

# Winners and losers

*St Journal*  
*3-30-84*

**LOSER** — Expect this question in revised editions of the popular board game “Trivial Pursuit”: How many medals were awarded by the U.S. Army after the invasion of Grenada? Here’s a hint: There were about 7,000 Army officers and enlisted men on the island. Answer: 8,612. Apparently just about anyone in olive drab connected with the Oct. 25 invasion received an official “atta boy.” The Marines and Navy have opted for some respectful restraint in the distribution of commendations and citations to those involved and at risk.

**WINNER** — William Young, state water resources director, is a winner for turning off the flow of new ground-water permits in south-central Oregon. A 2,500-square-mile farming area was in jeopardy from depleted ground-water sources. We hope Young’s action is a harbinger of further efforts to protect the state’s ground water from

overuse and pollution. The job has been ignored for years.

**LOSER** — A Grants Pass diploma mill deals in ersatz sheepskins from the would-be alma mater of the customer’s choice. The owners say they offer a service for anyone whose diploma has been lost, damaged or stolen. We are shocked and appalled to imagine anyone ordering a diploma for a school and degree they did not earn. Why, after a while nothing would be as it appears. The country could end up with a president who fudges the facts and presidential pretenders who are less than candid about their ages and family names.

**WINNER** — Chances are Gov. Vic Atiyeh’s travels to the Middle East and an upcoming trip to Asia will reap some handsome dividends. Let’s face it, the governor is an affable, salesman-sort of a guy. Instead of being locked up in his office with a bunch of boring administrative mush, he is probably a lot more valuable to the state on the road drumming up more business and potential customers for Oregon. Portland Mayor Frank Ivancie may be more aggressive on the economic development front, but Atiyeh’s present and future travels cannot help but extend the welcome mat to international investment in local goods and services.

**LOSER** — Researchers estimate that the price of cigarettes would have to increase three bucks a pack to cover the extra medical bills and lost earnings suffered by a middle-aged, two-packs-a-day smoker.

**LOSER** — Treasury Secretary Donald Regan refused to reimburse the government for his wife’s use of an official limo to squire her around Washington. He won’t pay a nickel, he said, because no one has proved to him that use of the chauffeur service was “illegal, immoral, unethical or anything else.” We’ll bet Regan the price of a ride on Washington’s Metro that is not the way he talked when he was one of the boys on Wall Street during the Carter administration. In fact, we’ll bet taxi fare he denounced those at the public trough over many a tax-deductible lunch.