

★ Court

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decision as "the Clark Gable Award of Quiet, Dry Wit." "The James Brown-Mr. Big Award" and "the Pipe-Smoking, Could You Repeat That Judge Award."

The judge's signing these certificates might be construed as not simply endorsing, but actually encouraging an attitude of frivolity which might better be avoided by a body charged with the serious responsibility of deciding defendant's guilt or innocence and whether he should live or die," the decision said.

In a concurring opinion, Associate Justice Jack C. Watson called the actions of the trial judge "an unbelievable departure from the standard of judicial conduct . . ."

In granting the appeal, the high court overturned a district court ruling denying a new trial.

In another decision handed down Tuesday, the Supreme Court affirmed the perjury conviction of Linwood West, who testified as a defense witness in one of the so-called "Black Muslim" trials in Baton Rouge.

The court said West gave conflicting testimony when he testified at the trial of Dudley Patrick Beavers on March 13, 1966, and in a 1976 trial of John J. Bell when he also testified as a defense witness.

According to court transcripts, West said at one trial that he did not see officials talking into bullhorns in an effort to disperse crowds during a violent confrontation between police officers and Black Muslim demonstrators Jan. 10, 1972. Transcripts from the other trial indicated he did.

The altercation on North Boulevard resulted in the death of five men, including two sheriff's deputies and three Black Muslim demonstrators.

West, who is sentenced to serve 15 years at hard labor on the perjury conviction, appealed on several technical contentions, all of which were rejected by the court.

In an offshore worker's compensation

case, the court found that a Louisiana worker injured while engaged in Louisiana-connected employment on a fixed platform on the Outer Continental Shelf may sue in Louisiana state court and seek benefits.

The high court reversed an appellate court ruling in the case of Dan Thompson, a Louisiana roustabout injured while employed as a derrick hand for Teledyne Mobile Offshore Inc. out of its New Iberia office.

Thompson sued Teledyne in Rapides Parish after the company resisted his demand for state compensation benefits. A district judge ruled against the firm, but the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal overturned that ruling and said the court lacked jurisdiction.

In its ruling Tuesday, the high court said, "We find that the Louisiana state courts do have subject matter jurisdiction over a claim for Louisiana compensation benefits because of an employment-related accidental injury sustained by a Louisiana worker hired in Louisiana for work on a fixed platform outside the territorial waters of Louisiana."

The ruling makes a claim for state benefits compatible with a worker's entitlement to benefits under the federal Longshoreman and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

The court noted, however, that double recovery of benefits will not be possible and that the employer is allowed credit for benefits paid under one plan against those paid under the other.

The case was remanded to district court for further proceedings.

The court also upheld the conviction and 11-year sentence of Leonard Moore, a former officer of the Bastrop City Police, for extortion.

Moore was found guilty of dropping charges against a couple he was arresting in return for sexual favors. On appeal, the ex-policeman charged lack of evidence and other errors in his trial, but all were unanimously rejected by the court.

Other spas also in trouble

By JAY GRELEN
Advocate staff writer

Employees and members at the local Cosmopolitan Lady health spa, which has closed its doors and is for sale, apparently aren't alone in their troubles.

Employees of at least nine other Cosmopolitan Lady spas and about 50 employees at the home office have not been paid for August, according to information provided by several employees.

At least 16 spas are being sold, according to a man who is buying more than one of the spas. Two spas being built in Nebraska won't be opened, and two in Houston have been sold, he said.

The local spa was closed Friday afternoon after the power was shut off. A Gulf States Utilities Co. spokesman said the spa had not paid its utility bill. Three employees of the spa received partial pay for August; 19 others had received no pay as of Tuesday.

Jean Kessel, service coordinator for the spa, said the club will be closed "until it gets juice and the girls get paid, if they choose to come back."

"I won't ask the girls to come back to work until they've been paid for August," she said.

