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Wednesday
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Mostly fair through Thursday but patchy morning fog in valleys expected. Temperatures should remain about the same. See details page 28.

The Times Standard

The Newspaper for Northwestern California

North Coast clammers

ARMED WITH A shovel, bag, and some with wading boots, clammers were out in force Tuesday to take advantage of the record tide changes and the beautiful weather. These shots, taken on Clam Beach by Neil Gilchrist, show a group of clammers trying to get a good supply of the tasty seafood. (More pictures, story on page 3)

Bread jump possible

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Immediate controls on wheat exports are necessary if the United States is to avoid a doubling of supermarket bread prices this spring, the American Bakers Association said today. "If restrictions are not imposed immediately a bread shortage seems likely and many housewives could well be paying a dollar per loaf by late spring," a spokesman said in advance of a news conference by bakers to air their position. The government has quietly asked wheat exporters to slow overseas shipments voluntarily during the next few months to make sure there are sufficient stocks on hand to carry the nation into the summer.

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Oil price frozen

GENEVA (UPI)—The world's major oil supplying nations decided today to freeze the price of crude oil at present levels until April 1. "There will be no increase or decrease in the price of crude oil until April 1," Iran Finance Minister Jamshid Amouzegar told newsmen. Amouzegar made the statement following a five-hour meeting of ministers from the 12 member states of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries OPEC, which together supply 85 per cent of world oil imports. The ministers, who began meeting Monday, debated the possibility of cutting crude oil costs by 6 per cent and holding talks with the big Western oil consuming nations on price fixing.

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Simon wants gas made

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Energy chief William E. Simon said today he would order refineries to produce more gasoline to meet summer driving needs if the heating oil production reaches a safe level. The government has directed refineries to give more priority to heating oil to warm the country during the energy crisis this winter, and Simon said it was possible there would be an excess of heating oil and not enough gasoline in production when warm weather arrives.

He said the situation was being watched closely, and described the gasoline supply at present as stable. An unpublished study prepared by Simon's Federal Energy Office showed the United States could be faced with a shortage of between 15.6 and 18 per cent in its oil supplies by April.

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Skylab makes sweep

HOUSTON (UPI) — The Skylab 3 crew made its 21st photographic sweep over the earth today, catching up on scientific research work put off a month ago for intensive study of Comet Kohoutek. The 9,300-mile long earth study pass from Central America to the North Atlantic covered a ground track 200 miles east of a similar sweep the big orbiting space station made on Tuesday. The special array of space cameras was being used to help the government of Honduras draw better maps of remote areas, hunt for unusual currents in the Gulf of Mexico and study weather conditions in the Atlantic. The bulk of earth resources photography from the final Skylab flight, now in its 55th day, will be compared to pictures from the first two missions to discern changes in crops, population, pollution and weather over the nine months the three crews have been in orbit.

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France gets oil

PARIS (UPI) — The French Government said today it has signed a three-year contract with Saudi Arabia for the delivery of 27 million tons of crude oil and is seeking a still bigger deal. Information Minister Jean-Philippe Lecat told newsmen after a three-hour cabinet meeting that the Saudi capital of Riyadh is "teeming with representatives of other nations" seeking a similar deal. Lecat did not say what Saudi Arabia is getting in return for the oil. Persistent reports in Paris and the Middle East capitals have said the arrangement is a barter deal, reputedly involving weapons including Mirage planes, industrial machinery and technical assistance.

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Reagan requests energy cuts, spending restrictions

SACRAMENTO (UPI) — Gov. Ronald Reagan today asked Californians to cut personal energy use by 15 per cent and called for removal of the secretary of state's office from partisan politics.

In his farewell "State of the State" message to the legislature, the two-term Republican chief executive also proposed new spending restrictions on the lawmakers, urged planning of a deep water port for "supertankers" and declared "no need for any general tax increases."

Reagan, at a joint meeting of the Assembly and Senate carried live statewide by radio and television, offered to work with the Democratic-controlled legislature to speed the siting of "environmentally" protected nuclear power plants.

