

World and Nation

Supreme Court begins new term

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court, beginning a new term Monday, set the stage for an important church-state ruling in a Pittsburgh dispute over religious displays and expanded its study of drug testing in the workplace.

The justices issued orders in some 1,000 cases as they returned to the bench after a three-month summer recess. They agreed to grant full review in 20 of them.

Most significantly, the court said it will decide whether displays of a Christmas nativity scene and a menorah, symbolizing the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, should be

allowed at two government buildings in Pittsburgh.

Although such disputes are not new to the court, the case offers Justice Anthony Kennedy his first opportunity to consider how high a wall the Constitution requires between government and religion.

The court Monday also agreed to consider, for the second time in two years, the authority of states to deny unemployment benefits to people who refuse to work on their Sabbath.

Despite his 12 years as a federal appeals court judge before becoming a justice last February, Kennedy's views on the politically volatile issue of religious freedom largely are

unknown.

In a separate action, the justices said they will decide whether a railroad routinely may require its employees to take drug tests.

The court already has under study, also to be decided sometime in 1989, whether constitutional privacy rights of railroad workers are violated by federal regulations requiring blood and urine tests for those involved in serious train accidents.

The justices also will decide whether people applying for U.S. Customs drug-enforcement jobs may be subjected to drug tests. In other action, the Court:

■ Agreed to decide in a case from

Dallas whether communities may seek to protect young teenagers by barring anyone over 18 from dance halls or other establishments catering to minors.

■ Agreed to decide whether state colleges and universities may ban certain commercial activities from dormitories. The justices will review a ruling that a New York school violated students' rights by barring a cookware company from making its sales pitch in dorm rooms.

■ Rejected the appeal of a Pennsylvania couple criminally convicted in their young son's death after trying to heal him through prayer rather than seeking medical care.

New Soviet president named in major leadership shakeup

From Associated Press reports

MOSCOW — Politburo member Vitaly Vorotnikov was moved to the ceremonial job of president of the Russian republic Monday as the Kremlin capped the biggest leadership shake-up in Mikhail Gorbachev's three and a half years in power.

The major beneficiary of the realignment of power was Gorbachev himself. The Communist Party's general secretary was elected Soviet president by the Supreme Soviet Parliament Saturday to replace Andrei Gromyko, 79, who retired.

At a Monday meeting, the legislature of the Russian republic, the largest of the 15 Soviet republics, elected Interior Minister Alexander Vlasov, who was named a candidate member of the ruling Politburo during a Central Committee meeting Friday, the republic's new premier to replace Vorotnikov.

Vladimir Orlov, the 67-year-old president of the republic, retired, and Vorotnikov was elected his successor.

Gorbachev, who attended the meeting of the Russian republic's parliament in the Kremlin, recommended the changes, and lauded Orlov and Vorotnikov in remarks later shown on state-run television.

Last week, Gorbachev pushed a major shake-up through the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee. He retired two full and two candidate Politburo members, promoted four other people and streamlined the Central Committee's apparatus.

Legislator testifies in trial

RALEIGH — A state representative who helped negotiate freedom for hostages at The Robe-

News in Brief

sonian newspaper in February testified Monday that he suggested the surrender of hostage-takers to an FBI agent.

Rep. Sidney Locks, D-Robeson, said the FBI surrender scenario was suggested by a police officer at the siege command post. Locks said he also asked defendant Eddie Hatcher if he wanted to add amnesty to his list of demands.

Meanwhile, the governor's chief of staff testified that accused hostage-taker Hatcher had sought an appointment with the governor months before the hostage siege.

Phil Kirk told a U.S. District Court jury that he checked to see whether Hatcher had ever called Gov. Jim Martin's office. The check was made while Kirk was on the telephone with Hatcher on Feb. 1.

"A person in the scheduling office said he had called four or five months before seeking an appointment with the governor to discuss Lumbee recognition," Kirk said. "We asked him for some printed material so a decision could be made on whether an appointment was needed."

Price of oil decreases

NEW YORK — Oil prices continued their dramatic march downward Monday, flirting with the \$13-a-barrel level in a stiff test of lows not seen in two years.

The November contract of West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude which plunged 55 cents a barrel Friday, skidded another 31 cents to settle at \$13.06 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Candidates praise shuttle flight

From Associated Press reports

Presidential candidates George Bush and Michael Dukakis hailed the success of the Discovery space shuttle mission on Monday, while their top campaign aides discussed how to salvage a second debate after the League of Women Voters abruptly withdrew as sponsor.

"A great day for our country," proclaimed the Republican vice president, who was on hand at Edwards Air Force Base in California, to witness the landing of the shuttle. Bush was driven to within a few feet of the space craft and shook the hands of the five-member crew as they emerged.

"America is back in space," Democrat Dukakis told a rally in Hartford, Conn. "We are proud and we are thrilled at its achievements and the courage of that crew."

Meanwhile, aides to both candidates predicted a second debate would occur despite the withdrawal of the League.

