

Texas/Regional

Hearing scheduled in suit filed against MHMR

AUSTIN (AP) — A lawsuit filed by a woman who was institutionalized for 51 years could lead to significant changes in the way the state commits mentally retarded people, advocates said.

State District Court Judge Harley Clark was to begin hearing testimony today in the lawsuit filed in 1987 against the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation by Opal Petty.

Ms. Petty spent 37 years in Austin State Hospital and 14 years in San Angelo State School. She left the institution in late 1985 and lives with her nephew's family in San Angelo.

Jim Harrington, legal director for the Texas Civil Liberties Union, said Ms. Petty's records show institutions believed she did not need to be institutionalized, but that she remained there because her family would not take her and there were no community homes for her.

The narrow question before the court is whether the suit should become a class action, including the 3,861 retarded people committed involuntarily to state schools.

But whether Texas should spend more funds on community homes for

the mentally retarded also will be debated.

The legal challenge could be expanded to include nearly 4,000 involuntarily committed people.

If Clark accepts the class action, the case could become as significant, costly and bitterly fought as two other class actions, filed in 1974 and now settled. Those suits brought reforms at state mental hospitals and state schools for the retarded.

"This has the potential to become even larger," Harrington told the American-Statesman.

The suit was filed by the TCLU and Advocacy Inc., a group that represents disabled people, on behalf of Ms. Petty. State school residents, former residents and parents of retarded people are scheduled to testify for the prosecution. State witnesses will include retardation professionals and parents who want their retarded children to remain in state schools, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

The TCLU and Advocacy group are seeking several reforms in trying to convince Clark to expand the suit. The key reform they seek is a guarantee

that mentally retarded people committed to state institutions will receive a court review of their commitment once a year.

The Texas mental retardation commitment law has no provision for annual judicial review of commitments.

Assistant Attorney General Dennis Garza said the state plans to argue the internal reviews are adequate. "If they are profoundly mentally retarded when they are committed, chances are they are not going to change much."

Slayings of women unsolved

FORT WORTH (AP) — More than three years after the disappearance and grisly slayings of 11 women prompted calls for a massive investigation, only one killing is solved and leads have faltered.

The dead include waitresses, schoolteachers, receptionists, a bartender, a student and a homemaker. They died of stab wounds, gunshots and strangulation in southwest Fort Worth from September 1984 until May 1985.

"It was on all our minds. It was the conversation everywhere. Everyone was wishing that some of these women would be found," said Bernice Barker, 68, who lives across the street from the garage apartment where one of the slaying victims lived.

One woman's body remains missing.

A special investigative unit was formed in January 1985, at one time including 40 officers. Investigators conducted more than 3,000 interviews and compiled a list of 7,000 suspects, including friends, acquaintances and relatives of victims.

Police Chief Thomas Windham estimated the investigation cost more than \$1 million.

The different slaying methods convinced police more than one killer was responsible, said Capt. Ben Dumas. Police today say they have suspects in three of the slayings but lack the evidence needed to file charges.

The string of killings haunts relatives and police.

Police Detective Curt Brannan, one of the investigators, often is led back to the spot where one of the women, Sarah Ann Kashka, 15, disappeared. Brannan told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram he occasionally returns to the place on the same night of the week she vanished.

"When you go to a crime scene and see the things we do, and talk to the family, you know the family is depending on you. It's difficult to spend an eight-hour shift working on the case, put it down and go home," Brannan said.

Ms. Kashka disappeared Dec. 30, 1984, after spending the evening with friends. She was found stabbed to death two days later near Mountain Creek Lake in southwest Dallas County.

The body of another victim, 21-year-old Angela Ewert, was never found.

At least one slaying was solved.

In October 1985, Michael Wayne Goodin of Fort Worth was convicted of the murder of Lisa Griffin. He is serving a 43-year prison term.

The reams of neatly packed information investigators collected provides little comfort to families, said homicide Sgt. Paul Kratz.

"You're talking to them several times a day; you finally get to the point there's nothing new to tell them," Kratz said.

Boy pilot



Tony Aliengema of Orange County, Calif., talks with reporters in Oklahoma City shortly before leaving in his Cessna 210 airplane he is flying home. Last week Aliengema set a world record by becoming the youngest person to fly unaided across the country.

Cattle rustling not a thing of past

WHARTON (AP) — Modern equipment has helped bring the old-time crime of cattle rustling into the suburbs, officials say.

With a pickup, a gooseneck trailer, a portable pen, a bag of feed and a good dog, a rustler can drive onto a ranch, load up four or five head and be out in 10 minutes.

"It's a very simple crime to commit and a very difficult crime to solve," said Jody Henderson, a special assistant to the general manager of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association in Fort Worth.

Officials say thefts of livestock and equipment is becoming an increasingly suburban activity. They note such crimes have doubled in just the past year in Harris County and have risen a staggering 320 percent statewide since 1979.

If caught, rustlers no longer have to fear hanging like 100 years ago, but the penalties for the third-degree felony can be high.

In a recent case Cook investigated, one of the youthful thieves got 10 years in prison and a \$15,000 fine while his partner got five years.

First-time suburban rustlers often are behind on their house, credit card and pickup payments and steal livestock out of desperation, said Doyce Cook, an association field inspector in Wharton,

but a growing number of other rustlers steal for drugs.

The 111-year-old association for which Cook works reports almost \$4.5 million worth of livestock and ranch equipment were stolen in 1987, compared with \$1.4 million in 1979.

Even that figure isn't comprehensive.

"No one organization in Texas is responsible for compiling statistics for the entire state," said association spokesman Steve Munday.

Henderson said the association's 32 field operators, who carry special Texas Ranger commissions to enable them to make arrests, develop about 200 cases a year involving anywhere from 2,500 to 4,500 head.

"It's difficult to follow cattle. If a thief takes them to a ranch and waits six months until he trades them, the trail gets real cold," Henderson said.

Tracking the cattle is made even more difficult when owners don't bother to brand them. If cattle are branded, they can be traced through the association's computerized archives where 10,000 Texas and Oklahoma brands are registered.

