Local 30 ratifies

Pension, wage gains
in Borax pact

BORON—The nearly 800 members of ILWU Local 30, employed by US Borax at its huge Mojave Desert open pit mine and refinery have voted by well over 2-1 to accept a three year agreement providing important economic benefits and language improvements.

"The company started out with nine takeaways on the table," said Local 30 President Paul Wildrick. "They wanted a two-tier wage system to eliminate cost-of-living adjustments, and to impose employee contributions to the dental plan. They wanted to weaken contractual provisions on paid holidays. They proposed only a lump sum payment in the first year, with no other wage increase.

"We told them that no agreement with two-tier wages or welfare plan contributions would even be discussed, no matter how many goodies they put in the economic deal. We also succeeded in protecting our holidays, reinstating COLA and winning a wage increase in the second and third years. "It comes across as a pretty solid package."

The contract, ratified at a membership meeting August 27, is parallel to the agreement signed by US Borax in July with ILWU Local 20-A, whose members operate the company's packaging and shipping facility in Wilmington.

It provides:
\* an increase in the accrual rate for pensions from $21 to $27 per year of service;
\* a first-year bonus of $1,358 per worker, with 3.5 percent wage increases in November 1986 and November 1987, plus COLA in the third year;
\* Maintenance of all health and welfare benefits by the company, a new orthodontia benefit for dependent children equal to 50% of fees to a maximum of $1,000, and an improved eye examination benefit. The union agreed to increase the deductible for major medical coverage from $100 to $150 per year in two steps in the second and third years of the agreement.

VACATION SHUT-DOWNS

New contract language will govern plant-wide vacation shutdowns in the summer and winter and better coordinate such shutdowns with the employees' entitlement to vacation pay. "They wanted to have an open book, to be able to schedule vacation shutdowns whenever they want for as long as they want. We succeeded in restricting them to something the committee felt we could live with," Wildrick said.

Negotiating committee members consisted of Wildrick, John Davenport, Ray Painter, Martha Torres, Maggie Dewry, Larry Muscel, Dennis Lank, Mike Newling, International Research Director Barry Silverman and Southern California Regional Director Joe Ibarra. International Representative Nick Podue assisted.

Goldblatt tribute

see page 6

Boycott Molson

see page 5
Supreme Court smokescreen

During the last nine years, the California Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice Rose Bird, has put together an outstanding record of defending free speech, consumer rights, and environmental protection, along with the rights of senior citizens, women, minorities, and organized labor.

Come November, however, three of the most competent and humane members of that Court—Bird, Cruz Reynoso and Joe Grodin—stand a good chance of being unseated by a vicious campaign which has been designed by right-wing, anti-labor extremists and lavishly funded by some of the most powerful corporate interests in this state. By means of a series of outrageous lies and half-truths—and by taking advantage of the judges' natural reluctance to get down in the mud with their accusers—they have been able to create an elaborate smokescreen, focusing the debate around the emotional issue of the death penalty while cynically manipulating the public's fear and frustrations for their own purposes.

Most of the $5 million the anti-court groups have collected have come from the corporate sector—from growers, insurance companies, oil producers and real estate interests—from many of the same folks who oppose and bust unions, manipulate labor law, and oppose any and all pro-worker legislation.

They are angry because the court made it legal for cancer victims to sue their employer for concealing asbestos in the workplace, because the court made it legal for unions and other groups to hand out literature at shopping centers, because the court decreed that what an auto dealer tells you on the lot is subject to truth in advertising laws; they are angry because of the Court's consistent defense of the state's environmental and occupational health and safety laws.

They are angry, in other words, because the three Justices in question are compassionate people who have had the guts to stand up to unprecedented pressure. Rose Bird, the first woman ever to serve on the California Supreme Court, is one of the outstanding legal minds in this country, an architect of the state's pioneering agricultural labor relations law. Cruz Reynoso, the son of migrant farm workers, has spent his professional life in an effort to make the law more responsive to working people. Joe Grodin is a legal scholar with deep roots in the labor movement.

