

Searchers locate remains of dead from Conoco plane in Malaysia

BY HARI S. MANIAM
Associated Press Writer

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Seven decomposed and damaged heads were among more body parts and two engines that searchers found today among the widely strewn wreckage of a jet carrying Texas oil executives that crashed last week on a mountain slope in Borneo.

All 12 people aboard the plane are believed to have died in the crash, which occurred last Wednesday in the island's tropical jungles. All the victims were from Houston, where the trip began Aug. 29.

The plane, carrying five executives of Houston-based Conoco Inc., the spouses of four of them, and a crew of three, was en route to Jakarta, Indonesia, from Tokyo when it disappeared Wednesday from airport radar and crashed while coming in to land at Kota Kinabalu for refueling.

The cockpit voice recorder of the Du Pont-owned Grumman Gulfstream II was retrieved. It has been

sent to Kota Kinabalu, the capital of Sabah state on Borneo island. It is now in the custody of the Department of Civil Aviation, department director Mohd Adnan Yahya said.

The "black box" records conversations between the pilot and the control tower and may give investigators insight into why the plane crashed. The device will have to be sent to the United States for examination since there are no facilities in Malaysia to decode the data it contains.

The wreckage was sighted Friday near Tinatudon Peak on the Crocker mountain range 30 miles south of Kota Kinabalu and 910 miles east of Kuala Lumpur.

Two four-foot bags with bits and pieces of the victims and the recorder were flown by air force helicopters from the crash site.

The bags were handed over to the superintendent of the Queen Elizabeth hospital. Hospital officials said a pathologist would try to assemble the parts and identify victims.

At least two more bags of remains were at the site ready to be

flown out. However, night fall and bad weather made officials postpone operations to Wednesday.

Police identified the main wreckage found by searchers Monday as the fuselage. Monday the civil aviation department had identified it only as "the main wreckage".

Police said a wallet with a credit card, 16 U.S. dollars belonging to Connie Bowden, 56, wife of H.K. "Kent" Bowden, senior vice-president for administration of Conoco. Inc. was also found by searchers Tuesday.

A golf bag of Bowden and a briefcase belonging to Gayle Dietrich, 54, wife of William K. Dietrich, 53, executive vice president of exploration and production, were also found.

The wreckage was sighted only Friday on the Crocker range of mountains.

Mohd said reasons for the crash was not known and four officials of his department and three from the United States National Transportation Board have arrived to investigate.

Groups kick off anti-lottery campaign

By SCOTT ROTHSCHILD
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — With polls showing that Texans favor a lottery, opponents concede they are short of time and money to convince voters otherwise.

But Weston Ware, of the Texas Baptist Life Commission, said Monday that their odds of defeating the proposed constitutional amendment Nov. 5 are "better than one in 20 million."

"It's not the role of government to skin its own citizens," said Ware.

Joining under the banner of Texans Who Care, religious, social service and consumer representatives, in addition to a conservative lawmaker, condemned the proposed lottery as a "sleazy" way to finance state government.

They said the game would teach children to gamble, entice the poor to waste money, and is an inefficient way to raise revenue.

John Hildreth of the southwest

regional office of Consumers Union said much of the lottery profits would be eaten up by costs to operate the game.

"If the lottery were an automobile, it would be labeled a lemon and sent back to the manufacturer," he said.

A spokesman for Gov. Ann Richards, however, defended the game. Richards supports the proposed constitutional amendment to allow a lottery, and lobbied lawmakers to place the measure on the ballot. "It is unlike any other revenue source that I know of in that it is completely optional," Bill Cryer said. "If people have a moral objection to the lottery, no one is going to require them to participate."

State officials have said a lottery would produce about \$460 million in revenue for the current two-year budget period.

But Jude Fuller, executive director of Texas Alliance for Human Needs, accused state leaders of "hypocrisy and cynicism" by advo-

cating state-run gambling instead of tackling the need for a fairer tax system.

"I will be the first to admit that playing the lottery can be fun, just like wishing on a star or breaking a wishbone. But to fund government on such a basis is idiotic," she said.

Rep. Glenn Repp, R-Duncanville, said the game would simply take money from businesses, and accelerate state spending.

"A lottery produces revenue for a government to spend that is already spending too much money," he said.

