



TALL GAL PICKED — About 250 tall delegates to the American Affiliation of Tall Clubs witnessed the selection of their 1962 Miss Tall at a convention in Brainerd, Minn. From left are Courtney Carnes, 19, six feet tall, of San Francisco, second runner-up; Joyce Nilsson, last year's Miss Tall USA, from Chicago; Katherine Tiefenbach, 22, six feet, one inch, Miss Tall USA 1962, from Detroit, and first runner-up, Janet Davis, 20, six feet, two inches, from Los Angeles. (UPI)

### Little Difference in School Activity Will Be Noticed by Prayer Decision

Editor's Note: Experts believe that roughly half of the nation's 35,000 school districts have some kind of religious exercises. The following dispatch tells what some of them are doing as a result of the Supreme Court decision outlawing the use of official prayers in public schools.

**By LOUIS CASSELS**  
Washington — (UPI) — When the nation's children return to school in September, relatively few of them will notice any difference in their classroom activities as a result of the Supreme Court's prayer decision.

The outlook is indicated by a UPI sampling of school authorities across the country. Most school authorities outside of New York state who commented felt the court ruling did not apply to any of their present activities.

Two exceptions were Sioux City, Ia., and Washington, D. C. In Sioux City, school officials have decided to drop a previously used classroom prayer because they believe it is in conflict with the court's decision.

In Washington, Superintendent Carl F. Hansen has asked the city attorney for a ruling whether public schools must abandon the practice of opening each day with Bible reading and the Lord's Prayer.

New York state schools are in a special category because it was their 22-word Regent's Prayer which the court specifically held to be unconstitutional.

Even in New York, however, the ruling won't cause a universal change of practice. The state Regent's Prayer was optional with local school districts, and many weren't using it anyway.

In New Jersey, Gov. Richard J. Hughes has announced that he considers still in force a state law requiring public schools to begin each day with the reading of five verses from the Old Testament and the recital of the Lord's Prayer.

"We will keep this practice until the United States Supreme Court says we can't," he said.

School authorities in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Florida are maintaining the status quo until the court acts — on cases dealing specifically with their practices.

**Verses Permitted**  
Pennsylvania has a state law permitting but not requiring schools to open the day with the reading of 10 verses from the Bible without comment. Maryland leaves the matter up to each local school, and many schools in the state have daily Bible reading and the Lord's Prayer.

Florida's Supreme Court recently upheld Bible reading and use of the Lord's Prayer in the state's schools.

In Dallas, Tex., Dr. W. T. White, superintendent of schools, said the U. S. Supreme Court decision would not affect local practices. He said prayers in Dallas public schools are on an individual voluntary basis.

Hawaii's Department of Education also saw no problem resulting from the ruling. Hawaiian schools do not have "planned prayers."

There were similar responses from school authorities in Cleveland, Kansas City, Chicago, Denver, Sacramento and San Francisco.

According to the U. S. Office of Education, there are at least nine states in which the U. S. Supreme Court ruling was of purely academic interest because religious exercises previously have been banned either by state court decrees or by administrative action of state education departments.

These states are Arizona, California, Illinois, Louisiana, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

There are 18 states in which Bible reading and — or prayers in public schools are either required or specifically authorized by law.

They are Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

Other states, according to information available at the U. S. Office of Education, have no statewide rule for or against religious exercises in public schools, they leave the matter to the discretion of local authorities.

**20 Register for Scuba Diving Class**  
About 20 persons registered for classes in scuba diving at Jackson pool Wednesday, according to Robert Haworth, Medford park and recreation director.

The number was sufficiently great that two classes were formed, Haworth said. One class will meet on Tuesday night for instruction, and the other will meet on Wednesday night.

If sufficient additional interest is shown, Haworth said, other classes may be scheduled.

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