from the wires of United Press International

## Today' host McGee dies

NEW YORK-Frank W. McGee, the host of NBC-TV's Today Show and a national broadcast newsman known for his coverage of space shots and political conventions, died Wednesday from complications of bone cancer he had suffered for several months. He was 52.

McGee continued to broadcast until Thursday, although friends described him as having been very weak and in great pain. He entered Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Friday.

The cause of death was attributed to pneumonia, described as a direct complication of multiple myeloman, a rare form of bone cancer. McGee had been

SAGINAW. Mich.-The latest

Democratic victory in usually safe

Republican territory sent shock waves

through GOP ranks Wednesday and spurred

new Democratic attacks on President

The latest in a series of post-Watergate

setbacks for Republicans came Tuesday

night in Michigan's 8th Congressional

District, where J. Bob Traxler scored a solid

victory in an area that has elected only one

Final unofficial figures gave Traxler

Traxler called the result a vote of no

The stakes for Nixon were high since he

personally and enthusiastically campaigned

in the district just six days before the

election, his first such political foray since

court decision, the Supreme Court ruled

damage suits against National Guardsmen

law doctrine of executive immunity is only a limited, not an absolute, barrier to personal

The 8-0 decision held that an old common

It reinstated for lower court action two

damage suits that ask 11 million in damages from former Ohio Gov. James A. Rhodes,

former Kent State University president

Robert I. White and other officials and

National Guardsmen involved in the May 4,

Variation

coming

and state officials involved.

liability for official actions.

Kent State suits reinstated

Wednesday that the families of students shot merits of the two Kent state lawsuits before in the 1970 Kent State violence may press it. It merely reinstated them in the U.S.

WASHINGTON-Overturning a lower 1970 campus shooting.

59,918 votes in the seven-county district,

nearly 3,000 more than the 56,898 collected by James M. Sparling Jr., a respected

Republican making his first race.

confidence in Nixon.

other Democrat to Congress in this century.

Loss shakes GOP

undergoing chemical and radiation therapy for the disease.

McGee, a native of Monroe, La., joined the network in 1957, assigned first as a Washington correspondent specializing in space and politics. Two years later he was transferred to New York.

He hosted the 11th Hour News and The Frank McGee Report before succeeding Hugh Downs on the Today Show in 1971. As a newsman, McGee broadcast some 450 instant news specials and during the 1960 presidential campaign moderated the second "Great Debate" between President John F. Kennedy and then Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

Nixon did not comment immediately on

Traxler's victory, but other GOP leaders

from Vice President Gerald R. Ford on

down expressed dismay, disappointment

Ford, whose own vacated safe seat fell

earlier this year to a Democrat, said

Traxler's election was a bad omen and

warned that a continued Democratic sweep

Traxler echoed earlier Democratic

winners by calling the result a demonstration

that voters are fed up with unemployment,

inflation, shortages and, above all,

"If I was a Republican," he said, "I would

The loss was the fourth for the GOP in five

not want the Nixon albatross around my

special House elections this year and was

especially painful since Nixon took a

personal and direct role in hopes of

bolstering his own standing within the party.

The court Wednesday did not rule on the

District Court in Cleveland.

could lead to a "legislative dictatorship."

and concern.

neck in November."

### for Treasury

for his reporting.

WASHINGTON-Energy director William E. Simon was nominated by President Nixon Wednesday to replace George P. Shultz as Treasury secretary. Simon's assistant, John C. Sawhill, will succeed to the energy post.

He was the recipient in 1966 of a George

Foster Peabody award, one of the highest

distinctions in broadcast journalism, and

received several other awards and citations

Simon chosen

Simon, 46, has been doubling since December as head of the Federal Energy Office and as undersecretary of the Treasury. The White House made clear he will not

face the wide range of economic responsibilities assigned to Shultz. Simon was making millions on Wall Street as an investment banker when he

accepted the Treasury undersecretary job in January, 1973. Sawhill, 37, joined Simon at the Federal Energy Office last December, and was chief architect of the fuel allocation system and

stricken West African nation. The announcement came in a broadcast by the official radio station in the capital

The Daily Tar Heel

of Niamey, three days after Kountie toppled the government of President Hamani Diori in a military coup.