Sue Cox, campaign manager for Texans Who Care, said the group would try to educate voters about problems with a lottery, but would spend much less than the \$500,000 used in its unsuccessful attempt to defeat pari-mutuel wagering in 1987.

Other groups opposed to the lottery are Texas IMPACT, an inter-religious public policy organization, and the Texas Eagle Forum, a pro-family group.

Suspended fraternity OK'd for return to UT

AUSTIN (AP) — A fraternity, suspended in 1987 for involvement in a pledge's alcohol poisoning death, has been approved for reinstatement at the University of Texas.

Glenn Maloney, assistant dean of students, said Monday that Phi Kappa Psi's return is probationary through the fall of 1993 and depends upon compliance with nine regulations laid down by university officials.

The fraternity and 10 former members agreed recently to a \$1.9 million settlement with the parents of Mark Seeberger, an 18-year-old Dallas freshman who died Sept. 18, 1986.

Seeberger took part in a fraternity "ride," during which he and two other pledges drank alcohol while handcuffed in a student's van. He later died in his off-campus dorm room after consuming 16 to 20

ounces of rum. Phi Kappa Psi was suspended from UT for four years and was criticized by a grand jury for trying to hide evidence and suppress cooperation by witnesses.

Joan Seeberger, mother of the pledge who died, issued a statement after learning of the fraternity's reinstatement:

"Phi Kappa Psi has paid a high price financially and emotionally for having broken rules of both hazing and alcohol abuse. I would like to challenge the newly reinstated fraternity to become an example of positive leadership on campus for other fraternities to emulate ... and to treat each other with respect."

The fraternity remained active at UT even during its suspension. Its national organization did not impose sanctions, so the fraternity continued as an off-campus entity. The fraternity remained fully functional,

including rushing and pledging.

As a registered fraternity, Phi Kappa Psi can once again use campus facilities and participate in UT programs.

Among the probation regulations:

All Phi Kappa Psi members and pledges must receive instruction in responsible drinking, hazing and managing liability risks every fall from 1991 through 1993.

The fraternity must submit a calendar of pledge events before each school year.

Phi Kappa Psi's president and pledge trainers must meet with Maloney at the beginning of each semester to assess the fraternity's progress throughout the probationary period.

Pledges and pledge educators must attend hazing workshops through 1993.

Phillips taking steps to improve company's cash flow

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. (AP) — Phillips Petroleum Co. officials hope to raise \$500 million by 1994 by selling assets that aren't crucial to the company's main missions.

Some layoffs are expected with the sale of assets, and other jobs could be eliminated as the nation's 11th largest oil company finds more ways to streamline its operations, Phillips said.

But spokesman George Minter said Monday across-the-board layoffs are not expected.

"It's too early in this process to know what might be taking place," Minter said. "To say that a certain number of employees or some percentage is involved ... no, that isn't expected."

No early retirement plan has been developed, the company said.

The program involves the sale of some assets, getting a greater return on other assets, such as chemicals and oil exploration, and reducing costs.

"We look at this program as a continuing effort that will enhance Phillips' competitive position throughout the 1990s," Chairman C.J. Silas said in a statement.

Silas said the program will help the company more sharply focus capital spending in Phillips' core businesses of oil and gas exploration and production, gas processing, petroleum refining and petrochemical manufacturing.

