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- The tale of the great Angels collapse
- Juggling the Dodgers' pitching staff



IN STYLE:

- Buddy Hackett and 'You Bet Your Life'
- The exodus from CBS News grows



IN FINANCE:

- L.A.-N.Y. airfare war continues at \$129
- Alfred Kahn: U.S. needs a tax cut



Weather

Fair through tomorrow with highs about 84 and overnight lows 61. Details: A-18.

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L.A. prices up even more

Consumer prices jumped 1.8 percent in Los Angeles last month, with housing responsible for 85 percent of the increase, the Los Angeles Bureau of Labor Statistics reports.

The figure, which may be distorted because of delays in federal data processing procedures, reverses a recent slowing trend in consumer price increases. The cost of living in Los Angeles had leaped 2.1 percent in February but then rose only 1.6 percent in March and just 1.4 percent in April.

Combined with price jumps over the previous four months, the annual rate of increase in consumer prices in the Los Angeles area now averages about 20 percent — if inflation continues at its present rate.

The Consumer Price Index for

Bad news: Housing fueled 1.8% hike in May
Good news: Gas, clothing costs take a breather

the Los Angeles area now stands at 249.1. This means that a selection of goods and services that cost \$100 in 1967 was priced at \$249.10 last month. The same selection cost \$244.60 in April and \$237.60 in February.

About 85 percent of the May increase was due to higher shelter costs, particularly for home purchase and financing. Housing costs were up 3.6 percent, up 24.8 percent from one year ago.

Residential rents were up 0.9

percent, while the cost of home ownership rose 5 percent, up 33.1 percent from a year ago.

Nationwide, consumer prices rose 0.9 percent in May, the same as in April and far less than the rampant pace set during the first three months of 1980, the government said today.

If May's price rise continues for an entire year, the annual inflation rate would be a compound 10.9 percent, the Labor Department said. From January through

March, that rate exceeded 18 percent.

Some economists predict the annual inflation rate could fall to 8 percent or less by the end of the year as interest rates continue to fall and the recession continues.

In a companion report, the Labor Department reported that Americans' take-home pay in May, adjusted for inflation, fell 0.9 percent. In the past year, earnings adjusted for inflation have dropped 7.7 percent.

According to experts, May's consumer price increases in L.A. could indicate a "catching up" from last winter before the prime interest rate dropped, since it normally takes three months for the effects of housing price changes to register in the index because of data-processing delays.

Without the rise in housing costs, the price index would have risen only 0.4 percent, the lowest rise in total consumer prices — excluding shelter — since October of 1979.

Joining housing with a big jump were utility costs, which rose 3.9 percent last month, up 20.1 percent from last year, because of higher residential gas rates and telephone service charges.

The two bright spots in the Consumer Price Index figures were the costs of transportation and clothing.

Transportation costs rose just 0.1 percent, way below the 3.3 percent increase in February. It was the lowest monthly rise since last October, because of declines in gasoline prices and auto-financing charges.

Apparel prices, meanwhile, declined 0.5 percent in May, although they are up 10.1 percent over last year. The cost of women's and

Prices/A-10, Col. 5

Q&A

The real Brubaker continues fight for prison reform

While superintendent at Cummins Prison Farm in Arkansas, Tom Murton revealed to the press in 1968 that three skeletons had been uncovered on prison grounds. He said that the remains were those of inmates who had been secretly and brutally murdered under previous prison administrations, and that there was evidence that as many as 200 other men were buried there. After he publicized the discovery, Murton was fired and a grand jury considered indicting him for "grave robbing." He is the real-life character Robert Redford portrays in the movie "Brubaker." Murton was interviewed by Keith Tuber.

Question: Is the purpose of prison to punish more than to rehabilitate?

Murton: Punishment and rehabilitation are mutually exclusive. It's unrealistic for the prison to be expected to perform both functions. So consequently it performs only one of them, and that's punishment. And, in my opinion, it does an admirable job of doing that.

The question is, is punishment a viable model for training people to be productive citizens of democracy? My answer is no. It makes as much sense to send a guy to a dictatorial prison to teach him to be a responsible democrat as it does to put a duck in a sand box and tell him to start swimming. How do you learn responsibility and democracy in a place where you make no decisions for yourself? If we were in Nazi Germany, we'd have the right prison model.

Q: What is your opinion of the

Q&A/A-8, Col. 1

Back on the screen, again



Gene Autry strikes a familiar pose before a publicity still in his former occupation — as "King of the Singing Cowboys." A 13-week exhibition and film retrospective honoring the legendary star opens today at the Museum of Science and Industry in Exposition Park.