A STRAW MAN

The death penalty issue is a straw man. The big lie directed at Justices Bird, Grodin and Reynoso is that they are "soft on crime"—specifically, that they have dragged their feet on enforcing capital punishment legislation. Putting their own personal opposition to the death penalty before the law, it is charged, they have used narrow procedural issues as an excuse to strike down one murder conviction after another, turning convicted murderers loose on the streets of California.

These arguments are transparent distortions. It is the duty of the Court, especially in death penalty cases, to make sure that the accused had a fair trial, that he or she had adequate representation, that evidence was properly obtained. It was precisely because of such concern that Rose Bird's predecessor as Chief Justice—appointed by Ronald Reagan as a hard-line crime fighter—wrote a decision in 1978 which reversed 130 death sentences with the stroke of a pen.

The California Supreme Court, in other words, has simply been doing what most state and federal courts have been doing for the last ten years—carefully scrutinizing death sentences to ensure that they are valid under the federal and state constitutions, and under the complex standards set by the US Supreme Court. At the same time, none of those whose death sentences have been delayed or overturned by the Bird Court have been set free—all are either serving life sentences without possibility of parole, or in jail awaiting new trials.

We have not agreed with every decision handed down by Chief Justice Bird and her colleagues. We do not expect to. Nor are we legal scholars. But we are certain that all Californians are entitled to expect that our Supreme Court Judges will be hardworking, competent, honest people, who base their decisions on the statutes, precedents, and the Constitution—not the latest opinion polls or newspaper editorials.

LONG-TERM STRATEGY

The campaign is of more than local interest. The unprecedented failure to confirm these three highly respected Justices will send a message to every federal and state judge to put his or her finger to the wind. It will serve as a monument to big money's ability to manufacture and manipulate public frustration. "This is an attack on the state courts and tomorrow we will attack the federal courts," according to State Senator John Doolittle, the leader in the anti-court movement.

"The juggernaut is moving fast and its only a matter of time."

I therefore want to personally urge every member of the ILWU in California to do everything possible to support the embattled Supreme Court. There has rarely been a clearer reason to make sure that you and every member of your family is a registered voter and can participate in this momentous decision.

The polls show that Chief Justice Bird is in deep trouble. Justices Grodin and Reynoso are in only slightly better shape. But, I feel certain that we can make a difference in the time remaining by simply continuing to tell the truth, and by making sure that every member of the ILWU eligible to vote gets to the polls on November 4.
Local 26 cotton samplers 'learn to use the union'

BAKERSFIELD—Every work day of the seven years he has spent as a baler at Calcot Sample Control here, Tony Jimenez pitched tons of cotton into a vacuum hole leading into the huge, roaring baling machine in a warehouse that's so hot it called "the cave." As difficult as the work remains, a lot has changed at the Cave since Tony and over 100 other workers here voted to join ILWU Local 26, and even more since their most recent three-year agreement was signed last month.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS

Local 26 has represented workers in the huge Calcot facility, a farmer-owned cooperative, since the early 1990s. But Sample Control, where workers sample and grade 500 bales according to strength, weight, and cleanliness, didn't join until 1979.

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The price of tax reform

By MIKE LEWIS

The massive tax reform bill Congress is about to approve is a little bit like the air we breathe: you live with it, and often you take it for granted, though it's poisoned.

First, the bright side. The bill closes $120 billion worth of loophole benefits, most of which were opened up by the 1981 Reagan tax cut. Corporations got such a windfall increased. And a large number of poor people benefits workers and their families, is in-
it doesn't treat employer-paid premiums federal deduction for most state and local taxation.

The trouble is, there's more—and though it leaves us with a tax code that's anything but fair.

ranging from 11% at low income levels to other well-heeled citizens will pay less, and contributions. The rate cuts may not look as

The bill can still be seen as a net gain. Its progressive system

It's true that by closing one big loophole the old loopholes the bill would force some wealthy individuals to pay more than before, despite the rate cuts. But plenty of other well-besides citizens will pay less, and the new law may well be a step in the common good when you can afford it will be out the window. And in case you think that at least the bill is giving something back to the working-classadoxous on the high income levels, the bottom line is that the net result of the tax deduction is ended, but this may help discourage states and localities from making the tax code —with all its in-
progressive tax. That's a giveaway to the rich.