#### Saxbe believes Patricia guilty

SAN FRANCISCO U.S. Attorney James Browning said Wednesday a grand jury will have to decide whether Patricia Hearst was a willing participant in a Hibernia Bank robbery, Monday, U.S. Attorney General William B. Saxhe said he thought she was and called her a common criminal.

In Washington, Saxbe said he had concluded Patricia "was not a reluctant participant" in the holdup. His opinion, he told newsmen, was based on "the way she behaved, the number of people in the bank who observed her behavior, the testimony of witnesses, and the actions in the bank."

#### Now more than ever

KESLEY, Iowa-A Democratic congressional candidate said Wednesday he has invited President Nixon to his district to

campaign for Republicans. Nicholas Johnson of Kesley, who is seeking the Democratic nomination in Iowa's 3rd District, noted that the President campaigned for the Republican candidate in Michigan's special congressional election but a Democrat won in Tuesday's balloting.

Johnson said he was very heartened by the results in Michigan and added: "I already have my request in to the President."

#### Kountie declares himself chief of Niger

COTONOU, Dahomey-Lt. Col. Seyni Kountle proclaimed himself Niger's chief of state Wednesday and named a 12-man all-military council to run the drought-

compiled by Tom Scarritt and Walter Colton

Wire Editors

Soviet actions may hurt peace effort

BEIRUT-The Israeli-Syrian war of attrition went into its 37th day Wednesday with

Western diplomats expressing concern that increased Soviet involvement in Syria's

war efforts could hamper, or even wreck, U.S. peace-making efforts in the Middle

The concern was fanned by a joint Syrian-Soviet communique issued on Syrian

President Hafex Assad's return to Damascus Tuesday from a five-day official visit to

Kountie, the 43-year-old chief of staff of Niger's 2,500-man army, named himself

president of the 12-man Supreme Council to run the nation. the contingency plans for gasoline rationing.

the Soviet Union and talks with Kremlin leaders.

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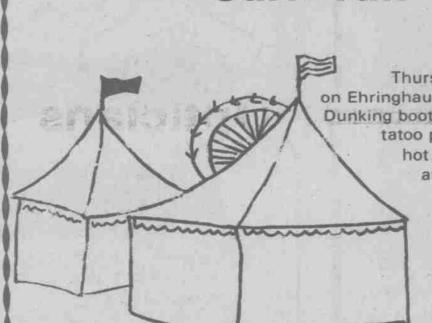
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15 BEING ON

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BAD THING?

A WAITING LIST

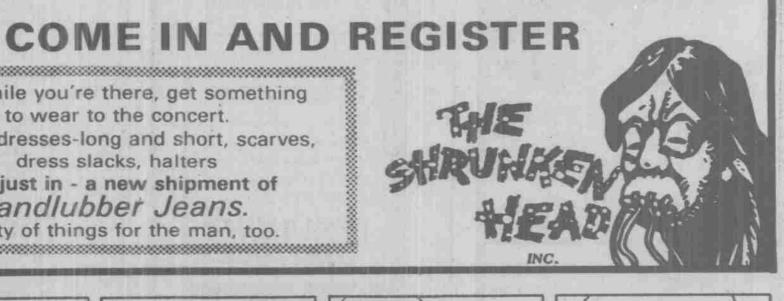
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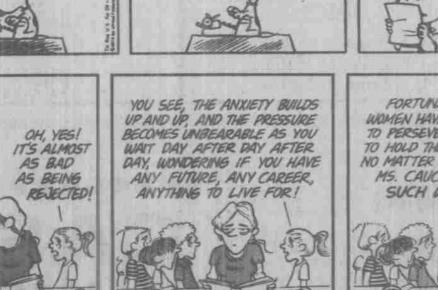
authority on Egyptian

and Babylonian culture.





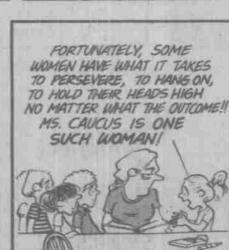
on Thursday April 25



His greatest accomplishment,

however, was his famous

work on the Throat culture



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