

Canners to sell only 'dolphin-free' tuna fish

WASHINGTON - Two U.S. tuna canners, including the world's largest, said Thursday they will no longer buy or sell tuna captured along with dolphins. Environmentalists who have long sought to protect dolphins from fishing nets strongly praised the decisions.

The actions were announced by companies selling the StarKist and Bumble Bee brands. A third company selling Chicken of the Sea brand said it would step up efforts to protect dolphins.

Environmentalists and lawmakers said they hoped the move would save some of the estimated 100,000 dolphins that die annually in huge nets used to catch schools of tuna.

"StarKist will not purchase any tuna caught in association with dol-

phins," said Anthony J.F. O'Reilly, president of the H.J. Heinz Co., which owns the StarKist Seafood Co.

"StarKist will sell only dolphin-free tuna," he said at a news conference.

The change could cost consumers "a couple or more cents" per can, O'Reilly said, adding that he hoped sales would increase with the announcement and that some increased costs "will be compensated by increased volume."

StarKist has a 35 percent share of the U.S. tuna market and is the world's largest tuna canner.

San Diego-based Bumble Bee Seafoods Inc. followed suit a few hours later, saying it "would now implement its plan to end the purchase of tuna caught in association

with dolphin."

"Our tuna cans will begin to reflect the dolphin-safe label in U.S. stores within the next three months," the statement said.

Van Kamp Seafood of St. Louis, seller of Chicken of the Sea brand, said it would "further enhancements to its established campaign for the protection and preservation of dolphins."

Leslie Scheele of Greenpeace, which backs a worldwide boycott of tuna caught with nets, called the announcements "without a doubt one of the biggest steps that could be taken in order to preserve dolphins in the Eastern Tropical Pacific in probably the last 20-30 years."

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., who is sponsoring legislation to require can-

ners to label tuna that is caught by nets that ensnare dolphins, said the announcement made StarKist "not only the largest but the most enlightened tuna canner in the world."

"Now Charlie the Tuna has a reason to smile," said Rep. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., author of the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act of 1990 in a statement read by Biden. Charlie the Tuna is an animated character used in StarKist tuna advertisements.

But the American Tunaboat Association said the new policy was merely a political response that threatened to destroy the U.S. tuna fleet, reduce tuna stock and do little to help save dolphin lives.

"Foreign boats, which operate free

of stringent U.S. quota, will simply sell their catch to a growing European market and elsewhere," said August Felando, association president.

StarKist President Keith Hauge said the company would require its suppliers to have observers on their vessels to certify the dolphins are not caught with tuna.

He said the company would offer assistance in finding financial backing for fishermen who want to halt net fishing and refit boats to move to other waters.

Environmentalists say about 100,000 dolphins are trapped and killed each year because the dolphins, for reasons no one has been able to explain, swim where tuna swim.

Firm alleges Franklin fund path

OMAHA - A firm retained by the National Credit Union Administration says it has charted what happened to all but \$900,000 of the money allegedly missing from a failed Omaha credit union.

The financial report prepared for the NCUA by Robert L. Kirchner of Financial Advisory Group Ltd. of Omaha was submitted recently to the Senate appropriations subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over the NCUA.

Mary Jane Harvey allegedly spent \$689,547 in Franklin Community Federal Credit Union funds for personal purposes -- more than seven times the personal spending attributed to her son, E. Thomas Harvey Jr., the NCUA said.

Some \$93,900 in Franklin funds went to benefit the son, who was the failed credit union's chief accountant, according to the report.

The mother, 69, is a retired Presbyterian Church staff member who helped Franklin chief executive Lawrence E. King Jr. at the credit union and in some of King's other ventures.

The spending report by the firm retained by the NCUA covers nearly five years from Jan. 1, 1984, until Nov. 4, 1988, when the Omaha credit union failed and was closed by authorities.

The report showed the credit union needed \$42.2 million at the time of the closing for its books to balance -- \$41 million to cover what it owed depositors and another \$1.2 million that it should have received in investment interest and from other sources.

Instead, the credit union had assets totaling \$3.2 million for a shortfall of \$39 million. Nearly all of that \$39 million has been spent, and little will

be recovered, NCUA officials have said.

