

On the Warren, Possley & Tybor

## Pincham fray not tor dispassionate

If only Michael Dukakis could have shown the same passion as R. Eugene Pincham. Though both went down to defeat in their respective campaigns, one is still spitting fire—and he doesn't live in Boston.

It's Pincham, the former successful criminal defense attorney who is an Illinois Appellate Court judge and not one to mince words.

His urging of fellow blacks to vote for the late Mayor Harold Washington—suggesting that anyone south of Madison Street who didn't should be hanged—landed him in hot water with the Judicial Inquiry Board for allegedly overstepping the bounds of judicial propriety. In that case, Pincham admits of no wrongdoing, arguing that judges have 1st Amendment rights just as every other citizen does.

Pincham is in a no-metaphor-barred battle to increase the number of minorities on the bench. With other blacks, including Rev. Jesse Jackson, he led a fight to remove Chief Cook County Circuit Court Judge Harry Comerford in last week's retention election.

The effort failed; Comerford won, as did all but one of those running. Some white judges thought that Pincham and his cause to make more blacks judges were losers.

In election post-mortems published in The Tribune, Harold Sullivan, presiding judge of the 2d Municipal District in Skokie and himself no Mr. Peepers when it comes to speaking his mind, accused Pincham of "wild statements" in the fight to dump Comerford. He further charged Pincham with conducting a chaotic program to "promote divisiveness and antagonism."

Another white judge, who wished to remain anonymous, told Tribune reporter Charles Mount that Pincham could expect "retribution" and that associate judge candidates tied to Pincham need not apply.

In a letter to The Tribune, a copy of which Pincham sent to Sullivan, Pincham leaves no doubt that the bench brouhaha is far from over:

"My statements understandably may have been 'wild' or 'extremely deplorable' to Sullivan," Pincham writes. "Of course, timid protestations against racism and sexism by condescending protesters are more acceptable to those who practice, perpetuate and profit from racism and sexism. But such docile and pacifying tolerance, however, miserably fails to bring about an end to these injustices. Witness the 10-year unproductive struggle with Chief Judge Comerford.

"It is regrettable, but also understandable, that those in power improperly view the just protestation of the victims of racism and sexism as promoting divisiveness and antagonism' ... rather than justified efforts to eradicate these

"Sullivan's admirable admission that our cause is just is compelled by the undeniable facts. His dissatisfaction with the methods employed ignores the failures of other tactics more acceptable to him.

"The unwarranted vindictive statement of the cowardly anonymous judge ... only demonstrates the deranged mentality of that Cook County jurist. [Neither] I nor my lawyer friends fear retribution. Thomas Jefferson accurately stated, 'To sin by silence when one should speak out makes cowards of men.' I try not to sin, and I am not a coward. The struggle continues."

Sullivan stands firm, saying Pincham has made it clear "he intended to shove it up the chief judge's tail." Whenever a minority candidate was found unqualified by the Chicago Bar Association, Sullivan said, Pincham attributed it to racism. "Any recent progress that has been made in selecting blacks to the bench has not been made because of his intimidation, but in spite of it."

