

## TOURISM AND RECREATION CONFIRMS NOMINATIONS

By Brandon Beard  
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate Tourism and Recreation Committee confirmed five of Governor Frank Keating's executive nominations Monday.

Sponsored by Sen. Bernice Shedrick, D-Stillwater, Reginald Bess, of Langston, was confirmed to the State Arts Council of Oklahoma.

Bess has five academic degrees in the arts and humanities. Also, he spent two years with the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

With a vote of 10 to 0, he was confirmed and will serve a three year term, ending July 1, 1998.

Lucia Freeman, of Tulsa, was also confirmed, with a vote of 10 to 0, to the State Arts Council.

She has served as the former chair of the Gilcrease Museum Trustees and is currently a 15 year member of the Gilcrease Association.

Sponsored by Sen. Charles Ford, R-Tulsa, Freeman will also serve a three year term, ending July 1, 1998.

Jonathan David Helmerich, of Tulsa, was confirmed to the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission.

Chairman of the Board for the Tulsa company Haddcomm International, Inc., Helmerich has also spent time at the State Bank & Trust, N.A. and Digital Press Imaging Company.

"As a Tulsa businessman with a diverse experience within the private sector, including both service and manufacturing companies, I bring to the Commission a versatile inventory of cross-functional business skills," he said in a statement to committee members.

Sponsored by Sen. Don Rubottom, R-Tulsa, Helmerich was confirmed with a vote of 9 to 0.

Joe Martin, of Weatherford, was also confirmed to the Tourism and Recreation Commission with a vote of 8 to 0.

He will serve an at large position on the commission, a six year term, ending July 1, 2002. He was sponsored by Sen. Robert M. Kerr, D-Altus.

Chris Sutherland was confirmed to the J.M. Davis Memorial Commission.

Sponsored by Ford, Sutherland is president of Sutherland Lumber and Home Center, Inc., and spent two years at Wichita State University.

He was confirmed with a vote of 10 to 0, to serve a term that ends Aug. 1, 1997.

## ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY CORNSTARCH CUTLERY DEMONSTRATED

From US Dept. of Agriculture

■(WASHINGTON) There was something new on the menu Thursday in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's cafeteria — but it wasn't something to eat. Cutlery made of environmentally-friendly cornstarch was available in the cafeteria line, part of a one-day demonstration of the cutlery, developed with the help of the USDA.

The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service provided research funds for the cornstarch-based cutlery through special research grants to Michigan State University for Michigan Biotechnology Institute to modify the starch into a thermoplastic product. The utensils are manufactured by a joint venture between the Institute and Japan Corn Starch, called Evercorn. The water repellent utensils hold up as well as conventional polystyrene knives, forks, and spoons, and are fully biodegradable in a composting system.

The Department of Defense is currently testing the cutlery for possible use on military bases in the United States and around the world.

These utensils are not yet in the marketplace because they currently do not compete in cost with petroleum-based plastic utensils. However, with growing interest in environmentally friendly products, it is anticipated that there will be demand for these items, which in turn will bring down the cost.

## SENATE WILDLIFE HOLDS BRIEF MEETING

By Brandon Beard  
Staff Writer

■(GIT) Members of the Senate Committee on Wildlife met briefly Monday to confirm two of Governor Frank Keating's executive nominations and to adopt one House Joint Resolution.

William C. Crawford, of Frederick, was confirmed to another term on the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Sponsored by Sen. Gilmer Capps, D-Snyder, Crawford will serve an 8 year term, ending July 1, 2003. He was confirmed with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also confirmed to the Wildlife Commission, though he was not present for his confirmation, was John Groendyke, of Enid.

"John has been in service with the Wildlife Commission almost as long as I have been in the Legislature," said Committee Chairman Frank Shurden, D-Henryetta.

Sponsored by Sen. Ed Long, D-Enid, the owner of Groendyke Transportation Company was confirmed with a vote of 7 to 0.

Also before the committee was HJR1098, by Shurden. The resolution disapproves an emergency rule of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission because it does not reflect the intent of the Legislature.

The problem stems from the commission charging \$11 for special Bobcat-Raccoon-Gray Fox Licenses. The Legislature had originally allowed the commission to charge only \$10 for the license. The commission began charging the increased fee in an attempt to compensate for the \$1 it loses for each license that is retained by the entity selling the license.

The resolution was adopted.

*"Radicalism itself ceases to be radical when absorbed mainly in preserving its control over a society or an economy."*

Eric Hoffer

