

# Reagan barbers on tax cut

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pres. Reagan and the Democratic congressional leadership failed Monday to find common ground for a multiyear tax cut, but the administration still held out hope it could fashion a bipartisan majority for a bill to its liking.

And for the first time, the president personally confirmed he was prepared to back off somewhat from his longtime call for a 30-percent, across-the-board slash in individual income tax rates over three years.

House Speaker "Tip" O'Neill Jr. said after an Oval Office meeting called by Reagan that the session was "more of a media event any anything else" and that the president's position is set "pretty well in cement."

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, who attended the 90-minute meeting in the Oval Office with five key Democrats from the House and

Senate, said afterward, "I'd characterize it as lengthy . . . we're widely divergent on some issues, particularly as they relate to policies and principles."

However, key administration figures who asked not to be named said they were optimistic that Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., chairman of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, remained open to a compromise acceptable to the president. And Rostenkowski acknowledged he was ready to continue talks on the issue.

The administration officials said they have been trying intensively over the past two weeks to convince Rostenkowski to break with the Democratic leadership and develop a measure that could prompt enough party conservatives to join the GOP in the same sort of coalition that won passage of the president's budget guideline earlier.

# Court protects nude dancing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Constitution protects commercial nude dancing against local attempts to ban all such performances, the Supreme Court ruled Monday.

By a 7-2 vote, the justices struck down a Mt. Ephraim, N.J., zoning ordinance that had prohibited all live nude dancing.

"Here, the borough totally excludes all live entertainment, including non-obscene nude dancing that is otherwise protected by the First Amendment," Justice Byron White wrote for the court.

Stating that past decisions established that "nudity alone does not place otherwise protected material outside the mantle of the First Amendment," White added that the Constitution protects "entertainment as well as political and ideological speech."

The decision apparently does not mean that any community now must allow commercial nude dancing. A narrowly written zoning ordinance conceivably could be ruled valid.

The ruling also leaves open the possibility that a specific form of nude dancing could be classified as obscene. The court has ruled that obscenity is not constitutionally protected.

In other matters, the justices:

Ruled by a 5-4 vote that poor people have no right to free legal help when the state tries to take their children away. The court said the right to free legal representation is almost entirely restricted to cases in which a person's "personal liberty" is at stake.

Backed out of deciding what could have been an important decision on the use of racial quotas in "affirmative action" programs.

# Portland mayor hires new police chief

PORTLAND (AP) — Mayor Frank Ivancie named Ronald Still the new chief of police in a bureau juggling that bumped City Commissioner Charles Jordan from control of the police department.

At a mayor's press conference today, Ivancie appointed Still, 49, a 27-year-veteran of the police bureau, to replace Bruce Baker.

Baker is retiring for medical and personal reasons.

The command change takes effect immediately. Ivancie will meet with Baker today to plan the change-over.

"The bureau needs new leadership to solve the problems that have been in everyone's minds recently," said Ivancie aide Jim Redden Jr.

Portland's police department has been wracked by a drug-arrest investigation as well as an incident in which opossums were dumped on the doorstep

of restaurant owned by a black.

Two officers were fired following charges of racial harassment from Portland's black community.

Ivancie's announcement came on the heels of a comment

by Baker that the next commander should come from within the department.

In Ivancie's sudden juggling of the bureau's command structure, Jordan was switched to the Parks Bureau.

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