Cook said rustling in Harris County has doubled over last year.

Hispanic journalists exchange ideas

DALLAS (AP) — Hispanics must seek better education and an end to illiteracy, says television and movie actor Edward James Olmos.

"Thirty-three percent of all children will drop out of high school this year," Olmos said Saturday, speaking at the National Hispanic Media Conference.

"The percentage is even higher for minority students," said the actor who starred in "Stand and Deliver" and NBC's "Miami Vice."

About 1,200 Hispanic media

professionals from across the country attended the sixth annual conference.

"One of the main goals here is networking," said Manuel Galvan of the Chicago Tribune editorial board. "It helps career development in two ways: You find out what everyone's been doing and if someone's looking for a job, and you get an injection of energy from seeing that, you are not alone out there."

Galvan, a past NAHJ president, said there's a nationwide shortage of minority professionals.

"Many of us come from newsrooms where we're the only Hispanic, or where we're one of three Hispanics or one of four, and it gets lonely," said Galvan. "These conferences give you the chance to look around and find that there are a lot of us out there and that we're doing OK."

Study challenges ideas on court sentencing

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Texas convicts whose death sentences were commuted to life sentences in the 1970s by the U.S. Supreme Court have disproved experts' predictions that they would endanger other prisoners, a study shows.

The failure of those forecasts casts doubt on speculation by expert witnesses on inmate behavior in capital cases, the study says.

"Every single one of us was listed as being a threat to the inmate population and to the officers," said Carl Harris, one of the 47 Texans whose sentence was commuted.

The study by James Marquart, assistant professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University, and Jonathan Sorensen, a graduate student, examined the behavior of those convicts from 1973 to 1986.

The inmates all were sentenced to death before 1973 — 37 of them for murder, seven for rape and three for armed robbery. More than a third of them were tried in Houston.

As of Oct. 1, six had died, 18 were in prison and 23 were out of prison.

The study, which did not evaluate the death penalty directly, examined the reliability of predictions by qualified officials that the convicts would pose a "substantial threat" to guards and other prisoners if not put to death.

The study found: "They did not kill other inmates or staff. A minority of the com-

mutes committed the majority of prison-rule regulations (violations). Of the 28 released on parole, one committed a new homicide."

In response to an argument that Texas assessed executions differently before 1973, the study found that killers whose sentences were commuted after 1973 "did not commit any less heinous offenses" than convicts currently under sentence of death.

To assess the death sentence, Texas jurors must agree that a person convicted of capital murder will be a continuing threat to society. Otherwise, the person receives a life sentence.

Harris has shown no sign of being dangerous and has accumulated 31 years of good time credit in prison without losing any time for disciplinary infractions.

He is serving a life sentence in the Texas Department of Corrections Wynne Unit at Huntsville, where he has been a trusty since 1984. For the past eight months he has driven an 18-wheeler, hauling TDC equipment and supplies around the state.

He completed high school in prison, earned degrees in several vocational courses and accumulated 105 hours toward a college degree.

In 1978, he married a woman he met

through correspondence, and he is allowed to visit her on furlough every six months.

Harris was condemned to be electrocuted for murdering his foster mother and a female friend in Bacliff in 1967. He told officers at the time that he killed them when he found them in a sex act. He also was involved in a spectacular escape from the Galveston County Jail several years later.

Nationwide, more than 600 condemned inmates had their death sentences invalidated when the Supreme Court ruled that executions are cruel and unusual punishment. The court then allowed executions to resume under mandated changes a few years later.

About 267 convicts are on Texas' death row, which leads the nation in executions. Twenty-seven convicts have died by injection since the state resumed the death penalty in 1982.

The study concludes, "Until our techniques of analyzing human behavior over long periods is sharpened, the reliance on clinical predictions of dangerousness, especially in the courtroom, is unacceptable."

"The current state of knowledge in the fields of psychiatry, psychology and sociology preclude any concrete individual determinations of long-term violence."

"Gazing into the crystal ball when someone else's life is at stake is totally unacceptable."

Continued from page 1

Primaries

Married, with two children, Timmons was raised in Carson County. He believes that he can take the five deputies now employed by the county and give the people better coverage.

"We've got to make do with what we've got," he said, citing the \$308,000 budget and shrinking tax base. "I think I can have better coverage with what we have. With planning, working harder and scheduling, I think we can cover all the county."

During his 3½ years as a sheriff's deputy, Timmons said he worked directly under the sheriff. "For the last 3½ years I was his right hand man. When he wanted something to be done right, he sent me out to do it."

now meets state standards.

Miller led the voting in Wheeler County on Super Tuesday with 612 votes compared to Adams' 493 votes. The winner of Tuesday's runoff will run unopposed on the November ballot.

Adams said he doesn't expect voter turnout to be as heavy as in the Super Tuesday elections.

"If we get 75 percent of the primary voters, it'll be a good runoff," he said. "If we can get the people out to vote, it'll be just fine."

"The election looks good, it looks real good, but you never know," Miller commented. "You're just one elected official among many, and you can't always do just what you want to do. But I try to keep the human element, the human aspect, in all of it. After all, you're working with people, not cattle."

Prison offices planned

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — State prison officials are considering spending more than \$5 million on administrative offices.

Texas Department of Corrections officials are interested in buying an abandoned Baker-Hughes Inc. office warehouse complex, but the parties have not been able to agree on a price.

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Nation

Senate panel begins new look at organized crime

WASHINGTON (AP) — Organized crime and its power in America are the subject of a new round of Senate hearings beginning today, nearly 25 years after convicted murderer Joseph Valachi introduced the phrase "La Cosa Nostra" to the national consciousness.

Valachi was the star witness in the widely publicized 1963 Senate investigation of organized crime, unfolding a complex story of murder, terror, crime and vice. He described the La Cosa Nostra organization and named alleged members.

Tommaso Buscetta, described as a former member of the Porto Nuova

Sicilian Mafia family in Palermo, Sicily, is among those scheduled to testify as the Senate Government Operations permanent subcommittee on investigations begins a new look at organized crime and law enforcement. Buscetta will testify after FBI Director William S. Sessions opens the session as the leadoff witness.

