

# RENO HAPPENINGS

## Bus crash survivors improving

RENO—The most seriously injured survivors of the nation's worst bus accident in nearly six years continued to show improvement on Friday with all of the hospitalized reported to be out of critical condition.

The San Francisco Chronicle, meanwhile, reported that the driver of the bus that crashed into the Walker River May 30 had been cited by the Nevada Highway Patrol for speeding in the same vehicle in March.

Twenty-one were injured when the bus, returning to a Santa Monica, Calif., retirement home from a gambling trip to Reno, flipped off U.S. 395 about 90 miles south of Reno and landed upright in the river.

Seven people have been released, leaving 14 hospitalized in Reno, Carson City and Inglewood, Calif.

One woman, Meryle Martin, was missing and presumed to be the 20th victim of the crash.

Of those still hospitalized, Helen Morgan, 82, of Santa Monica, remained in serious condition and was unresponsive at Washoe Medical Center, but a nursing supervisor said the woman's vital signs had stabilized.

Four other survivors remained in serious condition including Ruth Hulderman, 86, of Santa Monica, who was upgraded from critical. Another patient who improved on Friday was Dr. Richard Butler, who left intensive care for a regular hospital room.

An earlier check failed to turn up any Nevada record for the driver, Ernst Klimeck, 47, of Glendale, Calif. But the Chronicle said a recheck

showed he was stopped outside Las Vegas for driving 72 mph in a 55-mile zone on March 1, according to Wayne Teglia, Nevada's Director of Public Safety.

The California Division of Motor Vehicles earlier had said Klimeck had been issued four speeding tickets in the past 2½ years and had been involved in two accidents, one of them while driving a Starline bus. Two people received minor injuries in the March 28 accident in Los Angeles.

The driver and officials of Starline Tours, owners of the bus, have declined to discuss the accident, which is under investigation by federal and state officials.

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## Panel split on bid for road funding

### Citizens' committee fails to set figure for revenue increase

RENO—Members of a prominent citizens' committee failed to agree Tuesday on how large of an increase they will suggest the 1987 Legislature approve for state and local road maintenance.

After two days of discussions, members were divided on whether to ask the Legislature for a \$44 million or a \$90 million two-year increase for road maintenance.

Depending on which proposal is adopted, city and county road departments would receive \$23 million or \$70 million in additional maintenance revenue. The state Transportation Department would receive an extra \$21 million under either plan.

Committee Chairman Kenny Guinn scheduled another meeting next Thursday in Reno in an effort to work out differences. Members of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation want to finalize recommendations by July to allow the drafting of a bill for the next Legislature.

To find additional road maintenance money, members proposed increasing the gasoline and

diesel fuel tax by 3 or 6 cents a gallon, raising vehicle registration fees by \$3 or hiking property taxes by 15 cents per \$100 assessed value.

About the only thing members agreed on Tuesday was that they are not qualified to formulate a long-range program to find money for state and local government road needs.

### Political activist announces candidacy

SPARKS—Political activist Jan Evans has announced her candidacy for the Sparks Assembly District 30 seat being vacated by Jim Stone, who is running for governor.

Evans, 48, faces fellow Democrat Robert McQueen and Republican Mark Fowler.



The Reno-Sparks NAACP TV program will now be aired at 12:30 p.m. Saturdays by KOLD-TV Channel 8.

Delores Feemster, Reno Sentinel-Voice General Manager. For news, weekly locations of paper and advertising information, contact her at 323-3677.

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