

Atiyeh still mum on companies he said wouldn't locate here

SALEM (AP) — Although he's won re-election, Gov. Vic Atiyeh says he's still unable to reveal the names of two companies he said would scratch Oregon from their list of possible sites if Democrat Ted Kulongoski won the election.

The state hasn't learned whether the companies are now likely to come to Oregon, the governor said Wednesday.

"We're still hoping to make a major announcement on at least

one firm," he said. "But the decision hasn't been made yet."

Before the election, Atiyeh said he knew of two companies that were giving very close attention to Oregon for possible future expansion. He said he had learned that both companies would rule out Oregon if Kulongoski won.

Atiyeh said it was Kulongoski's association with plant-closure legislation.

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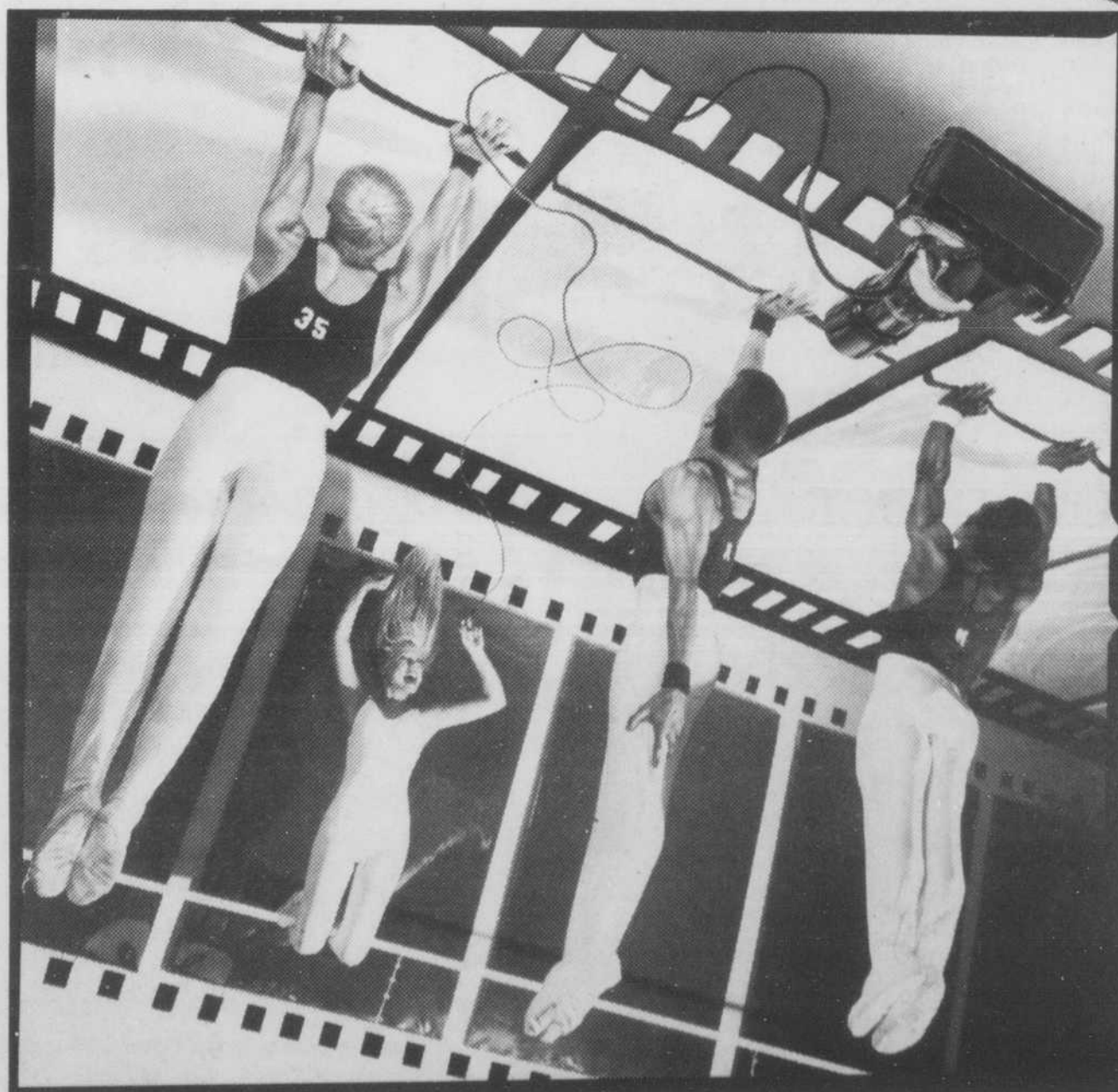
British heavy metal rockers Judas Priest will play the Lane County Fairgrounds Saturday at 8 p.m.

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Judas Priest, frankly — here!



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Hold-up man gets held-up

TACOMA (AP) — Bullets flying, a Tacoma man and wife who don't like to be pushed around sent a would-be robber fleeing into the night.

Earl Acker, 60, a pharmacist, and his wife, Carol, 56, were accosted by a gunman near the front door of their north Tacoma home Tuesday night, they say. Acker, who began carrying a pistol two years ago after a string of holdups at his pharmacy, decided to fight back.

His wife agreed wholeheartedly.

"I guess I am a fighter," Carol Acker said Wednesday. "I don't like people pushing me around. If I see a chance and can figure out a way to stop it, I will try to stop it."

The encounter began when the couple walked to their front door and a man with a gun jumped from behind a vehicle parked in the driveway and told them to "Hold it there," Acker said.

The man ordered the couple inside, but a burglar alarm went off. As the distracted gunman turned away, Acker pulled his own gun out of a waistband.

"Things were coming apart for him. I had a gun and pulled it out. He saw that and we started scuffling," Acker said.

Acker tried to throw the gunman through a big plate glass window and dropped the gun into a chair. His wife picked it up and started aiming.

"I think he realized his time was running out and he headed toward the door," Acker said.

Carol Acker fired one shot at the running man and three in the air. Acker took the gun and fired one more parting shot at the man.

"I decided she was wasting time firing in the air," he said.

The man, who never looked back, cried out and fell a couple times, the Ackers said, but did not fire at them.

No blood was found and Tacoma police say they don't think the man was hit. Acker broke a foot in the scuffle.

The man indicated he wanted drugs, said Acker, adding, "I am thinking of getting out of this (pharmacy) business. After a while, the odds might not be in our favor."

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