The new bill reduces these tax brackets to only two—11% and 28%. Though it phases out the lower rate over a five-year period for the high income levels, the bottom line is that a person with a $100,000 taxable income pays exactly the same rate for every single dollar he or she makes as someone making $18,500. That's not progressive. That's a giveaway to the rich.

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PROGRESSIVE SYSTEM

Under the current system, there are 15 individual income brackets in the income tax code, ranging from 11% at low income levels to 50% on the upper end. How many of those brackets cost you depends on how much you make: the higher your income, the higher your tax rate. However, the federal government gives you a tax credit for each

IBU National Representative Rusty Devereaux goes over computer lists of ILWU unregistered voters with members of the Puget Sound District Council.

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU and IBU locals in California, Washington, Oregon and Idaho have received updated membership rosters which have been compared with state voter registration lists.

The "computer" match was performed by professional computer firms in each state, and paid for by the ILWU Political Action Fund.

"This has given us an extremely effective way of mobilizing the ILWU's political power," said International President Jim Herman. "Too many members of all unions—often up to 20%—aren't registered to vote. Many ILWU locals have done an outstanding job over the years, but being able to reach our unregistered members directly will help us tighten up our voter registration efforts.

SURVIVAL AT STAKE

"We just can't afford to keep letting the other side come to all the decisions. Our survival is at stake.

The production and distribution of the Ilwunews is the responsibility of the ILWU and the IBU, and our local councils are responsible for the content and distribution of the majority of the material in this publication. Our goal is to provide a forum for discussion of issues relevant to our members and dues-paying affiliates, and to promote solidarity and unity within the ILWU and the IBU. Our publication is distributed to members and dues-paying affiliates through our local councils, and is available to the general public through our website and other means.

The ILWU and the IBU are committed to upholding the principles of solidarity, respect, and equal opportunity for all our members, and to working for a better future for all workers. Our publication is intended to provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and the expression of views, and to foster open and respectful discourse on the issues that affect our members and our work.
IBU-NMU tug school graduates can pull their weight

ASTORIA—"We give them everything we've got. We teach them everything from lifeboat training to how to fry an egg in 20 feet seas."

"But the bottom line is whether I'd be willing to sail with the kid in the winter in the Gulf of Alaska."

That's how Capt. Terry Christiansen, director of the Maritime School at the Tongue Point Job Corps Center—jointly run by the Inlandboatmen's Union and the National Maritime Union—describes his very practical criteria for judging the progress of his students. After 15 years at sea, most recruited on an entry-level wage with Sause Bros., Christiansen understands that the training of competent seamen is a life and death matter, not only for the industry but for the other crew members as well.

EMPLOYERS' RIGHTS
It works. Letters from employers attacking the training programs are "unusually strong," says Christiansen.

"The new kid has got to pull his own weight harder and faster, the gear is much more sophisticated, and nobody's got the time.

"Many manning cuts, the pace is much faster, the system has changed. They have to be willing to roll up their sleeves. They have to be able to calculate the breaking strength of lines, calculate the volume of any given tank, and read and understand shipping articles or a union contract."

Conditions today require a strong safety orientation. Aside from lifeboat and firefighting, the school offers training in life-saving and first aid—"you don't always have a full-equipped hospital just minutes away."

Tongue Point Staff are particularly proud of their unique 50 hour lifeboat training program which leads to Coast Guard Certification. Graduates also are certified by the Administration's Marine Fire Fighting and Damage Control Training Program. "It's a tremendous investment an employer has to make for a man to have with people with this kind of training," says Nelson. "Most working seamen don't get certified for years."

"The bottom line is whether I'd be willing to sail with the kid in the winter in the Gulf of Alaska."

Through its affiliation with the Job Corps, the school also stresses general education. "Nobody goes through here without finishing their high school degree," says Christiansen.

"You can tell the whole training with the strong back and a weak mind is gone wrong. A deckhand or a tankerman has to be not only capable of breaking strength of lines, calculate the volume of any given tank, and read and understand shipping articles or a union contract."

Company tries to bust Local 6

ILWU asks Molson Ale boycott

(THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF POLICY WAS PULLED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE ILWU INTER-NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, MEETING JULY 14-15 IN SAN FRANCISCO.)