The subcommittee has set four days of hearings this month — today, Friday, April 21 and April 22. Angelo Lonardo, described as the former boss of the Cleveland La Cosa Nostra family, leads off Friday's hearings.

In the 1963 hearings, the 58-year-old Valachi, who was serving a life sent-

ence in the Atlanta federal penitentiary, said La Cosa Nostra was a highly organized unit with a strict code guaranteed by blood ties and arranged marriages within the tight framework of the crime syndicate.

He testified that the organization had been responsible for many gangland deaths throughout the country, including the slayings of mobsters Albert Anastasi and Frank Scalise.

In announcing the new hearings, the panel's chairman, Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said, "In the wake of an impressive array of successful prosecutions, it is important that we take stock and assess just how far we have come in the war

against organized crime."

"Some have described the recent prosecutions of mob hierarchies as the final death knell of La Cosa Nostra," he said. "Others argue that these prosecutions merely remove one mob hierarchy and replace it with another — as powerful and sometimes even more vicious than the old."

Nunn said the subcommittee, as it did 25 years ago, will hear from witnesses who will describe how organized crime has survived despite periodically successful attacks by law enforcement agencies.

"These hearings will not only try to determine if any additional law en-

forcement legislation is needed, but also whether the federal government is effectively using these tools that have already been provided to them," Nunn said. "In particular, we are interested in reviewing the recent successful civil and criminal prosecutions under the 1970 racketeering statutes."

"Not only will we be interested in the impact of those recent successes but also the ability to transfer such tactics to other areas of organized criminal activity — particularly to the fields of labor racketeering, narcotics trafficking and other emerging organized crime groups," he said.

Fans gather and technicians scurry as Oscar night arrives

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Six 24-foot fiberglass Oscars stood guard today outside the Shrine Auditorium, flanked by dozens of fans camped out in bleachers for a front-row look at celebrities arriving for the 60th annual Academy Awards.

"This is my ninth year being first, and 11th overall. I'm having a great time," bragged Joey Marcus, slurping on a frozen ice bar as temperatures soared to 93 degrees Sunday afternoon.

With about 100 fans already grabbing seats outside Sunday to catch a glimpse at the glitz, inside, technicians fine-tuned reluctant dragons and participants rehearsed.

Tonight's three-hour show is to be broadcast nationally by ABC-TV starting at 9 p.m. EDT.

Bernardo Bertolucci's "The Last Emperor," the kind of historical epic Hollywood loves to embrace, was favored for best picture over "Broadcast News," "Moonstruck," "Fatal Attraction" and "Hope and Glory."



(AP Laserphoto)

Spectators walk by a row of giant Oscars outside the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles Sunday.

Cher, Holly Hunter, Glenn Close, Sally Kirkland and Meryl Streep were in contention for best actress. Michael Douglas and Robin Williams were in a best actor battle with Marcello Mastroianni, Jack Nicholson and William Hurt.

During rehearsals Saturday, Dudley Moore and Liza Minnelli worked their way through an introductory duet introducing a medley of Oscar-nominated best songs, with Moore playing a white concert grand piano.

The first song, "Storybook Love," got under way with a silhouette sequence featuring a prince who was supposed to take on enemies and slay a dragon as they slipped past him on a treadmill.

But as Willy DeVille moved through his tune, the dancer-prince stood with nothing approaching. A disembodied stage manager's voice shouted, "OK, we have an emergency stop. Please stop... Our dragon hung up."

"Of course it has hang-ups. That's why they call it a dragon," quipped DeVille.

Dragon fixed, the sequence continued with a female dan-

cer on guy wires gracefully descending to the arms of her waiting prince until she bumped into a passing castle.

The auditorium, which features distinctive twin turnip-topped domes and filigreed cornices and arches, seats 6,308, twice as many as the Los Angeles Music Center, which had been the Oscars' home for years.

Fans began arriving before dawn Sunday, bringing ice chests, sleeping bags, plenty of cold drinks and hats.

In all, winners of 22 awards were to be announced tonight. Three already were announced, the Irving G. Thalberg lifetime achievement award for director Billy Wilder.

In the actress category, Cher was nominated for her "Moonstruck" role, Hunter for "Broadcast News," Close for "Fatal Attraction," Kirk-

Senate begins budget work

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate this week takes up a \$1.1 trillion budget plan accompanied by far less acrimony than usual because it complies with last fall's deficit-reduction agreement with President Reagan.

The fiscal 1989 budget proposal drafted by Senate Budget Committee chairman Lawton Chiles, D-Fla., and Sen. Pete Domenici of New Mexico, the senior Republican on the committee, has received bipartisan support in committee.

The election-year budget doesn't propose new tax increases, beyond the \$14 billion already enacted for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. It also avoids eliminating any spending.

The plan was crafted to stay within the overall spending limits of the deficit agreement, which pre-set totals for military, foreign aid and domestic agency spending.

Within those guidelines, the Senate proposal is closer to Reagan's priorities than the House plan approved last month. It includes a 27 percent increase in spending on the space program and trims back development programs that Reagan proposed to kill.

The Chiles-Domenici plan also endorses Reagan's plan to give a 4.3 percent pay hike to the military and only 2 percent for civilian federal workers. The House voted a 3 percent across-the-board raise.

Both the House and Senate plans envision big increases in spending on AIDS research and

education grants.

Like the House, the Senate decided to adopt the administration's optimistic view of the nation's economy. By doing so, the plan claims that the deficit will be just \$136 billion in the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, in compliance with the Gramm-Rudman budget balancing law.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office forecasts that the deficit will be about \$35 billion higher.

The budget resolution is a guideline for Congress' fiscal legislation, and does not require the president's signature. However, it has often passed weeks or even months past the April 15 deadline as Congress and the administration battle over spending priorities.

Senate action this week and a speedy House-Senate agreement could make for the earliest budget approval in years.

The deficit agreement with the president settled for the year that normally is the biggest battle — the balance between domestic and military spending.