### A sporting 2d look

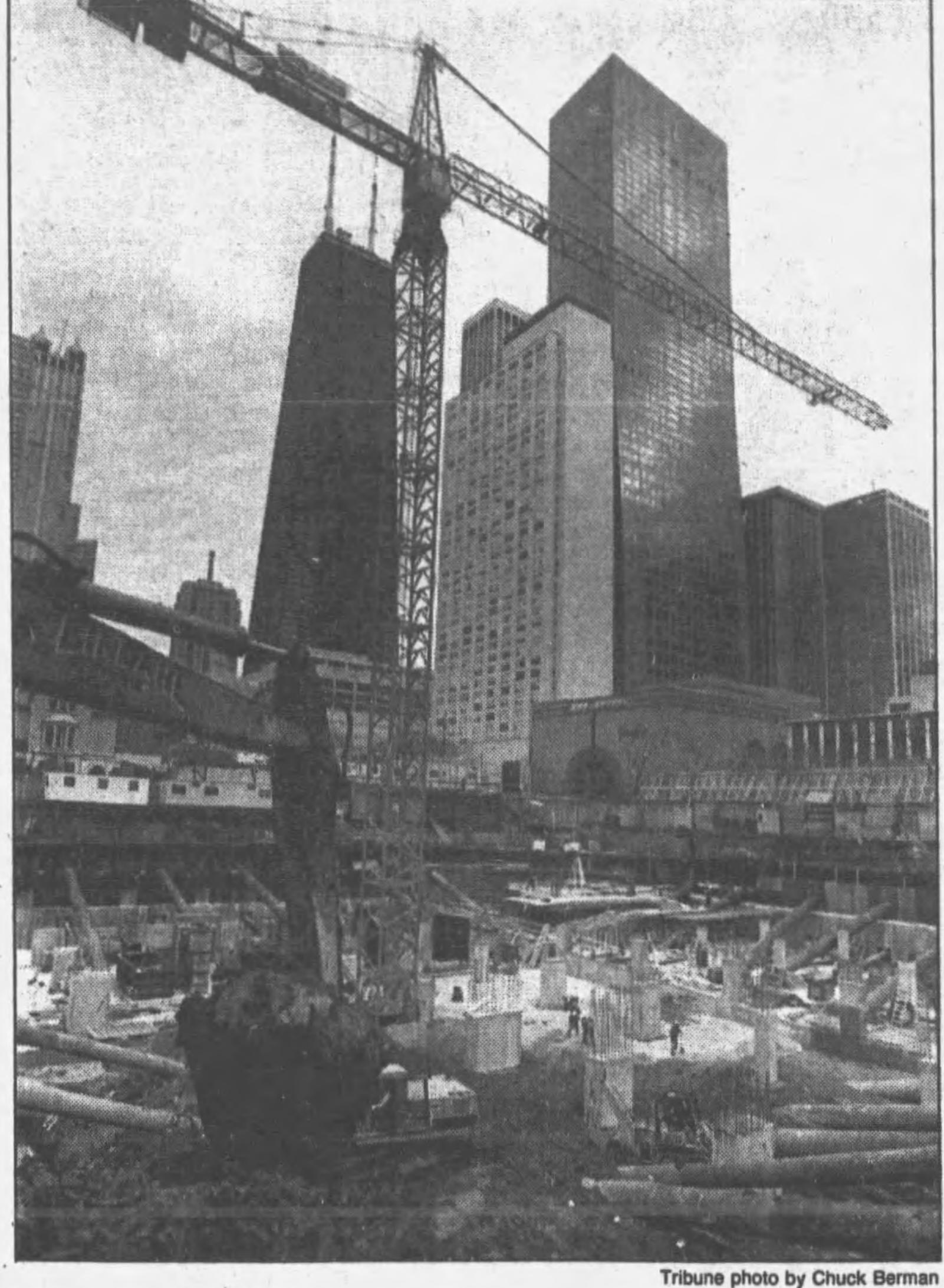
The U.S. Court of Appeals has asked Chief District Judge John Grady to take another look at a squabble between the U.S. attorney's office and Michael Feldberg, the New York lawyer who formerly represented sports agent Norby Walters and his firm, World Sports & Entertainment. Walters, along with agent Lloyd Bloom, is accused of defrauding colleges and universities by paying college athletes.

The appeals court said that Grady should be more specific in defining what questions Feldberg should be compelled to answer before a grand jury that looked at World Sports & Entertainment athlete contracts. Feldberg appealed Grady's ruling requiring his testimony, and the court said Grady acted "rashly" in issuing a blanket order rather than examining individually eight questions posed by prosecutors.

• There was an interesting prospect raised in a court hearing Monday in the Ed Vrdolyak libel suit against the Sun-Times and reporter Steve Neal resulting from the reported meeting between Vrdolyak and mob honcho Joseph Ferriola. The prospect, according to the court record: Attorney William Harte may be trying to convince Vrdolyak to drop the suit. It's Richard O'Brien for Neal.