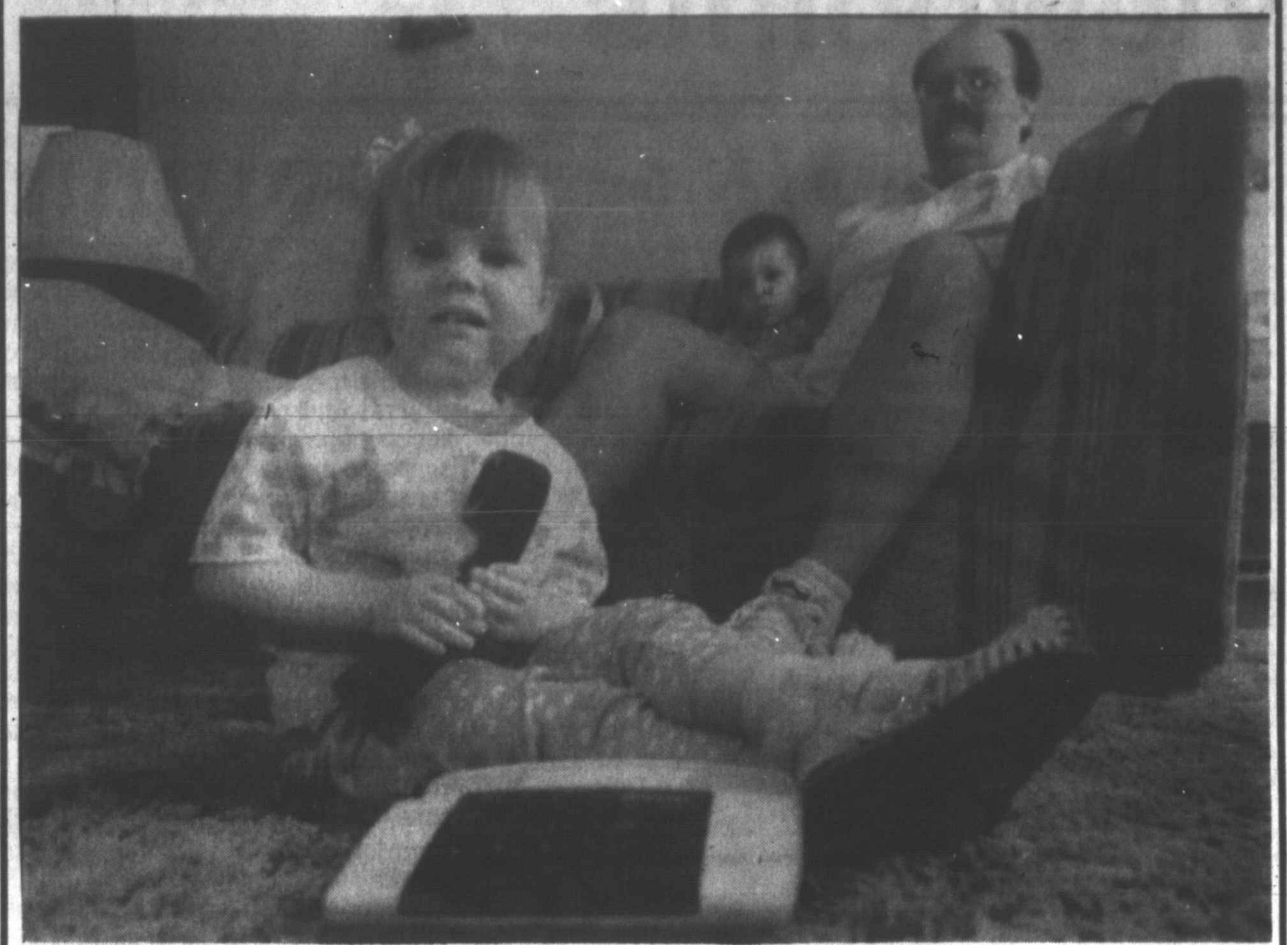
Phillips already has sold three tankers to London-based Pegasus

Ocean Services for an undisclosed price. It is taking bids through October on its Woods Cross refinery near Salt Lake City.

Phillips also has on the market an advanced composites business, based at its headquarters in Bartlesville, and 42 percent interest in a pipeline that runs from Cushing in central Oklahoma to the Gulf of Mexico, Minter said.

The company said those assets do not have a long-term fit with the company's strategic direction.

Little lifesaver



(AP Laserphoto)

Three-year-old Randi Kistler sits on the floor of her Mansfield, Ohio, home Monday. Randi called rescue workers last week after her mother passed out, by using a programmed button on the telephone to dial 911. In the background are her brother, Cody, and her father, Ray Kistler. Randi is being considered for a civilian firefighter's award for her efforts.

Audit says dangerous dumps not identified

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Water Commission failed to identify many hazardous waste sites and has not aggressively tried to locate new problem areas, according to a state audit.

One purpose of the audit, which was released Monday, was to determine how effectively abandoned hazardous waste sites had been cleaned up.

"The effect of not identifying all the serious hazardous waste sites in Texas is that the citizens of Texas may continue to be exposed to the harmful effects of contaminated water and soil and to the harmful effects of hazardous waste on our sensitive ecological systems," the report said.

In addition, the failure to identify these sites means the state loses "substantial federal funding" for cleanup, according to the audit on the commission's administration of the Texas Superfund.

The fund provides the 10 percent state matching funds for certain dumps targeted by the federal Environmental Protection Agency for cleanup. The federal government provides the other 90 percent of the cost.