Under the agreement, the budget includes \$299.5 billion in budget authority and \$294.0 billion in outlays for the military; \$148.1 billion in budget authority and \$169.2 billion in outlays for annually appropriated domestic programs, and \$18.1 billion in budget authority and \$16.1 billion in outlays on foreign aid.

Prosecutor says Zaccaro drug case was more than possession

RUTLAND, Vt. (AP) — A prosecutor says he refused to reduce a felony charge against John Zaccaro Jr. because "there was plenty of evidence" that the son of former vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro was selling cocaine.

Ferraro said she and her candidacy were partly to blame for her son's conviction Saturday, but blasted Addison County State's Attorney John Quinn for failing to accept a plea bargain.

Quinn said he was reluctant because of the problem of drugs in society.

"I recently prosecuted a guy on a felony charge for 37 marijuana plants. Perhaps in some counties they might have reduced that. But as time goes on I feel more strongly about drug cases," Quinn said Sunday. "I just think it's becoming more of a problem in the country and we need to deter that."

Zaccaro, 24, was convicted of selling one-quarter gram of cocaine to an undercover officer at his off-campus apartment on Feb. 20, 1986. He was a senior at Middlebury College at the time.

No sentencing date has been set. The felony conviction carries

a maximum sentence of five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

At a news conference after the verdict, Ferraro said the family would appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court.

"We still believe he was set up," she said.

Ferraro blamed her son for possession of cocaine, as well as herself "and my candidacy for making my son a target." She was the Democratic vice presidential nominee in 1984.

But she said Quinn prolonged "the agony for two years" by not allowing Zaccaro to plead to a lesser count of cocaine possession.

"We, as his parents, would not allow him to plead guilty" to the felony charge of selling cocaine, Ferraro said.

"To me it was clearly a selling case," said Quinn, who said the family first approached him about a plea agreement at Zaccaro's arraignment. "There was plenty of evidence he was selling. I never considered a possession case and they know that."

Zaccaro's defense lawyer, Charles Tetzlaff, had argued that his client was entrapped by a young, inexperienced, attractive female undercover police officer.

"This is a case of improper and overzealous police conduct," he told jurors.

But Quinn called Zaccaro a well-organized drug dealer, and said he was known on campus as "The Pharmacist" because of his reputation as a dealer.

After Zaccaro's arrest, Middlebury College officials formed a task force to look at the campus drug problem. After more than a dozen meetings, it made 20 recommendations, most of which were implemented by college trustees.

Liberace's license fetches \$4,150 in auction

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Liberace's California driver's license, expected to garner no more than \$200, fetched \$4,150 in the second day of bidding for items from the late pianist's five posh homes.

"It was probably the most personal item we sold," said Jon King, a vice president at Butterfield & Butterfield auction house. The amount bid includes the auctioneer's 10 percent commission.

The person who bid for the license Sunday was a Liberace fan who wanted to remain anony-

mous, King said.

"There was a tremendous amount of interest in the license because of the picture, because of his signature and because of the very personal nature of it," King said. "Also because it was something that he daily used."

About 2,500 people were present at the start of bidding Sunday. Total transactions for the day reached approximately \$550,000, exceeding the \$445,300 auctioneers expected. Saturday's transactions hit \$660,045, higher than the projected

\$525,650. The auction ends Tuesday.

King estimated that 25 percent of the crowd actually bid on items, which were bringing in four to five times their estimated value.

"And the flashier the clothing, the higher the bidding," King said.

A brown-and-white spotted cowhide evening jacket with brown

trousers and matching cowhide shoes was expected to fetch up to \$750 but was purchased for \$3,125 by a buyer who wished to remain anonymous, King said.

Arnold and Leslie Duke of Washington, D.C., bought the first item Saturday, a pendant depicting Liberace's profile in sculpted silver against a blue lapis lazuli background, within a silver frame.

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World

Opposition leader exiled; cash crisis causes medicine shortage

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — An opposition leader forced into exile by Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega left for Venezuela after calling on Panamanians to step up protests designed to oust the strongman.

In another development, doctors and pharmacists on Sunday said a lack of dollars caused by U.S. economic sanctions is causing a medicine shortage and broad cuts in hospital services in Panama.

The opposition leader, Carlos Ernesto Gonzalez de la Lastra, in a letter released before he left Sunday evening, urged Panamanians to "organize your family, your street, your neighborhood and protest."

The opposition leader was freed on Thursday after being imprisoned for 10 days following his arrest during an anti-Noriega march he led in Panama City.

Gonzalez de la Lastra, 49, faced a long prison term on a sedition charge filed by the government last summer if he did not accept exile.

In the past week several announced anti-Noriega demonstrations either drew few participants or were stopped before they began by a heavy police presence.

Gonzalez de la Lastra is one of 35 leaders of the National Civic Crusade, an opposition organization of 200 business, labor, professional and political groups seeking Noriega's ouster.

Sunday's departure was the second time the

opposition leader had been sent into exile. He lived in Venezuela for two years after Gen. Omar Torrijos, Noriega's predecessor, ordered Gonzalez de la Lastra into exile in 1976.

Several other leaders of the anti-Noriega protests that began in June 1987 went into exile in September after warrants were issued for their arrests.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of Panama's Christian Democratic Party, was barred from the country when he tried to return from a business trip on Feb. 25. He was allowed back in at the end of March.

On Saturday, Arias Calderon called for an international boycott that goes beyond existing U.S. sanctions to press for an end to the Noriega regime.

U.S. sanctions include freezing Panama's dollar deposits in U.S. banks, withholding payments to the Panama Canal Commission and, most recently, prohibiting American companies and citizens from paying taxes to the Panamanian government.

With the most recent sanctions against Panama, some American businessmen have said they can be fined and jailed in the United States for paying taxes to the government and be closed down by Panama if they don't.

"I think we're going to see a lot of closings," of American companies in Panama, said one businessman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

29 killed as plane downed by guerrillas

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Afghan guerrillas downed a Soviet-built passenger plane near the Soviet border, killing all 29 people aboard, Afghanistan's official Radio Kabul reported.

There was no immediate comment from the guerrillas.

