COMPUTER TRANSITION UNDERWAY

Steven Alexander, computer professional and long time LP activist, flew into Houston last week to assist in the transition from the Data General mainframe computer to faster IBM computers.

Steven, pictured below with an AT, worked with staff members and a contract technician for five days on the project.

Ken Kirchheiner, staff computer operator, shown with the mainframe, says he is much impressed with the speed of the new hardware.

With luck we'll have this job finished before the Convention.

YOU ARE INVITED

Your invitation to the Torch Club Luncheon is enclosed, and all are encouraged to attend this interesting (and nourishing) event.
Means pushing for smaller government role in economies

Indian activist on the stump for Libertarian nomination

By JEFF THOMAS
Star-Tribune staff writer

CASPER — Calling for diminished government presence in economic and foreign affairs, Russell Means brought his message to the 87th annual Casper Thunder Days Wednesday as one stop in his campaign to gain the Libertarian Party nomination for president.

Mean’s known for his leadership of the 1973 American Indian Movement’s seizure of the United States Attorney’s office in the city and for his appeal to his Indian activist on the stump for Libertarian nomination.

“Means has abandoned its formula for success — free trade and isolationist policies,” he said. “With the advent of the Cold War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War, the country’s become isolated, and I think that’s a good thing.”

“We need to get back to free trade and isolationism,” he said.

The Libertarian Party believes government should have nothing to do with how people behave, as long as they don’t hurt one another.

If he does capture the party’s 1988 presidential nomination, Paul, a physician from Lake Jackson, Texas, will be the party’s first candidate for president since the party was founded in 1971.

“Means is the only candidate I know of who has actually been to jail,” said Paul. “I think that’s a good thing.”

The Libertarian Party platform includes advocacy of deregulation, free trade and the gold-backing of the dollar.

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Election by mail due to double the votes

HILLSBORO — Washington County's first countywide vote-by-mail election is expected to result in more than twice as many votes cast as usual, an elections official said.

"We are anticipating a 50 percent return on the ballots that we mailed out," said Ginny Kingsley, office supervisor with the Washington County Elections Division. "For a special election (using polling places) 15 to 20 percent would be fairly typical.

The elections division Thursday mailed 160,767 ballots to about 72,000 Republicans, 65,000 Democrats, 22,000 Independents and 182 Libertarians living in Washington County, Kingsley said.

The ballots "need to be returned to our office by 8 p.m. Aug. 11," she said. "And that means not postmarked, it means in the office" at 345 E. Main St. in Hillsboro, three blocks east of the Washington County Courthouse.

"A person who's not received their ballot by July 29 or 30 should call this office and inquire," she said.

Heightened voter response in a mail election, Kingsley said, is "because it's easier. People don't have to go to the polls, all they have to do is punch out the ballot and mail it to us."

Kingsley said the cost of a polling-place election "vs. a mail election is pretty much of a wash — very similar."

"In a poll election, a great deal of the cost is personnel. More than 300 precinct workers staffed 103 Washington County polling places during the June 30 election. "In a vote-by-mail some of the biggest costs you have are postage — pretty close to $35,000 for this election."

She said primary and general elections traditionally attract more voters than do special elections, where "the issues are not considered to be high-voter-turnout percentage-type issues."

The primary issue on the Washington County ballot is financing for a new county building. Local issues are a Hillsboro Union High School operating levy, a recall vote in Newberg and an annexation proposal in west Beaverton.

"It's the first countywide vote by mail," Kingsley said. "We are tremendously excited."

Libertarian group pickets Reiner house

WEST HOLLYWOOD — District Attorney Ora Reiner's house was picketed Saturday by supporters of a former call girl and Libertarian candidate for lieutenant governor who faces jail time for pandering.

About two dozen demonstrators, mostly members of the Libertarian Party, accused Reiner of intervening to have probation revoked for Norma Jean Almodovar because she authored a book critical of her former employer, the Los Angeles Police Department.

Reiner, the protesters claimed, is seeking to have Almodovar sent to prison for four years on the pandering charge.

Almodovar did not take part in the protest outside Reiner's home, which is at the foot of the Hollywood Hills. Reiner was not available for comment.

Before becoming an admitted $200-an-hour call girl in 1982, Almodovar spent 10 years working as a civilian meter maid for the Police Department.

Libertarian Party seeks recognition

The Libertarian Party of Oregon launched a statewide petition drive Saturday to get the party officially recognized so its candidates can appear on the November 1988 general election ballot.

Organizers have until August to gather 5,177 signatures for statewide positions.

Separate petitions are being circulated in Lane County to qualify the Libertarian Party's candidates for election to the 4th Congressional District seat and for election to the eight seats representing Lane County in the Oregon House of Representatives.

The Libertarian Party was successful in a similar petition drive in 1989 and received the required 5 percent of the vote count to qualify as a recognized party in the 1992 election. In 1992, the Libertarian Party's candidates failed to poll 5 percent of the vote and the party was not recognized as a statewide party in the 1984 and 1988 elections.

Libertarians Call for Tax Repeal

By Mike Hammer

Calling the measure a "pork barrel for privileged businesses," the Oklahoma Libertarian Party on Saturday denounced a proposed state constitutional amendment that would allow state government to make direct grants or loans to private business.

Also, the party in its state convention in Oklahoma City called on the Legislature to "repeal all of the recent tax increases passed as the central part of Gov. Henry Bellmon's legislative program."

The Libertarians also elected new state officers and six delegates to the national party convention planned in Seattle in September.

Specifically, the Libertarians opposed the Oklahoma Economic Recovery Act, which would modify the present constitutional prohibition against use of state money to fund private business.

"They may have good intentions, but things like this always turn into a political football," said Robert Murphy, Libertarian spokesman.

"In 1988 we expect things to be different," Bob Fauvre, chairman of the Libertarian Party of Oregon, said in a prepared statement. "That is why today we are formally launching a petition drive to get the Libertarian Party official recognition almost a year ahead of the deadline to ensure that we will have our presidential candidate's name on the ballot during the next general election."

Organizers announced the beginning of the petition drive at a news conference Saturday morning at George's Restaurant in Eugene.

"People in the know get the money and everyone else pays for it," Fauvre said.

The Libertarians said in its second resolution that tax increases — no matter how small — stifle incentives for manufacturers to produce and consumers to buy.

The six delegates elected to the national convention all are uncommitted. So far, there are two candidates for the Libertarian presidential nomination — Indian activist Russell Means and Tom Barger, a former Republican congressman.

Delegates elected were Sevier White of Norman, Dan Price and Dennis Garland of Oklahoma City, Brenda Bromiley of Tulsa, Mike Wair and Price as at-large delegates.