

Metro/State

Lawmakers predict Robins will survive

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Georgia lawmakers said Tuesday they are not concerned about the future of Robins Air Force Base, despite reports that the Base Closure Commission may consider closing the central Georgia installation.

The *New York Times* reported Tuesday that Robins is one of four Air Force logistics bases that the commission might consider closing to allow McClellan Air Force Base in California to remain open.

Commission Chairman James A. Courter told California officials he was "very sympathetic" to arguments that it made sense from a military standpoint to close bases other than McClellan.

"This is a matter of concern, but not alarm," said Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Perry, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. "Should the commission elect to examine all of the centers, I am confident that the Warner Robins complex will stand up very well to scrutiny."

Sen. Nunn said Robins is well positioned to withstand scrutiny by the commission because of

its modern facilities, well-trained work force, favorable wage rates, supportive local community, and diversified missions.

"The center's competitive position among other logistics centers, plus the base's many diversified missions, add up to a very strong defense complex that will likely come through the base closure analysis process as a gaining, rather than a closing site," he said.

Rep. Roy Rowland, a Dublin Democrat whose district includes Robins, said he has never received any information that would indicate that Robins Air Force Base is a candidate for closing.

"In fact, just the opposite," he said. "I've been told at Pentagon briefings it would cost between \$800 million and \$1 billion to close Robins, which would not be cost effective. My feeling has not changed that Robins is secure."

Warner Robins Mayor Ed Martin said closing the Air Force installation "would be devastating to the whole region, not just our city. We are all hoping it doesn't happen and I'm fairly confident that it won't."

McClellan Air Force Base initially was

recommended for closing by the Air Force, but Defense Secretary Les Aspin removed it from his final list of targeted bases to soften the economic impact of the closings on California.

The commission voted last month to restore McClellan to the list. By law, the commission cannot consider a base for closing unless it votes in public session to do so by June 1.

In its report Tuesday, the *Times* said McClellan would require a much more expensive environmental cleanup before it could be turned over to civilian use than would any of the other four logistics bases, including Robins.

But Sen. Nunn said environmental cleanup costs are not supposed to be considered in the base closing process. Otherwise, he said, the commission would end up closing only the environmentally clean bases while retaining the polluted ones.

The commission, established to free Congress from taking the heat on base closings, is on a nine-city fact-finding tour. Its final report to President Clinton is due July 1. He then will have 45 days to send the list to Congress or reject it.

Briefs

Local

Accused robbers plead guilty

MARIETTA — Two brothers have pleaded guilty to charges they robbed at gunpoint a Cracker Barrel restaurant in Kennesaw in April 1992.

Kenneth Marshall Pickle, 39, of Hermitage, Tenn., and Robert Kerry Pickle, 33, of Terre Haute, Ind., pleaded guilty in Cobb Superior Court Monday to armed robbery just as they were about to go to trial.

Judge Harris Hines sentenced Kenneth Pickle to 20 years in prison and Robert Pickle to two years in prison and 13 years on probation.

Police say the two men — one armed with a handgun and the other carrying a shotgun — entered Cracker Barrel at 789 George Busbee Parkway at 1:25 a.m. on April 27, 1992.

They forced an assistant manager and a janitor into an office, where a safe was located, police say.

The assistant manager told police he was ordered to open the safe and put money and money orders into an apron on the floor. The two men were then placed in a walk-in cooler and told to remain there for five minutes, according to police reports.

Police say \$9,500 was taken from the business.

Cobb school board OKs contracts

MARIETTA — The Cobb County Board of Education has approved the purchase of 17 radios for campus police and security.

The radios will allow Cobb schools police and security personnel to communicate directly with Cobb Police Department after the police department switches to a new communication system this summer. The cost of the radios will be \$36,307.

Other contracts approved at the board's meeting last week include one for the re-roofing of Lassiter High School at a cost of \$607,000, and another for the re-roofing of the vocational wing of North Cobb High School at a cost of \$140,800.