The report said the Antonov-26 passenger plane was shot down by a missile at 3:10 p.m. Sunday (6:40 a.m. EDT) while flying between Maimaneh, in Afghanistan's northwestern Faryab province, and Mazar Sharif, in the Balkh province. The cities are about 145 miles apart.

The plane carried six crew members and 23 passengers, including two children, according to the report, monitored in Islamabad.

It did not say whether the plane was a Soviet transport or a civilian airliner of the domestic Bakhtar airline. Both fly the Antonov-26.

The Afghan airline also has been known to carry commercial passengers in planes with military markings.

The reported crash came three days after the United Nations announced an agreement to end the war between Moslem guerrillas and Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government and clear the way for the removal of Soviet troops.

Radio Kabul, quoting Afghanistan's official Bakhtar News Agency, said the guerrillas

attacked with anti-aircraft rockets.

"Once more, extremist opposition elements carried out a terrorist action," the radio said. "As a result of this savage action by extremist elements, 23 passengers and six crew were martyred."

Afghan President Najib expressed sorrow and sympathy to the families of "those who have been sacrificed to this criminal action," the report added.

Despite the proposal to withdraw Soviet troops, the Afghan guerrillas have said they will continue to fight Najib's government until it is deposed. The civil war began 10 years ago when a communist coup brought to power a government friendly to the Soviet Union.

On Sept. 13, 1987, Afghan guerrillas shot down an Antonov-26 near the northern city of Kunduz. Reports said 14 to 17 people were killed.

The rebels are armed with U.S.-made Stinger and British Blowpipe anti-aircraft missiles.

The radio did not identify the type of rocket used in Sunday's shooting.

The rebels acquired the Stingers in late 1986. They reportedly have shot down an average of one Soviet or Afghan aircraft a day since they received the heat-seeking Stinger and the radar-guided Blowpipe missiles.

According to unofficial reports,

about 200 people were killed last year alone while flying in the Afghan military planes.

The communists seized power in a bloody April 1978 coup. Soviet troops entered the country in December 1979 to help the faltering government against the Moslem insurgents.

Jewish settlers reject army explanation of girl's death

JERUSALEM (AP) — Jewish settlers rejected an army report saying an Israeli teenager was killed by a settler's gun and demanded harsh punishment for a West Bank village where they claim the girl was slain by Arabs.

In another development, Palestinian leaders on Sunday called for a commercial strike today in the occupied lands and demanded the resignation of Arabs holding appointed or elected positions in the territories.

The occupied territories were quiet on Sunday. Arab reports said troops closed shops and food markets in Gaza Strip, which opened during morning hours.

Since Palestinians began violent protests against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in early December, 141 Arabs, one Israeli soldier and one Israeli civilian have been killed.

The Jewish settlers and right-wing legislators, including some from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc, on Sunday condemned the army after its report on the death of the teen-ager and demanded its chief of staff resign.

They urged tough sanctions on Palestinian rioters, including the expulsion of Arab stone-throwers, and called for

the destruction of every home in Beita, the West Bank village where 15-year-old Tirza Porat was killed on Wednesday.

Israel Television quoted the army report as saying Miss Porat was accidentally killed by the M-16 rifle of Roman Al Dubi, a settler-guard who "panicked and opened fire in all directions" during the clash with Arab rioters. Be-

sides Miss Porat, two Arabs died in the melee, and 15 people, including 13 Jewish teenagers and two Arabs, were wounded.

Outraged settlers insisted Miss Porat was shot with a rifle by a masked Arab and charged the Jewish teen-agers involved were not properly questioned.



(AP Laserphoto)

A West Bank settler leads a group of angry settlers outside the office of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Sunday morning in Jerusalem.

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Lifestyles

19th century furniture echoed archaeological discoveries

By RALPH and TERRY KOVEL

Antiques

During the Regency Period in England, archaeological discoveries were translated into everyday furniture.

The early years of the 19th century were a time of discovery, when many important excavations were made in Egypt, Italy and Greece. Furniture designers, influenced by the newly discovered ancient artifacts, used the shape of an animal leg or an Egyptian sphinx as the arm or leg of a chair.

They also preferred light-colored or painted woods over the dark mahogany that had been popular a few years earlier.

Among the ancient styles that regained their popularity was the classic chair with crossbars, narrow front legs curving in a saber form, and scrolled curving arms. The most authentic of the revived classical forms was the Grecian couch, a shape that had been ignored for centuries.

Even today furniture designers are still inspired by the past. A popular modern chair now being advertised is made of speckle-painted molded plywood and is shaped like a traditional Chipendale chair of the 18th century.

When trying to understand the histories of furniture, kitchen utensils, sports equipment and other collectibles of the past, think about the lifestyle of the period.

Our grandmothers or great grandmothers didn't have to job each day to stay trim. The aver-

age housewife had a strenuous day just cooking and cleaning. She didn't have to make time for long walks or go to a gym for weight-lifting; these were included in her normal workday.

There was no indoor plumbing, so women had to bring into the house from outdoor pumps all the water used for cooking, dishwashing, bathing, laundry and cleaning. And after the water was used it had to be taken outside again and dumped. In the winter, when pumps and rivers froze, they had to get their water by breaking through the ice.

An article about water supplies written in 1886 did this calculation for one housewife during her 41-year marriage. "The water was from a good spring, about 60 yards from the house. Each day she went to the spring for water eight or 10 times or 148 miles in one year or 6,068 miles during her marriage." Imagine hiking uphill over 6,000 miles carrying heavy buckets of water.

It's not surprising, then, that baths were taken weekly, laundry done infrequently and dishes cleaned with only a few rinses. Our modern ideas of cleanliness were not feasible until cities installed water works and indoor plumbing became common.

Q. My mother collects Westward-Ho pressed glass. She has eight goblets and dishes with lids.

We would like to know when it was first made.

A. Westward-Ho is one of many pressed glass patterns made in the 1870s. The glass is very clear, and each goblet or bowl has a frosted band with high relief figures, usually pictures of deer, bison, log cabins and rolling hills, though some pieces have a dog's head with a tree bark handle.