The state audit said the Water Commission also lacks a standard criteria for screening, or ranking the danger of sites.

Of the 1,189 dumps listed by the EPA as the most

hazardous across the nation, 28 are in Texas. Also, the state has identified 36 sites not on the EPA list as dumps that need cleanup, the report said.

The commission "conservatively" estimates there are 300 additional sites in Texas that will require some kind of cleanup. At the current funding level, it will take 25 years to safeguard these sites, the audit said.

In addition, citizen complaints have resulted in the listing of more than 2,000 other sites as having hazardous substances.

But the commission has not developed a systematic approach to determining whether those sites pose any threat to human health, the report said.

In responding to the audit, the Water Commission said that during 1990, it reorganized its method of identifying Superfund sites.

The commission said that of the 2,000 sites mentioned, many have been dropped because they are active facilities or because they have no hazardous substances.

The audit also said that the commission's efforts are hampered because it lacks authority to require many potentially responsible parties to pay the cost of any cleanup.

NOTICE OF COMPARABLE TAX RATES AND REVENUES

The legislature has enacted a statute on school funding to comply with a court mandate enforcing the state constitution. Under prior statutes (S.B. 1) the tax rate for last year provides \$6,427.00 per student in state and local revenues. Under this statute (S.B. 351) that same rate now provides \$4,201.00 per student in state and local revenues.

State law only requires a minimum tax rate of 75.5¢/100.00 for County Education Districts. State law does not require a school district to adopt additional taxes. Neither does state law require a school district to adopt a tax rate that maximizes the receipt of state funds. The board of trustees of the Miami Independent School District hereby gives notice that it is considering the adoption of a tax rate of 22.5¢ that will provide \$6,253.00 per student in state and local revenues.

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Matron saint of Marxism says Communist Party will rise again

By THOMAS GINSBERG.
Associated Press Writer

Leningrad, U.S.S.R. (AP) — Shed no tears for the trampled legacy of Marx and Lenin. True believer Nina Andreyeva says the Communists will rise again, and she may just be the one leading the charge.

"We're talking about the rebirth of the party, a true Leninist party," said Mrs. Andreyeva, the country's 52-year-old matron saint of Marxism-Leninism.

Few Communists have been as steadfast in their ideals or as vocal in their opinions as the indomitable Mrs. Andreyeva, the first party member to rebel openly against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's reform path three years ago.

Although hers was an ideological challenge, it broke the ice on criticism by Communist hard-liners, unleashing a challenge that culminated in the failed Aug. 18 putsch by Gorbachev's ministers and party comrades.

The coup collapsed after three days, its leaders were arrested and the already wheezing Communist Party was assailed from all sides.

Gorbachev resigned as general secretary of the Communist Party and presided over a legislative session that

seized party assets and barred party activity pending an investigation.

Is Mrs. Andreyeva upset? "In fact, the leadership of the Communist Party reached its limit. It discredited itself in the eyes of society and can hardly continue to lead or take any effective action," she said in an interview in her modest apartment outside Leningrad.

"Therefore, 11 million Communists essentially didn't deserve the high title of 'Communist,'" she said. "It would be better if there were 1 million, 2 million or 3 million who are really dedicated and positive."

She has a few people in mind. A month before the coup, she organized an orthodox party faction called the "Bolshevik Platform" and symbolically expelled Gorbachev from the party.

"He betrayed not only me, but all the Soviet people," Mrs. Andreyeva said.

The party also strayed from Vladimir Lenin's ideal of the disciplined vanguard of society, she said.

"Now an intensive process is going on to purify the party of those appeasers, putschists and careerists who joined it to further their own careers and increase their influence," added Mrs. Andreyeva.

She said she has fought party corruption ever since joining in 1966.

In place of the "swindlers with party cards," Mrs. Andreyeva's orthodox comrades are proposing the establishment of a new party in November, which perhaps could lay claim to the title "Communist Party."

The organization aims to eventually put the country back on a Marxist-Leninist track, starting with a membership that "won't be too small" and relying on strikes, rallies and parliamentary debate to advance its agenda.

When asked whether the party would have any power in the current situation, she didn't hesitate. "For now, no," she said, speaking with the quiet confidence of a person who is certain her day will come.

Her husband, Vladimir Klyushin, said the failed coup was an anti-Communist conspiracy — "play that was written abroad."

