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Digest

Thursday, December 17, 1987

Fair, warmer



Local forecast:

Today, fair and a bit warmer with a high in the upper 40s. Light southeast wind. Tonight and Friday, increasing cloudiness and warmer. A 30 percent

chance of showers late Friday.

State forecast:

Skies should be increasingly cloudy from the west today, but otherwise, skies should be fair to partly cloudy.

Ms. awards

NEW YORK (AP) — Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, actress-singer Bette Midler and Soviet refusenik Ida Nudel are among the 13 winners of 1987



City may be saved from ozone troubles

By CRAIG PUGH
Staff Writer

The loaded pistol pointed at Longview and 69 other American cities with unacceptable ozone levels may be withdrawn, thanks to a congressional extension of deadlines.

The current mandate requires that the cities — including the two-county Longview-Marshall Statistical Metropolitan Area — either clean up their air by Dec. 31 or face possible construction bans and loss of federal funding.

But Congress is leaning toward passing stopgap legislation that would take

the offending cities off the hook and allowing itself more time to grapple with the complex problems of pollution by rewriting the Clean Air Act.

In the meantime, Longview could be in good shape with its ozone level, which is measured by a sophisticated "sampler" at the Gregg County airport. Supplied and operated by the Texas Air Control Board.

Richard Leard, director of the TACB's Region 12 in Tyler, said the Gregg County sampler is the only one in this part of Texas, although some 30 more are scattered elsewhere across the state, mostly

around the big cities.

"Longview didn't have a single exceedance of the ozone standard in 1987," Leard said. "We didn't monitor in 1986 and in 1985 we only counted one exceedance. So your area is not up there with, say, Dallas or Houston."

Ozone standards are measured in parts per million. If samples contain more than .12 parts ozone per million parts clean air, they are exceeding the limit. Areas being sampled are allowed one exceedance per day per year.

If area have no more than one exceedance per year for a three-year period,

they are reclassified. Ozone is created by emissions from cars, factories and even deodorants. When these emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds, such as hydrocarbons, react with sunlight, ozone forms.

"The Longview-Marshall area has more industrial-type emissions than those from autos," said Roger Meacham, spokesman for the Environmental Protection Agency's Region No. 6 in Dallas. Region No. 6 includes Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New

See Congress, 10-A



Jurors convict Deaver