer and merriment Thursday, saying he is "a little amazed" at the events of his lifetime and still feels young despite a year of health problems and international crises.

The president began his day attending the National Prayer Breakfast at a Washington hotel, where he bowed his head in prayers led by the Rev. Billy Graham and others and listened as Vice President George Bush read greetings from world leaders.

The crowd, estimated at more than 3,200, then serenaded the president with "Happy Birthday."

### Gramm-Rudman ruling due today

WASHINGTON — A special three-judge federal court panel to rule today on the constitutionality of the Gramm-Rudman Act, which requires a balanced federal budget by 1991, it was announced Thursday.

A court spokeswoman said the decision will be made public at noon. The court heard arguments in the case Jan. 10.

The measure was attacked as "Byzantine" and an abdication of Congress' responsibilities in a suit by 12 members of Congress.

The law, passed in December, triggers automatic across-the-board cuts if Congress is unable to reduce the current deficit of around \$200 billion — either through spending cuts or tax increases.

No matter what Friday's today's says, an appeal to the Supreme Court for speedy review is expected.

President Reagan submitted a proposed federal budget Wednesday that envisions a \$144 billion deficit for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. The Gramm-Rudman Act would permit a deficit of that size for the 1986-87 fiscal year.

### Study: Dieting takes load off heart

BOSTON — Losing weight should be a major goal of obese people with high blood pressure, say researchers who found that dieting improves the condition of their hearts.

Their study, published Thursday found that when overweight middle-age people with high blood pressure are put on diets, they reduce dangerous enlargements of their hearts.

Both obesity and high blood pressure force the heart to work harder, and this increases its size. Such enlargement, called left ventricular hypertrophy, raises the risk of death from heart disease.

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