Cecil Kemp Jr., president of U.S. Health Corp., the parent company of the spas, told Miss Kessel on Sunday to open the spa at noon Tuesday, she said. Electricity at noon Tuesday had not been restored.

Jerry Shamburger arrived a little before noon to see about getting his money. His company, Job Signs, made plastic signs and name tags for the spa.

"Been paid for everything but the name tags. They owe me about \$113 on those," he said. "I've been after them for awhile. They kept putting me off."

A spokesman for the contractor which built an addition to the Baton Rouge spa, said U.S. Health Corp. has owed that company more than \$29,000 since about April 10.

All money collected at the spa is sent to the home office, which is responsible for paying employees and bills, said Danny

Sipe, an area manager for U.S. Health Corp.

While several women exercised on bicycles in the dark at the local spa Tuesday, First Impressions came and repossessed plants the firm had rented to the club.

Allen Kinney, part owner of First Impressions, said his company is owed for "plant installation and maintenance."

He said the plants have been in the spa for about three months, and he has received no payment.

"I called them (the home office) this morning. They didn't return my calls," Kinney said. "I said I'd give them until noon. Nobody would talk to me from the home office." U.S. Health Corp. is in Brentwood, Tenn., a suburb of Nashville.

"I don't want to sound like sour grapes," Kinney said. "I kept hoping they would come through. I'd rather have my money than the plants. The plants are used."

Minutes after Kinney left with his plants, employees of the Baton Rouge Coca-Cola Bottling Co. arrived to take possession of soft-drink machines. The bill was to have been paid last Thursday, an employee said.

Repeated attempts by the Advocate since last Wednesday to reach Kemp have been unsuccessful. A receptionist at the office always said Kemp is on another line, and the woman who answered calls at his home said Kemp is not to be bothered and can be reached at his office.

A woman who until last week was an employee of U.S. Health Corp. in Brentwood said employees at the home office had no idea the company was in trouble. Fifty employees were dismissed last week.

"We didn't know the company was going down," she said. "We got paid on the 8th and 23rd of July."

She said when their checks didn't arrive on payday in August, officials told them the checks might be in the next day.

"We came in on Tuesday and stayed until noon, and the checks never came," she said.

The next time she went to the office, she said, she couldn't get in.

"They locked the doors on us. They wouldn't even let us in. We can't even talk to them. They're leaving the girls on the phones (on hold) and never telling them anything."

★ Housing

(Continued from Page 1-B)

work is not done as quickly as it could be.

"They could do it faster than they are doing," she said.

After the crew has finished its work at Turner Plaza, the authority probably will not be able to fill more than about one-third of the units, according to records.

There is a waiting list of about 25 elderly persons who have applied for apartments, but information on the list, in some cases, is a year old, said Ms. Hall.

"Of the 25, we might get 15," she said. The others will already have found places to live, probably in one of the Section 8 government subsidized apartment buildings that have recently

been built, Ms. Hall said.

Since March, 30 or more elderly persons who had been living in housing authority apartments have moved into Wesley Plaza or Sharlo II, Ms. Hall said. Another apartment complex also catering to the elderly is expected to open soon and should attract even more tenants, she said.

Prior to the exodus to Section 8 housing, the lone maintenance man at Turner Plaza was able to clean empty apartments and get them ready for new tenants, Ms. Hall said.

But records show that between March and April the number of vacated units jumped from 12 to 30. The total jumped to 40 in May and finally to 47 in June and July, records show.

★ Home

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she could find was that police had been sent to the area to investigate a complaint about vagrants under the interstate.

Police spokeswoman Pauline Ory said it is possible police contacted the man but made no report on the incident.

One officer said he had heard that someone was living under the ramp and he had seen what looked like the man's belongings as he drove by the area once.

The belongings under the ramp include an old discarded boxspring and mattress, an old battered metal chair and an assortment of other things that appear as if they were scavenged from the surrounding neighborhood.

An assortment of old, worn clothes hangs from a makeshift clothes line strung between two interstate support beams. Some of the beams are used as shelves.