Both contracts were awarded to the low bidder, Therral-Kizer Roofing Inc. of Smyrna.

The board also unanimously approved a contract with A.G. Edwards and Sons for financial advisor services for 1993-96. The firm, which was the low bidder, will receive \$10,000 for each successful bond issue, including any refinancing of bonds now held by the system.

In addition, the board approved authorizing Eastvalley Elementary School to submit an application for demonstration school status in the Georgia Schools of the Future program.

Rezoning for homes approved

SMYRNA — The Smyrna Planning and Zoning Board has voted unanimously to recommend the rezoning of 8.32 acres at the intersection of Hurt and Concord roads for single-family homes.

The board recommended the property currently zoned Residential-Townhouse Development be rezoned to the Residential Attached and Detached category, which would allow for free-standing homes, said Carol Cowans of the city of Smyrna.

The matter goes before the city council for final approval on May 17.

The applicant is Glen Devon Development. The company, according to Ms. Cowans, would like to build a 41-home development on the property. Houses in the development would average about 1,200 square feet and range in price from \$75,000 to \$85,000.

East Cobb neighborhood seeks buyout eligibility

By Jeff Gill
Marietta Daily Journal Staff Writer

A group of east Cobb residents who fear encroaching commercial development near their lakefront homes asked Cobb commissioners Tuesday night to adopt a zoning plan that would make their neighborhood eligible for a potential buyout.

Commission Chairman Bill Byrne responded by asking county planner John Moeller to more fully explore such a zoning designation.

Thirteen residents living in and near the affected area west of Johnson Ferry Road from Waterfront Drive to Shallowford Road spoke at a public hearing regarding a possible change in zoning

categories.

This is a peaceful community that once gathered around a lake," said David Hong, a resident of Waterfront subdivision, told the five-member board. "Homeowners around the lake are now being threatened with commercialism."

The county is considering the zoning change as a result of an ongoing legal battle with former Gov. Lester Maddox, who owns a home on Johnson Ferry Road just east of the Waterfront subdivision.

Maddox, trying to get a retail-commercial zoning for his property, was given a limited retail-commercial zoning in mid-February by commissioners — a move that would permit some commercial develop-

ment but would block a Firestone Tire business from buying and developing Maddox's property.

Commissioners have believed that Maddox's property and others nearby should be used as a buffer between high-density commercial developments on Johnson Ferry Road and the Waterfront subdivision.

By trying to determine what zoning categories are appropriate for the area through public hearings, the board seems to be backing off its earlier commitment.

Tuesday's public hearing was the second of three such forums being conducted by the commission. After the third hearing on May 11, the board will take a vote on the issue.

Residents of East Spring Lake subdivision, which is about three miles south of Waterfront, also spoke at Tuesday's hearing — even though they wouldn't be directly affected by the commission's decision.

Susan Smith said she and other homeowners fear silt and other pollutants from a commercially used lake in Waterfront will travel downstream to their subdivision and require constant cleanup of their subdivision's lake.

"When it rains, that stream that runs by Lester Maddox's property becomes a raging stream," she said. "If you consider development in that area, you'll be hearing from us again."

Pena impressed by Memphis-Atlanta proposal

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Transportation Secretary Federico Pena said Tuesday he's impressed by a four-state proposal to plan a high-speed rail system in conjunction with the Memphis-to-Atlanta superhighway.

But Pena, speaking to reporters after meeting with several dozen officials from along the highway corridor, said the Clinton administration is not ready to commit any federal funds

to the project.

"We look for creative approaches like these," Pena said. "Obviously we don't have funding to fund every project in the country, but this one I think is being very thoughtful about anticipating future needs..."

"We'll simply have to see what the process allows us to fund because there are lots of areas and lots projects around the country that would like to have funding," he said.

The delegation, led by Huntsville, Ala., Mayor Steve Hettinger, told Pena they need \$1 billion from the federal government over the next five years to complete planning and engineering for the highway and high-speed rail system and to get substantial segments of the highway under construction.