Of the \$42.2 million, the NCUA now can explain what happened to all but \$900,000, a decline from \$2.8 million in unexplained spending shown in a report last June.

Harvey, 47, programmed Franklin's computer so that funds coming into the credit union could be diverted into a secret account, a federal grand jury alleged last year.

The grand jury made that allegation concerning Harvey when it indicted King and his wife, Alice Ploche King, on financial charges stemming from the credit union's collapse.

The Harveys have pleaded guilty to one count each of income tax evasion and bank fraud. They have cooperated with federal prosecutors and were expected to testify at the trial of the Kings. They have not been sentenced.

Last year's grand jury indictment alleged that about \$1 million of Franklin Credit money went to the Harveys during Franklin's last five years. The new report placing the amount at \$783,447 contains the first breakdown showing how much allegedly went to benefit Mrs. Harvey and how much to benefit her son.

The NCUA has taken more than 50 boxes of collectibles from the Harveys, including stamps, valuable Indian dolls, hand-painted boxes and jewelry.

After negotiations lasting a year, "we're satisfied we have everything we're entitled to from the Harveys," Robert Fenner, NCUA general counsel, said from Washington.

Fenner said the collectibles probably have a total value of less than \$500,000. They will be sold, he said.

Neither of the Harveys could be reached for comment.

The federal indictment of the Kings said \$10.2 million in Franklin funds allegedly went for personal spending of the King family from 1984 through 1988.

The latest NCUA report increased that figure by \$585,000 to a new total of \$10.8 million.

King faces 40 felony charges stemming from the credit union's financial collapse. His trial, scheduled to start June 4, apparently will be postponed because he has been found mentally incompetent to stand trial.

He is undergoing treatment at a federal medical facility in Rochester, Minn. His competency to stand trial will be re-evaluated in four months.

Mrs. King has asked that her trial be separated from that of her husband. She is charged with one count of conspiracy and 11 counts of fraud.

A breakdown of what happened to the \$42.2 million:

- Interest paid to depositors, \$9 million.
- Operating expenses of Franklin and the affiliated Consumer Services Organization, \$9.7 million.
- King family personal spending, \$10.8 million.
- King-owned businesses, \$2.1 million.
- Harvey family personal spending, \$783,000.
- Other Franklin expenses, \$2.4 million.
- Assets at close, \$3.2 million.
- Unexplained, \$900,000.
- Money spent in 1983 and earlier years, \$3.3 million. All spending items except the \$3.3 million apply to the years 1984 through the Nov. 3, 1988, closing.

Bush says he won't overrule EPA's decision on Two Forks

DENVER - President Bush says he'll stand by the Environmental Protection Agency's decision on the fate of the proposed Two Forks Dam project.

"I'd be disinclined to overrule a decision that's been given this much study and consideration," Bush said Wednesday in Washington, D.C., during a session with 11 newspaper outdoor writers and columnists, The Denver Post reported.

"I have great confidence in William Reilly. I think he'll look into this matter from every angle."

The massive dam project, proposed southwest of Denver on the South Platte River, hinges on the EPA's decision on a pending veto.

Reilly, the EPA administrator, said last month his agency still is leaning toward scuttling the project, citing potential environmental damage. The decision will be made by Lajuana Wilcher, EPA's national assistant administrator for water, probably in early fall.

Sen. Bill Armstrong, R-Colo., and

Denver Mayor Federico Pena have said they will press for Two Forks approval in Washington, but Bush said, "The buck stops in there," gesturing toward the EPA's offices. "The decision will be made by Bill Reilly."

The Two Forks project, a 615-foot-high dam proposed by the Denver Water Board and 42 suburban cities and water districts, has been a subject of controversy between developers and environmentalists for more than 20 years.

The dam would cause the inundation of 30 miles of prime trout stream and nearly 10,000 acres of habitat for mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, wild turkey and other animals. It also would threaten fragile wildlife habitat downstream in Nebraska.

Some city and suburban Two Forks backers had held out hope that Bush would overrule EPA officials. Metropolitan Water Providers spokesman Bill Van Schooneveld said the project had a better chance of being approved by Bush than Reilly.