An old broom was leaning against the cement wall under the ramp Tuesday. The broom had apparently been used, because the concrete floor under the interstate was swept clean in the corner where the bed and other items were located.

Horace Lockman, who lives within a block of the ramp, said he had given the man some old clothes and his wife had talked to the man several times.

Those residents who had seen the man said he apparently keeps himself clean, although they did not know where he eats or gets water.

There was a small bar of soap lying on the old chair Tuesday.

Lockwood said he thought the man went to the nearby bus depot and brought water back in a jar and maybe changed his clothes there, too.

Mrs. Ward said the man told her he had been to local agencies seeking help but could get none.

"I think it's a shame that the city don't have a place for people like that," she said. Lockwood said police do not seem to be interested in the man because he causes no problems.

"He's real quiet," Mrs. Ward said. "I don't know where he goes, but we see him walking by. He said he tries to sleep in the day because the mosquitoes get so bad at night."

She said a couple had once stayed under the ramp for several days until police came and made them leave, and that vagrants sometimes sit under there, but this is the first time anyone has set up housekeeping and stayed so long.

★ Balloon

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manufactured by The Balloon Works of Statesville, N.C.

The state pays Newton \$150 per flight plus travel expense of 21 cents a mile to each of the 21 designated fairs and festivals at which the balloon is scheduled to make an appearance, Miss Carrier said. Newton also keeps the balloon in storage at his Baton Rouge Balloon Port.

She said other balloon appearances can

be arranged through Newton who can take the balloon on the road at his own discretion and charge a fee as part of his private business enterprise.

The balloon's first festival appearance is scheduled for Sept. 18-19 at the Festivals Acadiens at Lafayette with two flights scheduled, one each day. The next stop on its formal tourism agenda is the Red River Revel Oct. 2-3 in Shreveport.

Other October appearances will be at the International Rice Festival in Crowley Oct. 16; Washington Parish Fair, Franklinton, Oct. 23; Pointe Coupee Parish Festival, New Roads, Oct. 24; and the Greater Baton Rouge State Fair, Oct. 30-31.

The six-story high balloon bears the message "Louisiana - A Dream State" painted in blue across a mostly yellow background. Red, blue and white stripes ring the balloon near its base.

It is 64 feet in diameter and holds 77,000 cubic feet of air. It is one of ten state balloons nationwide.

Miss Carrier said the balloon will serve as "a highly visible reinforcement of the ad campaign."

She said by using the hot air balloon, the Office of Tourism will be able to reach people not ordinarily reached by more conventional forms of advertising.

★ Gordon

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archbishop of St. Louis, Hannan said.

Hannan said that immediately after the funeral mass Sullivan will be buried next to the late Robert E. Tracy, first bishop of Baton Rouge, in Roselawn Memorial Park.

Sullivan was ordained a priest in 1946 and held a doctorate in theology from Catholic University as well as a master's degree in education. He once served as chaplain of the Kansas City police department.

He was elevated as bishop in 1967 and installed as the second bishop of the Baton Rouge Diocese on Sept. 4, 1974. He replaced Tracy who retired.

As diocesan leader, Sullivan was responsible for the direction of Catholic life in the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East and West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, Tangipahoa, St. Helena and St. James.

Monsignor Robert H. Berggreen, diocesan chancellor, became interim leader of the diocese Saturday evening until Gordon's appointment.

★ Airport

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paving runways and expansion of the airport terminal building.

The third phase of the airport expansion program, which included a large new ticket lobby, was opened in June.

In other business, the commission authorized Mayor Screen to amend a contract with Dawson Engineers Inc. to include preparation of plans and specifications for three projects.

The projects are an extension of the northeast runway, installation of noise barriers on the northeast and northwest corners of airport property and construction of an I-110 exit ramp that would tie into the South Terminal Access Road.

The commission also voted to recommend a low bid of \$127,500 from Shelby Airport Advertising on a five-year advertising concession contract for the airport terminal.



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