The glass, made by Gillinder and Sons of Philadelphia, Pa., about 1879, was originally called "Pioneer." Copies of this pattern were made in the 1930s.

Q. I have a 9½-inch high pitcher made of a heavy, rough, white china. The sides are decorated with eight different raised figures of men, each man standing in a fancy arch that looks almost like a church doorway. The bottom is marked "Charles Meigh Hanley."

A. You probably have a famous pitcher in the Apostle pattern. The design was first made in 1842 by Charles Meigh of Hanley, England, who made many different heavily decorated stoneware pieces. The design was used for a full tea set, including sugar bowl, creamer, teapot, coffeepot and water pitcher.

Other makers copied the popular Apostle design, which can be seen at museums exhibiting the "Gothic Revival" style. Parts of churches and other Gothic buildings were reinterpreted and included in patterns found in the furniture, china and architecture of England in the 1840s.

TIP: Never leave your house keys on the ring with your car keys when you leave your car with a parking attendant.

To fill in your set of flatware or goblets, send for a copy of the Kovels' booklet, "China, Crystal and Silver Matching Services." Send \$1 and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Kovels, P.O. Box 22900, Beachwood, Ohio 44122.

CURRENT PRICES

Current prices are recorded at antique shows, sales, flea markets and auctions throughout the United States. Prices vary in different locations because of local economic conditions.

Advertising pin, Buster Brown & Tige, 1½ inches: \$8.

Marble, steelie, ½ inch: \$20.
Bottle L.Q.C. Wishart's Pine Tree Tar cordial, Philadelphia, patented 1859, dark green: \$50.

Roseville wallpocket, Pine Cone, brown, 8½ inches: \$100.

Doll, Belton, glass set eyes, painted stockings, strap shoes, dressed, 6 inches: \$125.

Sterling silver tea caddy spoon, chrysanthemum pattern, Durgin: \$145.

Dumbwaiter, mahogany, pie crust, tri-foot sabre splayed legs, 36x26x26 inches: \$180.

Electro-mechanical llama, moves head and chews, covered with llama fur, 1940, 2 feet high: \$285.

Waltham watch, pocket, 21 jewel, gold-filled case: \$335.

Seeburg combination piano and phonograph: \$7,200.

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A scene showing children at play is painted on the back of this English Regency chair inspired by ancient Greek designs. It has lion-paw arm supports, a traditional Greek open back and curved arms. The chair was made about 1810.

Open toilet seat can be minor annoyance, major tragedy

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman working in an office that employs both men and women. We all share the bathroom. This poses no problems — except this one: It really disgusts me to go into the bathroom and find the toilet seat up! I mentioned this a few times, but nothing has changed.

I was brought up in a home with brothers and a father, and they always put the toilet seat down after they used the bathroom. I can't see why these grown men I work with can't do the same thing. I always put the lid down, too, a habit from having dogs who prefer to drink from the toilet bowl than from their water dishes.

Maybe a word in your column will get results.

FUSSY IN BOSTON

DEAR FUSSY: How about posting a small "reminder" on the wall directly over the toilet?

Your letter recalls a moving experience I had recently, when I went to another state for a speaking engagement. A pretty young woman approached me after my presentation, greeted me warmly and handed me a sealed envelope — to be read "later," she said. Then she

disappeared into the crowd.

I put the envelope in my purse, and read it later in the privacy of my hotel room. Briefly, she said that she was the young mother who had written to me about five years ago to say that she had lost a toddler in a most unpredictable and bizarre way. The child had just begun to walk, and, as all children will, she started to explore all the rooms in the house.

To make this very tragic story brief, the child had apparently tried to climb into the toilet and fell into the bowl headfirst; by the time she was discovered, she had drowned! With the mother's permission, I printed that letter to warn other parents and child caretakers that if this freakish accident could claim the life of one child, it could claim the life of another — and to keep their toilet lids down and their bathroom doors closed.

Although the child who was lost will never be replaced, this brave mother who wrote to warn others now has two beautiful, healthy children.

So, "Fussy," although you wrote with a comparatively

Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren



frivolous problem, it reminded me of a life-saving tip for parents of toddlers: Always keep the lids of your toilet seats down, and the bathroom doors closed.

DEAR ABBY: The results of your recently published fidelity survey have left many of us with the proverbial egg on our face. However, your response from "Unfulfilled Wife," who reported liaisons with a real estate agent, an accountant, a jeweler, a commercial airline pilot, a construction worker and a magazine editor — and had the gall to declare "the editor was the worst" — put our entire editorial office in an uproar.

Collectively, the Cahner editorial force represents the largest editorial complement in the specialized business press, and we all consider

Wife" hitched up with an editor who was on deadline?

PHIL SCHREINER,
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR,
DES PLAINES, ILL.

DEAR PHIL: Possibly.

CONFIDENTIAL TO YOU: Seen on a California bumper sticker: DON'T BUCKLE UP — SEND A DOCTOR'S KID TO COLLEGE.

Everything you'll need to know about planning a wedding can be found in Abby's booklet, "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and address, clearly printed, plus check or money order for \$2.89 (\$3.39 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054 (postage and handling included).

People are eating them up! To order your copy of Abby's favorite recipes, send your name and address, clearly printed, plus check or money order for \$3.50 (\$4 in Canada) to: Abby's Cookbook, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. Postage and handling are included.