Molson Companies, Ltd. of Canada, owners of Molson Breweries, also own Oxford Chemical Company. ILWU Local 6 has had a contract with Oxford for its Brohane, California facility for many years, with generally good labor relations.

UNION-BUSTING LAWYERS
Molson took over Oxford in 1983, and when the contract came up for renewal in mid-1985, Molson demanded deep cuts and concessions. The company is represented by the infamous anti-union law firm of Lit- tler, Mendelson, Fastiff and Tichy.

Bargaining dragged on. There were so many many meetings, the pace is much harder and faster, the gear is much more sophisticated, and nobody's got the time. The new kid has got to pull his own weight harder and faster, and be able to work without hurting himself or anyone else.

RESPONSIBILITY
So stand with us. "Our people have to be motivated. We have a responsibility to the industry, to the other seamen and to the union to send out only qualified people."

The 2,000-hour Tongue Point curriculum reflects both the union's special concern with safety, and the industry's need for versatile crew members with a broad knowledge of many aspects of seafaring. "Our Local 63, Wilmington Southern California marine clerks elected

Local 18 support brings victory to Greek sailors

SACRAMENTO—Greek sailors, angry over withheld pay and poor working conditions, threw up a picket line last month but the immediate inclination by ILWU Local 18 longshoremen to honor the line had to wait until an arbitrator ruled the action was indeed a strike.

The PMA contended the nine sailors' actions didn't represent a legitimate strike and that longshoremen should load the 15,000 tons of rice scheduled for shipment on the Golden Charter. The ship had a crew of 22 including the captain.

Arbitrator George Kaye, after hearing considerable evidence in which it translated from Greek, ruled the sailors were indeed on strike, because they hadn't been paid, were fed poorly and weren't provided with enough water for drinking and food for their return home. Applicants must be free of any drug or felony conviction and may not suffer from color blindness.

No food, no pay

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SACRAMENTO—Nearly 200 ILWU members, retirees and friends gathered in the shade near the lee wall of San Francisco's historic Fort Point August 16 to celebrate the memory of the late ILWU secretary-treasurer emeritus Louis Goldblatt—and the camaraderie of the labor movement. They felt they were at the fort themselves.

The ceremony began with a two-foot odar, benches in memory of Goldblatt, who died in January 1984, and had been a regular part of the Fort Point Gang's Thursday walking crew since the informal group began 20 years ago.

The benches were unveiled with a flourish during the ceremony by Ann King Smith, Goldblatt's daughter, accompanied by a surprisingly loud one-gun salute from a miniature cannon provided by the Golden Gate National Recreational Area. "He left this world a better place than he found it," Smith said.

POLITICAL SHELTER

The benches, current ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Curtis McClain said, will reflect the continuity of activism and social justice that Goldblatt and the other members of the Fort Point Gang represent.

More practically, the benches will offer a sheltered spot to rest mid-pont in their walk for the retirees, most of whom are in their 70s.

"I am proud that the organization to which I belong is able to help bring this into reality," McClain said.

The ILWU, the Longshore Division Contract and individual locals contributed generously to what the Fort Point Gang called their "modest memorial" to Goldblatt.

Gazing up at the imposing fort, journalist and fellow walker Rich Richardson recalled the labor song, "Hold the Fort," and said, "I didn't dream of such a big structure when I called their "modest memorial" to Goldblatt, and of St. Leo's Catholic Church. He was a veteran of World War II. Engels was a member of Elks Lodge 174 and of St. Leo's Catholic Church. He was a veteran of World War II.

They helped dedicate two-foot odar, benches in memory of Goldblatt, who died in January 1984, and had been a regular part of the Fort Point Gang's Thursday walking crew since the informal group began 20 years ago.

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Local Union Elections

Local 10, San Francisco

Longshore Local 10 announces the final day of dispatchers, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, September 9-11, 1986 from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the Longshoremen’s Memorial Hall, for the offices of secretary-treasurer, eight BAs, night BA and sergeant-at-arms. Slots are also open for ten caucus delegates and ten district council delegates.