James Baker III, chairman of the Bush campaign, and Paul Brontaus, his counterpart on the Dukakis campaign, opened discussions to find an alternate sponsor for the forum scheduled to be held Oct. 13 or 14 in Los Angeles.

The vice presidential candidates —

Republican Dan Quayle and Democrat Lloyd Bentsen — were off the campaign trail, preparing for their debate Wednesday night in Omaha, Neb.

Bentsen was doing his preparation in an Austin, Texas, hotel and during a quiet break he told reporters, "I think we're relaxed for it; I think we're ready for it. . . I'm not nervous."

The league, which was to sponsor the second presidential debate, abruptly withdrew from that role and president Nancy Neuman said at a Washington news conference that "we have no intention of becoming an accessory to the hoodwinking of the American people."

Neuman said league officials objected to an agreement reached between the two campaigns which covered all details of the debate.

"The issue is who's in control of the debate," Neuman said. The agreement between the two campaigns covered such details as the makeup of the panel of questioners, the time the candidates would have for responses, as well as where people would sit in the hall and whether the debaters would sit or stand.

The campaigns worked out similar details between themselves for the first debate and proclaimed all parties pleased with the arrangement.

Crowd welcomes Discovery back to Earth

From Associated Press reports

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The shuttle Discovery returned to a star-spangled welcome from more than 400,000 people Monday after a post-Challenger shakedown mission that NASA called "an absolutely stunning success."

"Discovery, welcome back," Mission Control told commander Fred-

erick Hauck as he guided the ship to a picture-perfect landing after a four-day, 1.6-million mile mission.

The national anthem was playing as the white ship, with its stubby Delta-shaped wings, leveled out and rolled to a smooth stop on the center line painted on the hard-packed sand of this desert air base. It was precisely on time, at 9:37 a.m. PDT.

"This is a banner day for all of us,"

said NASA administrator James Fletcher. "An absolutely stunning success," said shuttle chief Richard Truly.

But Truly balked at a question that implied that with the new success, the trauma of the Challenger explosion had been overcome.

"Even when we've flown a few flights, we are not going to forget the Challenger accident," he said. "For the people who work in the program, that's going to be on their minds for a long time."

Truly, a former astronaut, said from cursory inspection the ship

appeared to have suffered little damage from the rigors of launching and returning through the atmosphere: a few tiles suffered thumb-sized nicks, he said.

"We saw no problems I'm aware of in any system," said Arnold Aldrich, director of the shuttle program.

For 55 minutes after landing, the crew was occupied with flipping switches and turning off systems while ground crews moved up giant vehicles to "safe" the vehicle and to remove any residual toxic gases.

The flight was NASA's first since the Challenger mission ended tragically 73 seconds after liftoff on Jan. 28, 1986. It was the 26th flight in the shuttle series.

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Police

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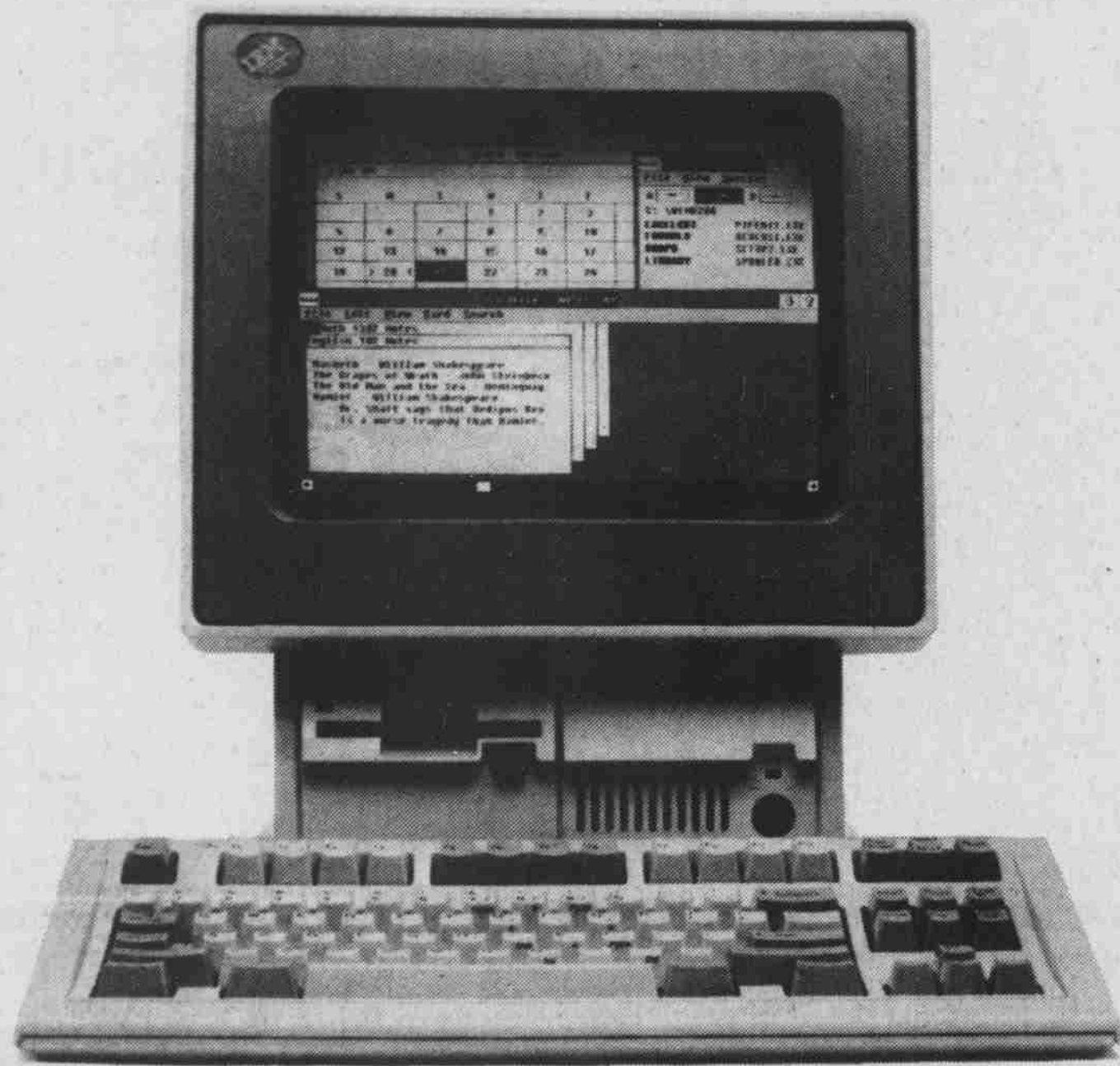
In the first step of the University grievance process, the employee normally goes to his immediate supervisor to voice his grievance. In the second step, the employee meets with an employee relations representative, who investigates the matter and renders a decision.