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Actress — Smith
- 7 Jacob's son
- 11 Overturns
- 22 Island in the Mediterranean
- 14 Dance
- 15 Tenants' documents
- 16 Compass point
- 17 Of aircraft
- 19 Try
- 20 Little bone
- 22 Concerning (2 wds.)
- 25 Housing agency (abbr.)
- 26 Short —
- 29 Camel parts
- 31 Freckle
- 33 Obliteration
- 35 Oddly amusing
- 36 Males
- 37 Revolving machine part
- 38 Novelist
- 39 Soviet republic
- 42 Straight — arrow
- 45 Inner (comb. form)
- 46 TV network
- 49 Praying insect
- 51 Money (sl.)
- 53 Accuse
- 54 Indefinite person
- 55 Variety of cabbage
- 56 Cried out

Answer to Previous Puzzle

R	I	C	E	R	I	C	A	O	T
A	S	E	R	A	C	I	D	C	O
C	E	L	E	S	T	I	A	L	T
K	E	T	C	H	C	O	I	N	A
T	I	L	L	B	I	G			
O	T	O	N	O	E	S	S	O	D
U	S	U	R	E	R	U	R	A	N
S	A	T	I	R	E	M	A	N	A
T	R	A	P	N	A	U	T	L	E
N	E	D	U	P	T	O			
M	A	D	N	E	S	S	Y	A	L
O	E	O	R	I	T	A	K	A	H
L	O	U	B	R	E	D	E	N	I
E	N	T	Y	E	N	S	N	A	S

- 8 Flash flood
- 9 Gaelic
- 10 Regrets
- 12 Bell-shaped hat
- 13 Swift aircraft (abbr.)
- 18 Firearm bearer
- 20 Fumbler's exclamation
- 21 Disembark
- 22 Throat-clearing word
- 23 Certain
- 24 Government agent (comp. wd.)
- 26 Grafting twig
- 27 Citrus fruit
- 28 Narrated
- 30 Extract
- 32 A ___ Grows in Brooklyn
- 34 Most unusual
- 39 Up to
- 40 To whom — concern
- 41 Not a soul (2 wds.)
- 42 "___ my brother's keeper?"
- 43 Went to the bottom
- 44 Time ___ half
- 46 Hoofbeat sound
- 47 Scourge
- 48 Molt
- 50 Frozen dessert
- 52 Popeye's friend
- Olive —

- DOWN
- 1 Flowers
- 2 Honey bee genus
- 3 Dancer Kelly
- 4 Wildebeest
- 5 Musings
- 6 — Park, CO
- 7 Affirmative reply

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			13
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	39				40	41			
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49				50		51	52		
53						54			
	55					56			

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GEECH



By Jerry Bittle

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol
 In the year ahead, general conditions will be quite unusual. Several areas where you previously met defeat could now be the luckiest ones for you.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) It's time to start pursuing in earnest a potentially profitable endeavor with which you've been toying. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker set instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You are likely to be a bit luckier today than you will be tomorrow in agreements with friends. If there's something important you want to do with pals, do it now.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This is one of those days where the harder you try, the luckier you'll be. Strive for a meaningful objective and you'll understand my message.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) A situation that seemed rather barren of hope may now take a sharp turn for the better. Today could usher in fresh conditions.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Work hard in glove with your mate or partner today on a material goal you both have in common. Pulling together, you can pull it off.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Utilize your imagination today. You should be able to find a number of alternatives to a complex situation that you thought had only one solution.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your financial aspects are extremely encouraging at this time, both for earnings through your usual channels and for side ventures.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You're now in a cycle where good things could happen for you through people with whom you're involved socially. Stay on the best of terms with everyone.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A little preventive maintenance around your house or apartment at this time could save you dollars later. Do what you can to repair your household's minor ills.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If there is an important matter you've been anxious to discuss with another, this is a good day to do it. Both parties will be receptive.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Someone you know only reasonably well might impulsively offer you something of value today. Try to accept it as graciously and enthusiastically as the gesture was intended.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't put limitations on your expectations today where your newest hope is concerned. Ideas that have to be toned down can be dealt with later.

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THE WIZARD OF ID



By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

ECK & MEEK



By Howie Schneider

B.C.