He targeted the energy crisis as "the issue demanding our attention this year," and said "to minimize its potential impact would be a disserve to the people."

Indirectly criticizing activist Secretary of State Edmund Brown Jr., frontrunner in the polls for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, Reagan said Brown's office should be "free of the possibility of conflict of interest and bias" in overseeing elections and campaign contributions reports.

Reagan, who has said he will not seek a third term, asked for a proposed constitutional amendment to make the secretary of state's office nonpartisan, "selected on the same basis as the nonpartisan state superintendent of public instruction."

The governor ticked off a list of energy conservation steps state government has taken to conserve fuel in recent months and appealed to citizens to voluntarily cut back their personal gasoline consumption by at least 15 per cent.

"I also ask every family and every business to reduce energy use 15 per cent by taking similar steps in their homes, offices and other places of business," he said.

"California stands ready to cooperate fully in any national program to conserve and fairly apportion available fuel and electric power," the governor declared.

But he added because agriculture is the "backbone of our economy it must have a high priority along with industry. Any severe cutbacks of energy for industry and agriculture means fewer jobs."

The governor, who last year vetoed Democratic-sponsored legislation to create a powerful energy commission with authority to site atomic power plants, announced he is ready to work to reconcile "obvious differences" and agree to

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PG&E wants lighting cut

Functional and outdoor advertising lighting may be cut back by 15 per cent after Jan. 23 if a Pacific Gas & Electric Co. plan is approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), Jackson Moeller, a PG&E representative, told the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

This plan, which would prohibit outdoor advertising lighting half an hour after closing of commercial businesses, prohibit billboard lighting after 9 p.m. and cut functional lighting by 15 per cent was created to meet a PUC order to decrease consumption of electricity, Moeller said.

The plan also includes a provision that commercial businesses would be allowed to operate only one light for identification purposes half an hour after closing.

These provisions are part of an overall plan to cut total energy consumption by 15 per cent, as ordered by the PUC, Moeller said.

He told the board a rotating blackout plan would be put in effect "only as a last resort to conserve energy." This would mean electricity would be cut off in different areas from two-four hours each day. He added that the utility has "no plans to curtail gas to firm customers," and repeated that the blackout plan is "only a contingency plan."

O. H. Bass 'available' to oppose Peart

O. H. Bass, owner of O-H's Towne House on Sixth Street is "available" as a candidate to oppose Fourth District Supervisor Ray Peart in the upcoming supervisorial elections, he told The Times-Standard Tuesday night.

Bass, however, tempered the disclosure by saying that other people are being considered and that a final decision won't be announced until next Tuesday.

The prominent and popular restaurant owner said that the Tuesday announcement will be "when we get our meetings all over."

"We don't want to jump into this until we get all the people together, and feel who they want to run. We don't want to jump to one guy."

Indicating that others are being considered, Bass said, "We want to think over other people we have, too. There may be a better man."

Bass added however, that "If the committee, the people that're interested in change, if they see me and want me, I'm available."

He said, though, that perhaps the committee will come up with an alternate person it wishes to back.

Asked if the "committee" is made up of businessmen, Bass said there are some businessmen and "people that're working, too. We're not just standing by the local businessmen. We're covering quite a territory."

Bass did not identify any of the people on the committee.

It has been long known that many businessmen and others have been unhappy with Peart, who they believe is too liberal and environmentalist to suit their tastes.

As far back as six months,

O. H. BASS

several names were making the circles through the local political rumor mills as potential candidates.

They included Bass, Eureka City Councilmen Charles F. Goodwin Jr., and Ernest Cobine, and Howard Rein, a former Times-Standard advertising salesman.

Goodwin told The Times-Standard Tuesday night that he was not going to run.

Rein was not able to be reached.

The rumors about Cobine said that he was under consideration should he decide not to make the run for Humboldt County sheriff. Cobine announced two weeks ago that he intended to run for sheriff, but has yet to file. He is in San Diego and was unavailable for comment Tuesday night.

