House votes to allow military base closings

Here's how Observer & Eccentric area members of Congress were others. This failure to approve HJ recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending April 21.

the week ending April 21.

HOUSE

HOUSE

Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., who voted to kill the plan, termed the debugs a vote of 43 for and 381 against, the House reduced to block a Penlagon commission's plan to close 86 do- of targeting bases for extinction.

Grandparents win new visiting rights

The state House recently passed bills to allow grandparents greater visitation rights with their grand-children whose parents have divorced or separated.

State Rep. Dave Honigman, R. West Bloomfield, sponsor of one of the bills, views the lighlation as necessary to maintain the important link between grandparents and grandchildren.

Currently, grandparents can ask for visitation rights only when divorce or a child custody dispute is pending. The present system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to characteristics.

termines that visitation is in the best interests of the grandchildren," Honigman said.

interests of the grandchildren,"
visitation rights with their grandchildren whose parents have diversed or separated.

State Rep. Dave Honigman, R.
West Bloomfield, sponsor of one of the bills, views the legislation an excessary to maintain the important link between grandparents and continued to the courts authority to award a grandparent success of give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the courts authority to award a grandparent system does not give the mattenance or an anauthrent to the mattenance or an anauthrent

Ted Welss, D-N.Y., said the plan "could save between \$500 to \$700 million a year from the defense budget without reducing our capability at all." Members voting yes wanted to block the base-closing plan. No Michigan members voted yes. Voting no were Cari Pursell, R-Plymouth, Dennis Hertel, D-Happer Woods, William Ford, D-Taylor, Sander Levia, D-Southfield, William Broomfield, R-Lake Orion.

MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLL-DAY By a vote of 305 for and 84 against, the House passed and sent to the Senate a bill (HR 1385) to begin federal flunding of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Hollady Commis-sion and make the panel a perma-ent agency. When established in 1984 to pro-mote a new national holiday honor-ing King's birthday, the panel was given on April 20, 1989, expiration date and required to raise its own budget.

date and required to raise as on-budget.

Supporter Connie Morella, R-Md.,
Supporter Connie Morella, R-Md.,
sald federal funding of the panel is needed because "private donallors have been declining over the years."
Opponent William Dannemeyer,
R-Calif., acked "What ... "will these members of this commission do in-definitely in the future by chewing up a balf a million dollars of taxpay-ers' money?"
Members votling yes supporting

ers money?"

Members voting yes supporting
the bill were Pursell, Hertel, Wil-llam Ford and Levin.
Not voting was Broomfield

TO CHANGE HATCH ACT By a vote of 297 for and 90 against, the House passed a bill (HR 20) amending the 1939 Hatch Act to permit federal employees to engage in politics in their private lives.

The measure retains the law's ban on on-the-job political activity by civil servants and certain other executive branch workers. It was sent to the Senate.

Supporter Frank Horton, R-N.Y.

ccutive branca wasassa.

to the Senate.

Supporter Frank Horton, R.N.Y.,
said federal employes "ought not be
second-class citizens."

Opponent Frank Wolf, R.Va., said
"We do not need legislation that will
hurt public confidence in the federal
workforce."

Members voting yes supporting
the bill were Pursell, William Ford
and Levin.

Members not voting were Hertel and Broomfield.

SENATE

SAVINGS AND LOAN BAILOUT The Senate passed, 91 for and 8 against, a bill (5 774) to ball out hun-dreds of insolvent or teetering sav-ings and loans and revamp federal S&L oversight so that the ongoing crisis in the thrift industry does not

crisis in the thrift industry does not receur.

Boods floated by a new federal financing entity would fund what is by far the most costly ballout ever imposed on U.S. tarpayers, a rescue estimated to cost \$50 billion initially and at least \$157 billion in its first ten years. The Congressional Budget Office says taxpayers will cover

Roll Call Report

more than half the cost, with savings and loans and their customers cover-ing the remainder. Supporter Richard Shallow

Supporter Richard Shelby, D-Ala., sald the bill will "restore depositors' confidence"

sald the bill will "restore depositor; confidence (and make) essential changes in the regulation of the thrift industry."

Referring to fraud by some S&L officials, opponent Bill Bradley, D-MJ, sald "we should recover what we can from the crooks before we reach into the tappayers' pockets."

Levin and Riegle voted yes.

TO FUND BAILOUT By a vote of 48 for and 50 against, the Senate rejected a plan to count the \$50 billion initial cost of the \$52. ballout (above) in the federal budget rather than as an "off budget" item not talled against Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deflict limits.

The plan sought to substitute treasury borrowing for an industry bonds as the ballout's funding mechanism.

anism.

Under either approach, S&Ls would assume responsibility for the would assume responsibility for the debt principal and taxpayers the interest obligation. But the rejected plan with its cheaper Treasury borrowing would have saved taxpayers an estimated \$4.5 billion in interest over 30 years.

Sponsor Bob Graham, D-Fla., said his plan should be adopted as a matter of "basic honesty" to the general-tions ultimately responsible for repaying the \$50 billion. Phil Gramm, H-Texas, said the off-budget accounting is valid because "it is clear from the very beginning that the savings-and-loan industry is borrowing the money, not the taxpayer." Senators voting yes wanted borrowing for the \$\$4L\$ ballout listed in the budget.

Levia and Riegle voted yes.

TO CONFIRM DANNY WALL By a vote of \$1 for and \$3 against, the Senate tabled (killed) an amendment to \$774 (above) requiring Senate confirmation of M. Danny Wall go the confirmation of Wall.

Levin voted to.

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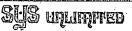
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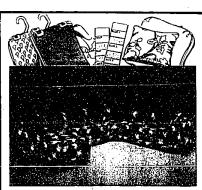
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