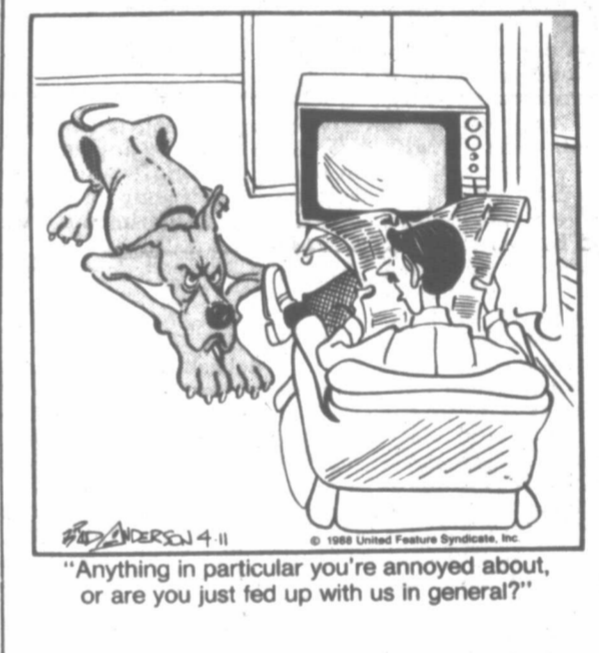
By Johnny Hart

MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong

MARMADUKE



By Brad Anderson

KIT N' CARLYLE



By Larry Wright

ALLEY OOP



By Dave Graue

SNAFU



By Bruce Beattie

The Family Circus



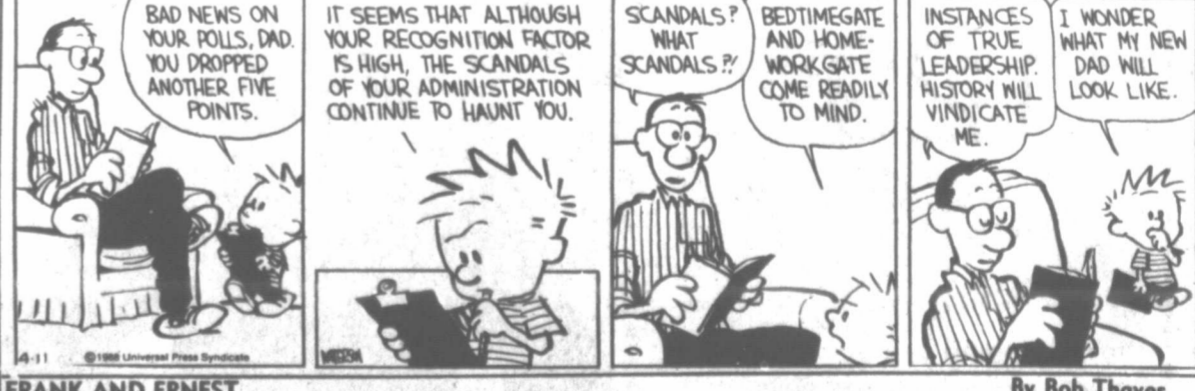
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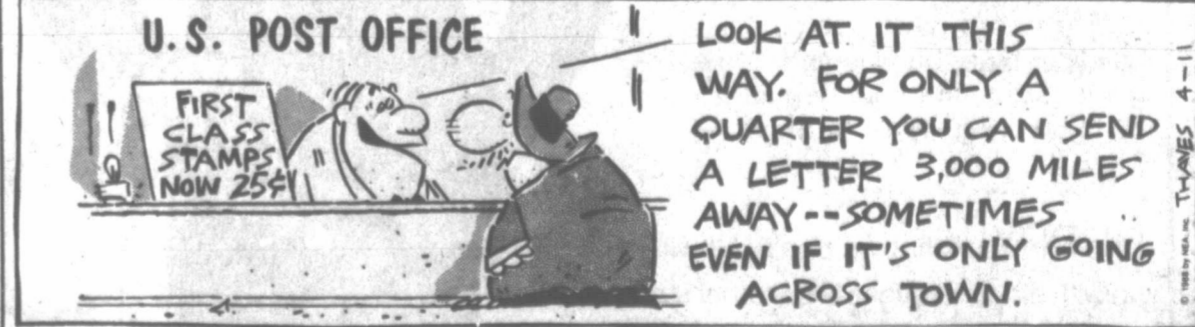
By Bill Watterson

THE BORN LOSER



By Art Sansom

FRANK AND ERNEST



By Bob Thaves

PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schultz

GARFIELD



By Jim Davis

Monkey business



Actress Elizabeth Taylor fondles a small monkey given as a gift by publishing tycoon Malcome Forbes, left, Monday on board the luxury yacht Highlander at Bangkok, Thailand. The ship is on a six-month, 30,000-mile "goodwill voyage." Mrs. Taylor denied rumors of a possible marriage with Forbes.

Is consumer debt load too much?

By JOHN CUNIFF
AP Business Analyst

NEW YORK (AP) — American consumers are borrowing more, but monthly repayments have not been growing more difficult at the same time.

This odd situation has developed for several reasons, and the consequences of it are puzzling economists whose job it is to determine what the potential consequences could be.

Here is the situation:

1. Payback periods on installment loans have been extended, thus reducing monthly repayments. The extension of maturities, which began during the high interest times of the 1970s, is especially true in the automobile market.

2. Interest rates today, though considered high in relation to the 1960s, are considerably lower than they were in the late 1970s. You can buy more today without incurring higher monthly charges for interest.

3. Home equity loans have been developed over the past few years, allowing homeowners to buy almost any type of product on credit — while enjoying a tax deduction.

Moreover, the interest costs on home equity loans is lower than rates on installment loans. The credit lines are bigger too — largely because of housing price inflation — thus encouraging some buyers to go more deeply into debt.

The situation exists in spite of one factor that might have been expected to make the use of credit less attractive, that is, that only 40 percent of credit card interest is tax-deductible, vs. 100 percent two years ago.

While the phasing out of this deduction has reduced the growth rate of credit-card debt — to only 4.8 percent in 1987 versus 18 percent annually from 1983 to 1986 — many borrowers have simply switched to home equity loans.

The consequences of what many people feel is a too-easy an attitude toward borrowing are difficult to determine.

Clearly, the use of credit does not instill fear in consumers as it did during the high-interest period just a few years ago. The monthly burden has been lessened, and confidence in the future is bolstered by strong employment.

The sense of security that comes with a low unemployment rate is enhanced further by a "liveable" inflation rates, and expectations of higher incomes that seem to be developing after several years of wage stability.

Economic experience demonstrates, however, that the credit so easily handled now can easily become a burden in the future.

Another troubling question is whether the longer repayment terms are merely putting off the day of reckoning. How far into the future, for example, can a couple hope to extend their payments in order to lower the monthly burden?

Perhaps the most reassuring evidence comes from the Federal Reserve, often considered an ogre on such matters. The Fed's 1986 Survey of Consumer Finances, which compared 1983 and 1986 households, showed:

1. A strong correlation between growth of debt payments and the growth of household income.

2. Most households which were heavily in debt in 1983 were less so by 1986, a result of debt being paid down or growth of family income.

3. About 83.5 percent of all outstanding installment debt in 1986 was matched by financial assets or home equity of greater value.

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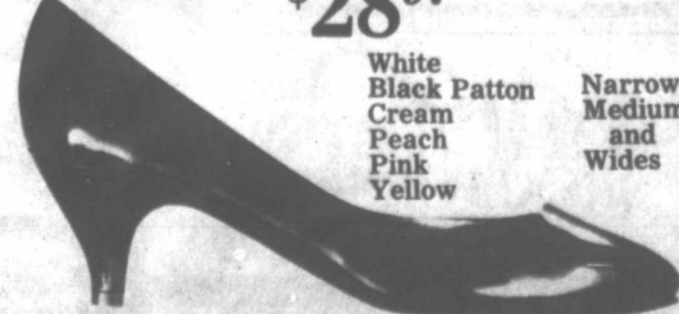
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Narrows and Mediums

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Couple indicted in electronics scheme

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A former research engineer at Southwest Research Institute and his wife, who also worked at the institute, were indicted on charges they bilked the group for electronic parts.

The 15-count indictment alleges that Robert Allen Schlameus, 46, and Ealia Maria Passell Schlameus, 40, set up dummy sales companies and sold more than \$500,000 worth of electronic parts to

the institute at inflated prices.

The couple is charged with mail fraud and lying on income tax forms. The indictment also charges that the two failed to report their business on Internal Revenue Service forms.

The couple did not tell Southwest they were selling parts to the company and did not tell the IRS they were engaged in the business and what the income was, investigators alleged.



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