Hettinger said such a commitment would create 100,000 jobs over the next five years in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee

Parents sue for exam administered in error

VALDOSTA (AP) — The parents of an 11-year-old girl whose name got on the wrong list are seeking \$250,000 from the Lowndes County Health Department for having given the child a gonorrhea exam by mistake.

The girl was tested after being told by the department she was a possible carrier of gonorrhea because a man had said she was one of his sex partners. Health departments are not required to notify parents when such tests are given.

The parents filed suit in U.S. District Court last week.

The girl's mother said that since

the gynecological exam, give by a nurse two years ago, the Valdosta teen-ager has had feelings of guilt and embarrassment and is just beginning to want to play with her friends again.

The girl told her parents when she got home and the parents gave the department a picture of their daughter to take to the man who had identified his sex partners.

Later that day a health department employee apologized, saying the department had made a mistake, the suit says.

The girl's first name was similar to a name on the man's list, but the last names were different.

Controversial program closes treatment center

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Nine clients at an adolescent drug treatment center in St. Petersburg are transferring to a sister facility near Atlanta after the Florida center's closing over the weekend.

Elaine Fulton Jones, spokeswoman for the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, said 16 remaining clients and their families at Straight Inc. had been offered the option of transferring to a Straight facility near Atlanta.

Of the seven who declined, one was being admitted to a different

program, she said, and she was not sure about the others. The center had room for 100 clients.

Jones said the Florida facility had been under investigation by the state before the closing. She said she was barred from providing details. She also said she knew of nothing to indicate the investigation had anything to do with the center's closing.

Richard Bradbury, a former Straight client who has become an activist against the organization, said he initiated an investigation by complaining to the governor's office.

BLW

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cost increase by 4.8 percent during the same period.

The second option proposed by Parmelee would lower revenues by \$800,000 while decreasing the cost for high-use customers by 5-10 percent and increasing the cost for low-use customers by 2-3 percent.

Under the third scenario, revenues would be decreased by 1.3 million, high-use customers would see their cost lowered by 5-10 percent.

Vanderslice has said he will present the BLW with cost-cutting measures equal to the revenue losses if the BLW opts for one of these plans.

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Trial

Continued from Page 1B

to do more? I just got so wasted I couldn't stand up."

"He said I should lie down a while," Hawkins testified.

Under the pretense of checking on him, Faver began to strip him, Hawkins said. "I told him to stop, but he went on to do what he did," he testified.

Afterward, Faver acted "like nothing happened," and took him to the party and left him.

The incident left him so shaken, he said, "I began to do cocaine non-

stop every day," Hawkins said.

Later in the summer, Faver told Hawkins' parents he was taking the youth to Statesboro to visit Georgia Southern College. Instead, Hawkins testified, he and Faver went to Savannah and stayed in a La Quinta motel.

Faver got the motel room free because of his La Quinta job in Fayette County, Hawkins said.

While in Savannah, they frequented gay bars, smoked marijuana and drank, he said. Faver bought crack cocaine from someone on a street corner, and they used it in the motel room.

Hawkins said he again got "wasted" on cocaine and Faver sexually abused him a second time.

The ordeal "made me feel so bad about myself I just wanted to die," Hawkins testified.

Agonized over the abuse by Faver, Hawkins sought help from counselor Jackie Yost, who told police and Hawkins' parents of the sexual abuse. Faver was arrested in November 1988 at Marietta High School.

Publicity surrounding the arrest created problems for him at school, he said.

"I lost every friend I ever had," he testified. "Everybody was calling me a faggot, saying I was homosexual. One of my best friends told me I should kill myself — that

he would do the same thing if he were in my shoes."

While undergoing counseling, Hawkins suffered another emotional setback when he learned Ms. Yost was a fraud.