Some voters say: None of the above

By Louis Harris
Special to the Herald Examiner

Perhaps the most revealing finding about the electorate these days is that 69 percent of all voters nationwide now say they could not bring themselves to vote for at least one candidate from a choice of Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and John Anderson. Only 27 per-

cent say they would not rule out any one of the three in their final choice.

When asked which candidates they could not vote for in November, here is the degree of negativism about each man:

■Thirty-two percent of the voters say they could not vote for Carter;

■Twenty-nine percent say they

could not bring themselves to vote for Reagan; and,

■Twenty-four percent report they could not vote for Anderson running as an independent.

In a sense, these results mean that Anderson is found to be the least objectionable and Carter the most objectionable, with Reagan

Poll/A-6, Col. 2

Russia's strategy for withdrawing from Afghanistan

By John P. Wallach
Herald Examiner
foreign affairs editor

WASHINGTON — The reported Soviet pullout of a full division and 108 tanks from Afghanistan is the "serious start of a serious withdrawal" that could lead to a total pullout if the United States, Pakistan and Iran help guarantee the end of the guerrilla struggle against the Babrak Karmal regime.

This was disclosed yesterday by a Soviet source close to Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in what appeared to be the start of a carefully coordinated effort in Western capitals to get the maximum propaganda mileage from the limited troop pullout.

Carter administration spokesmen were skeptical yesterday that the withdrawal amounted to little more than a cleverly staged rotation of the 5,000 to 10,000 additional troops that Moscow was said to have sent to Afghanistan in recent weeks.

But the Soviet source, who asked not to be identified, insisted the withdrawal decision, which he said was made by the Politburo, represented a genuine effort to diffuse U.S.-Soviet tensions and was not merely a gimmick "to create a certain atmosphere before the Olympics."

"My understanding is that it has much more political meaning. It shows the Soviet Union would like to have a political settlement and will also create some kind of favorable situation for the (start of U.S.-Soviet) talks," said the source, who recently returned from Moscow.

He said he had talked there to

returning Russian officers as well as reporters and "it looks like the people of Afghanistan are tired of all these raids, the bombing of schools and hospitals. They would like to be left alone to settle their own problems."

"They would like to live just normal lives," he said.

Russians/A-4, Col. 2

Brown reacts to increase in Klan activity

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Responding to the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan in California, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. has announced the formation of a state task force on civil rights.

The task force will look into "incidents of community violence" and recommend methods of training and mediation that would help resolve or prevent violence and tension, Brown said yesterday in an executive order.

The order said there exists in California "the potential for growing racial and ethnic animosity" which "enhances the possibility of civil strife and weakens the fabric of community tolerance and good will."

Brown's associate press secretary, Steve Duscha, said those words referred, in part, to increasing activity by the white-supremacist KKK, and to the stalking and

Brown/A-6, Col. 5

NEWS FOCUS

Detective story 2: Coroner provides the missing clue

Did the violent butcher kill his mother?

By Bruce Henderson
Herald Examiner staff writer

It was 3:30 a.m. and the urine-soaked, carpeted hallway in front of Apartment 405 in the dingy, 5-story Hollywood apartment building was crowded with four Los Angeles Police Department officers.

When Gloria Ford (not her real name) died, her body was covered with bruises and police suspected murder. In the last of a two-part series focusing on this Hollywood homicide investigation, the surprising end is revealed.

listened to the sound of radio music coming from inside the apartment, where until 24 hours earlier Gloria Ford, 49, had lived with her occasionally violent son.

The woman now lay dead on a gurney in a refrigeration room at the county coroner's office, the victim of an apparent brain hemorrhage after being brought in by ambulance from her apartment the previous morning.

Although an autopsy was scheduled for later in the day to determine the exact cause of death, the heavy bruises on her

head, arms and torso were suspicious enough to cause Hodel to treat this as Hollywood's 18th homicide of 1980.

And her 22-year-old son, James Ford (not his real name), a meat-cutter by trade, had become a likely suspect after neighbors told Hodel that he had a reputation for beating his mother, who was known to be a heavy drinker.

In the last few hours, Hodel had also learned that the son had five previous arrests in the past four years on offenses involving violent behavior.

"There can be a lot of hatred in a family with an alcoholic," Hodel had said on the ride to the apartment house. "I've seen it time and time again."

Hodel knocked firmly on the door. "Who is it?" came a loud, wary voice from the other side of the door.

"Hi, Jim, this is Detective Hodel of LAPD." There was no threat in the cop's voice — only concern and understanding. "I'd like to talk to you about your mother."

The door swung open. Jim Ford, a beefy man dressed in faded jeans and a dirty T-shirt, was genuinely surprised to see four policemen at his doorway.

News Focus/B-8, Col. 1

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