Supervisors want study of 4-day week

A four-day work week is within the realm of possibility for Humboldt County employes.

Richard Milbrodt, county administrative officer, was directed by the Board of Supervisors Tuesday morning to evaluate the idea of reducing the work week to decrease energy consumption on the county level.

This proposal was included in an energy conservation report he made to the board at a regular meeting. Supervisors Don Peterson and Ray Peart both expressed reservations about the proposal, but voted to continue exploring it.

Peterson said, "I have concerns about the four-day work week. Preliminary indications are that savings are almost negligible on a nine-day period." He was referring to the alternation of a five-day work week with a four-day week, and said there have been criticisms of this plan.

Peart said, "The four-day week sounds great, but I talked to a physician who said it's been found that people enjoy their work, and don't know what to do with a three-day weekend."

Milbrodt mentioned several other ideas for energy conservation. These include confining fields trips to specific work days; installing courier services in combination with sheriff, public works and other field operations; evaluating legal responsibility for certain services in order to develop a priority list for curtailment, if necessary and to offer a work shift reduction of 15 minutes for employes pooling rides or using "alternative" transportation.

Peart said the use of alternative transportation should be encouraged. "Transit is a very popular topic now," he continued.

Peterson said funds for operation and maintenance of a transit system might be obtained through an amendment to Senate Bill 325, which provides for the purchase of buses, but not the operation of them.

Milbrodt was directed to report back to the board on the nature of amendments necessary to obtain these funds

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Patrol car removal sparks walkout by Redwoods' police

Security guards at College of the Redwoods walked off their jobs as of Tuesday evening due to a refusal to allow them the use of the campus patrol car for one week.

The decision was made during a regularly scheduled patrol meeting. A session to correct the situation was to be discussed with top campus administrators this morning, although Tuesday night C-R President Donald Weichert said he knew nothing of the matter. This morning he did meet with some of the security officers, but results of the session were not known at press time.

One of the two patrol commanders of some 18 student guards, Bob Strubough, told The Times-Standard that Security Chief Dave Young made an "adolescent move" in denying the guards the use of the car.

He said the guards will strike until the car is returned.

"And they know exactly when it's coming back too," Young told The Times-Standard. Young said the student patrol has "physically destroyed five cars in four years" through mistreatment.

The current situation was sparked when a tie rod in the newest (and only) campus cruiser was damaged last Friday. Young said the car has been repaired but will not be returned until next Friday. "We haven't found a means to get these guys off their asses to take care of that car . . . They can walk in the cold for awhile."

Young did concede that the current group of guards is "a good bunch."

Strubough said the guards cannot function without a car. He

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Miranda woman said Sonoma murder victim

SANTA ROSA — The body of a murdered woman found in a Sonoma county stream Dec. 28 has been identified as that of Theresa Diane Smith Walsh, 23, of Miranda in Humboldt County. Miranda is about 10 miles north of Garberville.

Mrs. Walsh was reported missing by her mother Goldie Smith on Dec. 11. Sonoma County Coroner Richard Adams said the body was identified through fingerprints and dental records.

The murder is the sixth unsolved slaying of a young woman in the county in the past year. Four of the victims have been under 14 years of age, the youngest 12.

Mrs. Walsh's nude body was discovered in a deep canyon of Mark West Springs Creek about a quarter mile upstream from the point where the creek passes under the Calistoga Road, near here.

It was discovered by two kayakers who spotted it caught in an eddy between a rock and a submerged log. The body was brought out by sheriff's deputies with ropes.

Coroner Adams said Mrs. Walsh's wrists and ankles were tied with nylon rope, with a slip knotted noose around her neck so positioned as to strangle her if she struggled. Her thumbs were also tied together.

She was estimated to have been dead and in the water two days at the time of her discovery. Adams said the cause of death was determined to be strangulation, with a severe blow to the back of the head a possible contributory cause. She also had a bruise over the left eye.

Adams said five of the six young women were found nude and tied up. In one case the cause of death was strychnine poisoning, while in two, in which only skeletal remains were found, no cause has been determined, he said.

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