Ms. Yost, of Snellville, pleaded guilty in January 1990 to practicing social work without a license, making false statements, perjury and forgery. She was given 10 years' probation and ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine.

Hawkins, a junior at Kennesaw State College, said he is not gay and hopes to rebuild his life.

"I just want to have a normal life again," he testified. "I want to start over. I want to have a family someday."

Deaths and funerals

Robert Henry Sr., 83, Lockheed retiree

Robert Broughton Henry Sr., 83, of Acworth, died Tuesday.

Services will be 11 a.m. Thursday at Winkenhof Pine Ridge Funeral Chapel, with the Rev. David LeGrand officiating. Burial will be in Kennesaw Memorial Park.

A native of Griffin, Mr. Henry lived in Cobb County for 43 years. He retired from Lockheed in 1967, as an aircraft mechanic. He was a Navy, Army and Air Force veteran, serving during World War II. He was Methodist.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Alice Henry; two sons, Robert B. Henry Jr. of Lilburn and Charles Martin Henry of Woodstock; one brother, W.C. Henry of Greenville, S.C.; and two grandchildren.

Contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society.

A native of New Orleans, La., Mrs. McKinney was employed by Aetna Insurance Company for 15 years.

Survivors include her husband, Gerald R. McKinney; and her daughter, Crystal McKinney of Marietta.

Bobby K. Dobbs, 52, machinist

Bobby Kim Dobbs, 52, of Marietta, died Monday.

Services will be 2 p.m. today at White Columns Chapel in Mableton, with the Rev. Billy Gibson officiating. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery in Smyrna.

A native of Fulton County, Mr. Dobbs was a machinist.

Survivors include three sons, Michael and Scott Dobbs of Marietta, and Robbie Dobbs of St. Johns County, Fla.; one daughter, Sherri Dobbs of Decatur; one brother, Billy Dobbs of Marietta; and three grandchildren.

Hugh A. Smallwood, 76, Lockheed retiree

Hugh Aubrey Smallwood, 76, of Loganville, formerly of Marietta, died Sunday.

Services were Tuesday at Blacks Creek Baptist Church, with burial in Grey Hill Cemetery in Commerce.

Mr. Smallwood was retired from Lockheed and a member of Blacks Creek Baptist Church. He was an Army veteran and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Sorrow Smallwood; two sons, Danny Smallwood of Lawrenceville and MIA Capt. Jackie Smallwood of Commerce; and one sister, Lorena Crocker of Commerce.

Ivie Funeral Home in Commerce is in charge of arrangements.

Manny Gispert, 48, sales executive

Manny Gispert, 48, of Marietta, died Saturday.

Services will be 1 p.m. Thursday at Roswell Funeral Home with the Rev. Dr. Warren Latham officiating. Burial will be in Arlington Memorial Park.

Mr. Gispert was a former sales executive with Russ Berrie Inc. and a 28-year resident of the metro Atlanta area.

Survivors include two sons, Todd Allen Gispert and Keith Martin

Gispert of Marietta; his father, Jack Gispert of Hialeah, Fla.; a brother, Pat Gispert of Roswell; and two nephews.

Contributions can be made to the Lassiter High School Soccer Booster Association, 2600 Shallowford Rd. N.E., Marietta, 30066.

The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Nellie W. Barnett, 73, homemaker

Nellie Wilkerson Barnett, 73, of Smyrna, died Tuesday.

Services will be 3 p.m. Thursday at the Harry L. White Funeral Home Chapel in Conyers with the Revs. Ruth Shaw and Jackie Towsley officiating. Burial will be in East View Cemetery in Conyers.

Mrs. Barnett was a homemaker.

Survivors include four daughters, Bobbie Clopton of Marietta, Billie Allen of Smyrna, Renee Funk of Bronaugh, Mo., Lisa Godsey of Las Vegas, Nev.; two sisters, Lillian Shaw of Milstead and Winnie Stansel of Conyers; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home.

ARTS and CRAFTS

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