• What's said to be a \$1 million settlement was reached in the suit over the \$5 million estate of the late Anne P. Lederer. Her only child, Francis Lederer II, accused a prominent psychiatrist, Dr. George Pollock, of exploiting a doctor-patient relationship with his mother. When she died, she left the son \$200,000, and most everything else to the Anne Lederer Research Institute, which was founded in 1980, allegedly to primarily benefit Pollock. The son was represented by Kevin Murnighan, the doctor by a

group including Robert Tepper. Attorney Mitchell Macks may be a "charitable, loving father and a pillar of his synagogue," as the Illinois Appellate Court notes, but he's also a man with "no regard" for the rules governing attorneys' conduct in court. With that pronouncement, the court upheld a contempt finding against Macks for trying to engage Circuit Court Judge Henry Budzinski in illegal conversations, outside the presence of the other side, while Budzinski was hearing a \$400,000 probate case Macks lost. The court noted that contempt is an extreme punishment, but was warranted in the case because Macks at trial was "repeatedly evasive . . . disrespectful to the court, withheld evidence ... and called opposing counsel a 'schmuck.' "



### More magnificence

Work is well underway at Chicago Place, a retail and apartment complex at 700 N. Michigan Ave. to be anchored by Saks 5th Avenue. Work on the retail end is to be completed in August, 1990.

# Cement maker breaks some hard, fast rules

By Liz Sly

A new kind of cement that hardens in four hours instead of the usual 7 to 14 days was described as a substance that will revolutionize construction Monday by Lone Star Industries Inc., the company that developed it.

Lone Star has high hopes for the product, called Pyrament, which it says will enable road crews to patch expressways overnight, with little disruption of traffic. Airport runways may be repaired in the time it takes for a plane to fly across the country.

The new cement not only dries faster than the ordinary variety but also is stronger and lasts longer, Lone Star officials said Monday at a press conference in the Drake Hotel, where the mixture was introduced. Seven inches of Pyrament are as strong as ten inches of regular cement, and the product could quadruple the life expectancy of a highway, the officials claim.

Unlike ordinary cement, it also can be used in temperatures below 28 degrees. which could allow construction to be carried out year-round instead of only in warm

O'Hare International Airport has used Pyrament twice to patch runways. In each case, a 747 landed just five hours after the cement was put down, Lone Star officials

Houston's Love Field and New York's Kennedy Airport also have used the product, and a major contract is in the works with New York's La Guardia airport, said Michael Jones, business development manager for Pyrament.

Pyrament is the result of 10 years of research and development and has been testmarketed in small quantities for 18 months.

Lone Star will begin converting all its cement lines to Pyrament production, said Lone Star Chairman James Stewart.

Though Pyrament costs nearly twice as much as regular cement, the investment represents long-term savings in time and money, he said. He estimated that the longterm cost of resurfacing a three-mile stretch of a two-lane highway with Pyrament could

be cut by \$500,000. American cement manufacturers have been looking for a harder, more durable and quicker cement for decades, said Martin Knutson, president of the American Con-

crete Pavement Association. But though they apparently have found one, the product has to overcome logistical problems, Jones said.

"Contractors can't react in time because of the difficulties of personnel organization," he said. Though the cement would be dry in four hours, it takes construction workers longer than that to close a highway, ready it for repair and reopen it, he said.

It could therefore be too late for the product to revolutionize repairs to Chicago's Dan Ryan Expressway, the second phase of which are to begin in March, with at least as much disruption as the first phase.

Jones said Lone Star, based in Greenwich, Conn., is engaged in studies with the University of Texas to adapt construction industry work methods to the new cement.

Stewart said Pyrament will have applications for airports, highways, bridge and building construction, and the oil and defense industries.

Lone Star also hopes that the tunnel for the Superconducting Supercollider in Texas will use Pyrament, he said.

# House leader seeking \$50 billion loan for FSLIC

WASHINGTON (AP)—The likely chairman next year of the House Banking Committee said Monday he will ask the Treasury secretary and the chairman of the Federal Reserve to push for a \$50 billion loan to the agency that rescues insolvent savings institutions.

Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez (D., Tex.) told the National Association of Mortgage Brokers that his first priority as chairman would be the savings and loan crisis.

Gonzalez is the senior member of the committee and has the backing of House leaders to take over from the current chairman, Rep. Fernand J. St Germain (D., R.I.), who lost his bid for a 15th House term.