The runoff election will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 22-24, 1986 at the Memorial Hall from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Local 13, Wilmington

Local ILWU, Wilmington, California, will hold its final EO election Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday September 22-23, 24, 1986 at the Memorial Hall for the offices of secretary-treasurer, night BA, four day dispatchers, welfare officer, trustee and sergeant-at-arms.

The runoff election will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 22-24, 1986 at the Memorial Hall from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Local 27, Port Angeles

Local 27, ILWU, Port Angeles, Washington, will hold its election on December 11, 1986 to fill the offices of president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, recording secretary, dispatcher, LRC, marshall, three trustees and four safety committeemen.

The run-off election will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 22-24, 1986 at the Longshoremen’s Memorial Hall, for the offices of secretary, treasurer, night BA, four day dispatchers and sergeant-at-arms.

Local 26 members at work

‘No concession’ pact at Reliance Steel

CERRITOS, Calif.—The deafening sound filling the Reliance Metals Inc. plant here is a powerful echo of Richard Walsh’s description of the work he and 46 other members of ILWU Local 26 do every day.

“The wagons roll, we sort, weigh, load and unload,” Walsh has said.

The metal comes in rolls or sheets from producers around the world.

Walsh is a committee member, along with punch press operator and chief steward Carl Meuler, who have been operating Pacific Coast shipping for most of their professional careers.

Mike Matyus, Reliance employees just recently ratified a three-year no concession contract which includes wage increases every year, pension plan increases and a major health program calling for CPR and Red Cross training for all union safety committee members.

FIRST NEGOTIATIONS

It was Matyus’s first time in negotiations, but he downplayed his success. He preferred during a plant tour to introduce his fellow workers.

“Sure, there’s that one concession that we failed to get,” Walsh said, “except we didn’t take concessions. We got a raise every year and some money in the pension. That was the big thing: no concessions.”

Walsh and Matyus were joined on the committee by Leonard Tedford, and Local 26 president Luis Grautz and vice president Larry Jefferson.

Oil modules loaded

PORTLAND—Seven Alaskan oil modules, the heaviest weighing 2,800 tons, were loaded on three ocean-going barges here in July, destined for the Lisburne Oil Field at Prudhoe Bay.

A powerful echo of Richard Walsh’s description of the work he and 46 other members of ILWU Local 26 do every day.

The roll of metal slides down the line to Andy Rubio, who operates the crane which stacks the rolls for shipping.
ILWU delegates active at senior meet

LONG BEACH—Stepping up the campaign against Reaganite candidates, improving Social Security, opposing apartheid and aid to the Central American con-
tras were the main topics on deck at the 10th Annual Congress of California Seniors meeting here recently.

The Congress brings together 15 regional branches, 600 affiliated groups covering a quarter of a million people.

ILWU PENSIONERS ON HAND

ILWU pensioners on hand included Bob Rohatich, Mike Samadurff, Local 10; Charlie Drewin, Joe for governance; Bill Burke, Local 6; Nate DiBlasi, Art Kaumie to and Ruben Negrete, Local 13.

"It was an early morning productive meeting," Rohatich reported, "and our delegates were very active on many issues.

The Southern California ILWU pensioners won thanks from everyone for providing some excellent Hawaiian entertainment on one of the evenings.

The delegates also passed a resolution calling for Congress to work for repeal of the Gramm-Rudman Hollings Act, which will mean drastic slashes in social programs that assist the elderly, the poor and working people while leaving the Pentagon off limits.

BRADLEY GREETED

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, the Democratic candidate for governor, got a rousing welcome from the delegates before and after he addressed the convention.

Bradley backed the convention resolution opposing any moves by Congress and by President Reagan to weaken Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. He reported on the activities of his office on ag-
ingen, and vowed to establish the same program in Sacramento. He spoke strongly for building senior centers (of which 15 already exist in LA), scored Deukmejian for vetoing 21 nursing home grants for the elderly, the poor and working people while leaving the Pentagon off limits.

Bradley attacked Deukmejian for cutting $50 million from state and county pro-
grams for the elderly.

Bill Hurton, executive director of the Na-
tional Council of Senior Citizens (SUE: please check name) also was a featured speaker.