E. Germans Parliament chooses prime minister, apologizes for Holocaust

EAST BERLIN - East Germany's Parliament chose Lothar de Maiziere as prime minister on Thursday and embraced his sweeping agenda for quickly uniting the foundering nation with West Germany.

The nation's first freely elected legislature also apologized to Jews for Nazi atrocities and promised to make reparations to Israel and seek diplomatic ties.

By putting de Maiziere's broad coalition government in power, the Parliament set up a transitional government whose prime goal will be to negotiate the terms of creating a single Germany.

Before Parliament met, members of the coalition agreed that a united Germany should remain part of NATO and that East Germany should merge its currency with West Germany's by July 1.

The coalition also backed a rapid process for unification.

However, it demanded that East Germans retain some social benefits, including housing and job guarantees, as the nation sheds four decades of socialism for the competitive free market.

The historic decisions will be followed by unification talks with West Germany and the four World War II allies that divided the countries: the Soviet Union, United States, Britain and France.

The 400-member Parliament put de Maiziere and his 24-member Cabinet in power by a vote of 265-108, with nine abstentions. Eighteen lawmakers were absent.

The government replaces the Communist caretaker government that had been running the country since East Germans overthrew the hard-line regime of Erich Honecker in October.

In a remarkable string of conciliatory gestures, Parliament recognized the legitimacy of Poland's postwar borders, which include former German lands. It apologized for East Germany's role in the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, which crushed the Prague Spring reforms.

The lawmakers also apologized for the deaths of 20 million Soviets during World War II. They ended four decades of denials by East Germany's former Stalinist leaders that the nation played no role in the deaths of 6 million Jews during the Holocaust.

"Persecuted Jews should be granted asylum in the future in East Germany," the Parliament declaration said.

Israel has long demanded reparations and an East German apol-

ogy for Nazi crimes as a condition for diplomatic relations.

Yossi Ahimeir, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, said that "at first glance, it looks like a positive announcement."

But Parliament Speaker Dov Shilansky, a survivor of the Dachau concentration camp, said he would never grant forgiveness for the killing of 6 million Jews during World War II.

De Maiziere, a 50-year-old lawyer whose conservative coalition finished first in the nation's first free elections March 18, rose to power by promising Western prosperity through quick unification.

His compromises with the left-leaning Social Democrats, who finished second in the elections, indicate East Germany will demand some sort of social safety net for its citizens when it negotiates with West Germany.

The coalition accord calls for a retention of current unemployment benefits, retirement insurance and aid to the disadvantaged. It says East Germans should be guaranteed a place to live and that rent increases should be tied to wages.

The accord on terms of reunification contained several compromises that could put de Maiziere at odds with his mentor, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The accord calls for a 1-1 conversion of East German marks for West German marks when the nations merge their currencies.

West Germany's central bank has proposed a 2-1 rate for all but small savings accounts.

The coalition agreement follows Kohl's demand that a united Germany be part of NATO.

The Soviet Union wants a new Germany to be neutral. West Germany now is in NATO and East Germany is part of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

The strategic future of a unified Germany will be the main negotiating point when the superpowers take part in the unification talks, perhaps next month.

The coalition agreement also said the merger of the two countries should be based on a West German constitutional provision that permits direct incorporation of East German territory into West Germany.

The Social Democrats had demanded a more gradual system of unification, with East German states voting separately on unification.

Kohl and de Maiziere both favor the faster process.

Daily Nebraskan

Editor: Amy Edwards 472-1756
Managing Editor: Ryan Steeves
Assoc. News Editors: Lisa Donovan, Eric Pfanner

Editorial: Bob Nelson
Page Editor: Brandon Loomis
Wire Editor: Darcie Wiegert
Copy Desk Editor: Jeff Apeil
Sports Editor: Michael Deeds
Arts & Entertainment Editor: Mick Dyer
Diversions Editor: John Bruce
Graphics Editor: Dave Hansen
Photo Chief: Jana Pedersen
Night News Editors: Diane Brayton, Brian Shellito, John Bruce

Art Director: Dan Shattil
Graphics Editor: Katherine Policky
General Manager: Don Walton 473-7301
Production Manager: Don Walton 473-7301
Professional Adviser: Don Walton 473-7301

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE. Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Pam Hein, 472-2588. Subscription price is \$45 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT
1990 DAILY NEBRASKAN