In Jackson's disciplinary hearing, Dan Burleson, assistant personnel

director of UNC employee relations, joined Jackson's supervisors, thus interfering with the second step of the grievance process, Edwards said.

In other words, she said, Jackson felt that filing a step two grievance would be futile because the person he would speak to in step two, Burleson, had already learned of the situation and formed an opinion.

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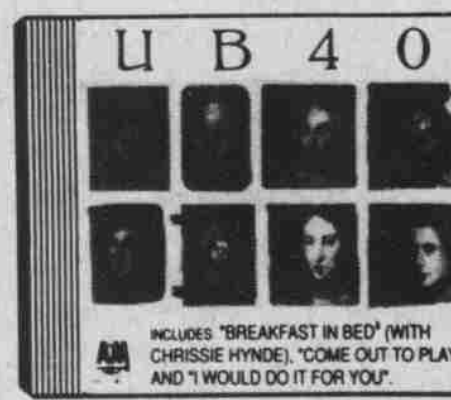
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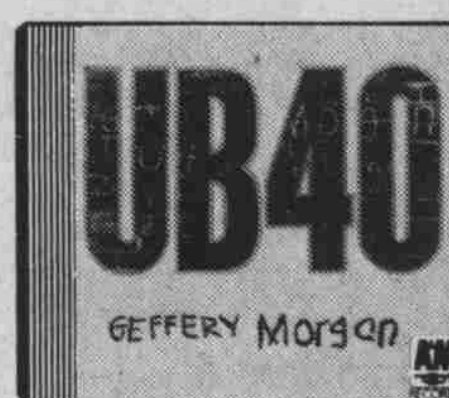
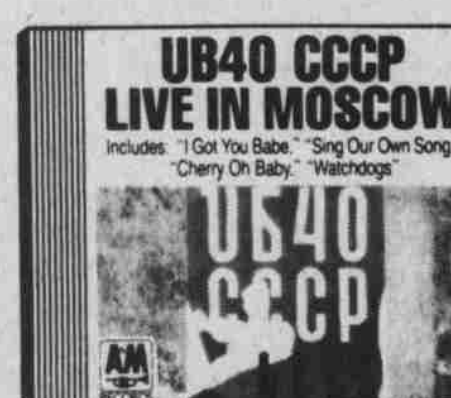
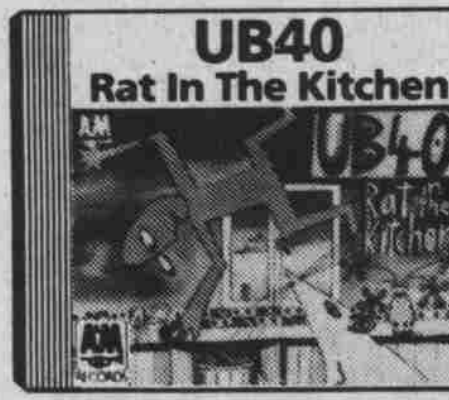
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