New officers for the next two years are George Sandy, president; Charlotte Suskod and Joe Belardi, Harley Waite and Paul Russo, vice-presidents; Tom Creed, treasurer; Stephanie Allan, secretary; Carl Jones, legislative director.

A five-member board of directors and a fifteen-member executive board were also elected by the delegates.

At the conclusion of the Council meetings delegates affiliated with FORUM, an organization of retired union members, met separately and developed a program for grassroots organizing of all union retirees in the state.

PORTLAND PENSIONERS—Some 200 old-timers, their wives, children and grandchildren made merry at a potluck picnic at Oaks Park on the banks of the Willamette August 28. There were no speeches, but a large group of visitors from other locals and senior groups were made welcome: Above, Mabel Sickinger, Frank Novak, Art Reynolds and the Sickinger grandkids enjoy the spread.

Another great Labor Day at Cullaby

Above, Local 50 kids test their strength at Astoria Labor Day parade; below, Charlie McBride kept things together at the 50-50 auction, generously sup-
ported by Astoria area merchants.

The next generation marches under ILWU banner at Southern California Bloody Thursday observance.

Something for everyone at 'Pedro Bloody Thursday

WILMINGTON—The southern Cali-
ifornia ILWU locals sponsored a Bloody Thursday celebration July 8 that contained something for everybody.

Two special projects grew out of this year’s activities: a 1987 Bloody Thursday calendar, which photographer Louis Coral is putting together, and a permanent Local 13 arts committee, chaired by Linda Palacios, which will coordinate development of art, writing and even a play for next year’s event.

The annual parade sponsored by locals 13, 63 and 94, again included the antique car show coordinated by Paul Loveridge (Local 63); Vivas Nuhil coordinated the parade.

The celebration also included softball, horseshoe, tennis and bowling tour-
naments. The Sluggers won the A league softball tournament and Local 63 won the B league. Chuck Henderson (Local 13) coordi-
nated the softball tournaments. The horseshoe coordinator was Larry Suarez (Local 13); the tennis coordinator was Charlie Valle (Local 13) and Danny Direct (Local 13) coordinated the bowling tour-
ament.

The 1986 Bloody Thursday committee was chaired by Local 63 member Patti Ferguson.

LONGVIEW PENSIONERS—The Local 21 Pensioners picnic drew more than 1,000 retirees—including this group—and their family members to Riverside Park on the Cowlitz River, near Kelso, August 15. Don Nys, President of the Longview Pensioners, discussed plans for the September 22-24 PCPA Con-
vention. The hosts furnished coffee, cold drinks and fried chicken.

ASTORIA—Up to 1,000 ILWU mem-
bers, pensioners, family and friends and an occasional politician attended Local 50’s 27th annual traditional Labor Day picnic at Cullaby Lake September 1.

The warm, easy-going party has become an institution in the northwest, "just a way of getting together with our families, and showing some hospitality to the other locals," said one member. Members and pensioners from all the river ports were on hand, as well as a number of California and Washington guests.

HANGING OUT

The picnic included the usual incredible salmon and barbecue beef feed, with all the fixings, a raffle, horseshoes, kids’ games (includ-
ging boogie board rides on the lake) and lots of hanging out.

Members of the large, hard-working commit-
tee who put it together include Ed Cor-
der, Jeff Adams, Mary Adams, Bob Ryder, Bruce Lingstad, Dale Dalaba, Charlie McBride, Janene Bremer, Dave Brewer Sam Kent, Dick Zoske, Mary Adams, Vicki Corder and Carole Lingstad. The salmon was donated by Bill Huhsinger.

IBU rescues grain ship

LONGVIEW—Members of the Inland-
boatmen’s Union helped refloat a Singapore grain ship, the Goldenemri Indah, that ran aground about 4:30 a.m., August 28, a half-mile downstream from the Kalama Grain Terminal.

Seven or eight tugs were involved in the procedure, according to Jerry Shriver of Keapman, one of three tugboat captains involved on the operation. "They had to wait on the tide, so it was 2:00 in the after-
noon before the vessel was freed," Shriver said.

The foreign flag ship, loaded with grain and fuel, was then guided to Longview, where it will remain while the Coast Guard conducts an investigation to determine cause of the grounding and learn if the ship’s hull suffered any damage.