Gonzalez said he has asked to meet with Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady to present the plan, and would also seek a meeting with Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.

Under the proposal, the Treasury would open a \$50 billion line of credit to the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp.

Money from the sale of loans and repossessed property from the failed S&Ls could then be funneled back to the Treasury.

Gonzalez said his recommendation could be accomplished with little or no legislation. He acknowledged that the administration has resisted any use of taxpayer funds in the crisis, but he said it might be more receptive now,

after the presidential election.

"Nobody wanted much to rock the boat before the election," he said.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which insures commercial banks but has been tracking S&L losses, estimates it will cost \$65 billion to clean up the S&L mess. The most recent figures, for the second quarter of this year, show that the problem is growing by \$15 billion a year, FDIC spokesman Alan J. Whitney said Mon-

"The FSLIC, it's broke.... There's no other way to put it," Gonzalez said. "... Nobody wants a taxpayer bailout . . . but there are limits to what the industry can do, and they've reached those limits."

Later, speaking with reporters, he said, "If it ever gets around that there's nothing insuring those accounts and deposits, you could have chaos."

After insolvent S&Ls are closed, Gonzalez said he would preserve the conventional S&L system, aided by a National Housing Trust to stabilize mortgage interest rates. "We've got to save some semblance

of the system," he said.

He criticized the Federal Home Loan Bank Board's policy of keeping failed S&Ls open after merger with another institution and a thin infusion of capital from private investors.

"They stitch these dead corpses together. All that does is make a bigger stinking corpse," Gonzalez said.

# Venezuela acts fast to acquire stake in Unocal

By Michael Arndt Chicago Tribune

NEW YORK—Venezuela's national oil company is hurrying to sign a tentative agreement in the next 21/2 weeks to buy half-interest in Unocal Corp.'s Midwestern refining and marketing operations.

In addition, the state-owned company is said to be interested in renegotiating its partnership with Southland Corp.'s Citgo Petroleum Corp. to take more Venezuelan crude oil at their giant refinery in Louisiana.

Officials of Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. said Monday that they are racing to conclude the deals before the country's Dec. 4 presidential election. The frontrunner, former President Carlos Andres Perez, has pledged to halt investment in foreign oil ventures.

Negotiations with Unocal are moving along well, said Unocal President Richard Stegemeier. In an interview, Stegemeier said his side also is "anxious to sign a deal so we can get on with our work."

A dollar amount hasn't been put on the transaction. But refineries have been selling for about \$4,000 for each barrel of capacity. That would make 50 percent of Unocal's 151,000-barrel-a day facility in suburban Chicago worth about \$300 million.

Stegemeier said a price will be negotiated after the refinery tests Venezuelan sour crude oil to determine the value of the refined products the oil will

He added, though, that a preliminary agreement could be signed before tests begin.

In addition to the refinery in Lemont, Unocal is looking to sell to Petroleos de Venezuela a 50 percent stake in its 12-state Midwestern marketing network, which is composed of 3,400 Union 76 gas stations.

Unocal has assured its 700 refinery employees and 190 marketers that a partnership with Petroleos de Venezuela wouldn't result in any personnel or marketing changes. The deal probably would change the source of the refinery's feedstocks, however.

Most of the oil handled by the refinery comes through a pipeline from western Canada. But if Petroleos de Venezuela signs a long-term pact with Unocal, Venezuelan representatives say the stateowned company would expect that half the oil processed outside of Chicago would be Venezuelan crude, shipped by pipeline from Louisiana.

Unocal is the country's seventh-biggest gasoline retailer and has about 6 percent of the Chicago market. Its Midwestern supplies are produced by the Lemont refinery, which was rebuilt after a 1984 explosion killed 17 workers.

The deal with Los Angeles-based Unocal would be the third in U.S. refining for Venezuela. The negotiations come after the South American country was outbid for several other refineries. Among them, according to industry sources, were the Tenneco Inc. facility bought by Mobil Corp. last month and the Texaco Inc. refinery in Delaware that was part of a \$1.8 billion joint venture with Saudi Arabia signed last week.

The investments by Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, in the United States is part of a movement that has led other oil exporters to buy refineries and gas station networks in consuming nations in Europe as well.

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