

Billie Jean makes Riggs eat his words



A tired Bobby Riggs slumps in his chair between sets with Billie Jean King in Houston's Astrodome. Billie Jean (hoist-



ing winner's trophy at right) was far too much for the 55-year-old hustler, taking their \$100,000 winner-take-all match in

straight sets, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3, before an estimated 48 million TV fans. (Other story, page 23; more photos, page 3.) —AP

President has long meeting with Agnew

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid continuing rumors that Vice President Spiro T. Agnew may be considering resigning, he and President Nixon held a long meeting Thursday afternoon.

A White House spokesman said Friday that "the President and the vice president both agreed there would be no report or discussion on the meeting."

Further, the spokesman said, the two agreed that "there would be no discussion or comment on the various rumors and stories based on unidentified sources." This referred to the continuing reports, including one from a high Republican source, that there was a likelihood of Agnew's resigning in the very near future.

The meeting was held between 3 and 4 p.m. Thursday. Details were revealed Friday.

The President and Agnew held their hour-long meeting in the Executive Office Building. Deputy White House press secretary Gerald L. Warren said they agreed "that no one on the White House staff or the vice president's staff was authorized to discuss this matter."

It was the first face-to-face meeting of any importance between the two since Sept. 1.

Since then, they have met three times, but White House spokesmen indicated they did not have a chance for any substantial discussion. Their appearances together were at a Sept. 7 Cabinet meeting in the White House, at a reception with members of the Republican National Committee and state Republican chairmen three days later and at Tuesday night's state dinner for the visiting premier of Pakistan.

The meeting between the two was not publicly announced by the White House, and the information was obtained in response to a question that has been put repeatedly to the White House since the resignation rumors, asking whether Nixon had had any substantial talks with Agnew.

Sex battle is decided in easy win

By WILL GRIMSLEY

HOUSTON (AP) — Billie Jean King, heroine of the women libbers, made Bobby Riggs eat his words about women's tennis with a humiliating 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 victory Thursday night in their \$100,000 winner-take-all "Battle of the Sexes" at the Astrodome, but she couldn't stop the hustler from talking.

"Maybe I went too far out in my comments about the women's role," the 55-year-old former world champion remarked afterwards. "I take it back, but now I want a rematch."

The bandy-legged little veteran was a crestfallen figure after the two hour-and-four-minute match in the air-conditioned arena.

"I'm going to the bridge," he said.

A smiling Billie Jean, 29, sitting at his elbow, added charitably: "Be sure and get a parachute first, Bobby."

Riggs had boasted in one of his public appearances that if he didn't beat Billie Jean, the five-time Wimbledon champion, in their ballyhooed, Hollywood-produced spectacular, he would jump off of Pasadena's "Suicide Bridge."

Billie Jean, who had called Bobby a "creep" before the match, had said that she would insist that he carry out his vow.

Asked what happened, a weary, downhearted Riggs replied, "She was just too

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Senate confirms Kissinger

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate confirmed Henry A. Kissinger as secretary of state Friday, elevating the 50-year-old German immigrant to the top position in President Nixon's Cabinet.

The vote was 78 to 7.

Kissinger, the White House adviser who engineered the Vietnamese truce and Nixon's dramatic diplomatic initiatives toward warming U.S. relations with Moscow and Peking, won approval amid calls for foreign policy unity and a warning by Sen. J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., that detente with the Russians and Chinese seemed to be coming unraveled.

The Senate praised the former Harvard professor's intellectual credentials and his achievements as Nixon's No. 1 foreign policy adviser for the past 4½ years.

Sen. Charles Mathias, R-Md., said "he has proved to the world that this still is an open society."

Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, D-Maine, called Kissinger a "vigorous and dynamic lead-

er." Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., said he respected Kissinger's "intellectual capacity and his unusual grasp of complex problems."

Some senators who had fought Kissinger and the administration on Vietnam since 1969 still expressed misgivings.

"In his reliance on the diplomacy of big power clout, Dr. Kissinger has shown no inclination, to my knowledge, to look beyond the faces of dictatorship to see if

people are suffering and dying from war, hunger or brutal repression," said Sen. Harold E. Hughes, D-Iowa.

A spokesman for Nixon said shortly after the vote, "Obviously we are pleased and gratified that Dr. Kissinger has been confirmed."

Kissinger was born May 27, 1923, in Fuerth, Germany. His family emigrated to the United States in 1938 to escape Nazi repression of Jews.

Senator would override delay in federal pay raises

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Gale McGee, D-Wyo., introduced a resolution Friday to override President Nixon's proposal to postpone by two months federal military and civilian pay increases scheduled for Oct. 1.

McGee, chairman of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, said the two-month delay would reduce "the average employees' pay increase by one-sixth, an average loss of about \$120 per federal employee."

The resolution of disapproval of Nixon's alternative plan for pay adjustments for federal workers was cosponsored by Sen. Hiram Fong, R-Hawaii, the committee's ranking Republican.

McGee, in Senate remarks, said Nixon's proposal to postpone the pay increase "means that government concern over

economic conditions would be taken out of the hide of federal employees who have no recourse but through congressional action."

McGee also said that, so far as he knew, the President's Advisory Committee on Federal Pay had not yet recommended a firm percentage figure for the adjustment.

Under the Federal Pay Comparability Act of 1970, the Civil Service Commission and the Office of Management and Budget together make their recommendations with the Advisory Committee, and the President either submits them for congressional approval or offers alternative pay proposals.

The commission recommended a 4.7 per cent increase to take effect Oct. 1, but Nixon proposed a two-month postponement until Dec. 1,

Singer Jim Croce killed in Louisiana plane crash

NATCHITOCHEs, La. (AP) — Recording star Jim Croce, whose latest hit was top seller "Big Bad Leroy Brown," was killed along with five others in a plane crash near the Natchitoches municipal airport.

The 30-year-old rock singer had just completed a performance before 2,000 students at Northwestern State University.

Natchitoches Parish Sheriff Sam James said Robert N. Elliott of Dallas was the pilot of the twin-engine chartered plane. The others were connected with the tour group.

The crash occurred about 10:45 p.m. Thursday, as the plane left the south runway. It crashed about 200 yards from the end of the runway after hitting a tree.