"The director was Gorbachev, with the possible participation of (Russian leader Boris) Yeltsin. The actors were the members of the Emergency Committee and democrats, and the result was a tragedy for 300 million people," he said.

At the time, the State Committee on the State of Emergency — a group led by the vice president, KGB chief, defense and interior ministers — briefly deposed Gorbachev.

Never mind that Gorbachev has accused his ministers and guard commander of betrayal, and that officials have said an elite KGB unit was poised to attack Yeltsin's parliament building.

Nonetheless, Mrs. Andreyeva is convinced that "international capitalists" and "revanchists" had much to gain and were likely behind the "play."

"The real coup took place at the Extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies," she said, referring to last week's parliament session granting nearly all the Kremlin's power to republics. "Power now has been taken by the shadow bourgeoisie."

But Mrs. Andreyeva is still undaunted.

"There will not be a restoration of the capitalist order like they want," she said. "It ... will not be accepted by the masses of workers. It will result in a loss of discipline, work will stop."

And, she chuckled, reformers will stop at nothing. Restoring the name of St. Petersburg to her native city, Leningrad, mimics the Nazi German invaders who insisted on calling it "St. Petersburg."

"Today's anti-Communists," Mrs. Andreyeva said blankly, "are following in the steps of Hitler and fulfilling the orders of international capital."



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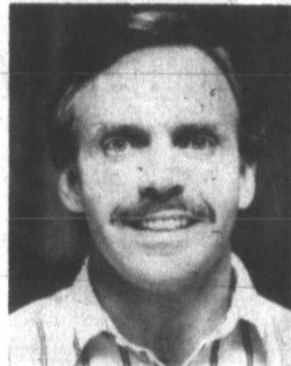
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(AP Laserphoto)

Miss Texas Rhonda Rene Morrison rehearses during practice for the Miss America pageant on stage at the Atlantic City Convention Hall on Monday night.

Some states seem to have better chance to have a Miss America

By HENRY STERN
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Half of the Miss America contestants in the first of three preliminary competitions tonight come from states that have never won the pageant.

The contestants from those states entered in this week's pageant aren't dissuaded by that history. But a few aren't happy about it.

"We have had great contestants

STATES HAVING PAGEANT WINNERS

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Here is a list of the states that have won the Miss America Pageant, and the number of times won.

- California, 6.
- Pennsylvania, Ohio, 5 (includes only repeat winner, Mary Katherine Campbell, in 1922 and 1923).
- Michigan, Mississippi, 4.
- Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, 3.
- Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, New Jersey, Tennessee, Utah, District of Columbia (discontinued in 1990), 2.
- Connecticut, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Virginia, Missouri, 1.

here that should have been in the top 10. The banner that said Oregon was definitely a hindrance," said Miss Oregon Carolyn Helen Ladd. "The judges gave more attention to the states that have done better." Oregon has never won the pageant and last placed someone among the five finalists in 1969.

Some contestants say the pageant's effort to shift the emphasis from swimsuits to scholarship will benefit them because the judges are starting to look beyond a competitor's looks and what state she comes from.

"Although New Hampshire hasn't been a pageant state, my parents always stressed education," said Miss New Hampshire Deborah Jean Howard. "That's what the Miss America Pageant stresses now." New Hampshire has had one top 5 contestant — in 1967.

"I would like to be the one to break the mold. It's an educational process," said Miss Massachusetts Melissa Anne Bloemker. "We need to teach that it's not just a chauvinistic pageant where people walk around in a lot of swimsuits." Massachusetts last placed someone in the top 5 in 1972 and has never won the contest.

Twenty-five states and the District of Columbia account for all the winners of the 64 Miss America pageants held since 1921.

The states that have done well are California, which leads with six

Miss Americas; the large Midwestern states and the South.

Contestants attribute those states' strengths to large populations that produce more competition, a long tradition of pageantry where contestants enter year after year, and strong financial support from the state organization.

Pageant chief executive officer Leonard Horn said each contestant has the same chance to win, but that inevitably 49 states will feel their young woman should have won.

"You're going to get disappointed every year," he said. "You're never going to get a Miss America that was everybody's favorite."

As they enter the first of three preliminary competitions Tuesday night leading up to the finals Saturday night, several contestants from states lacking pageant history on their side say this will be their year.

"I think I'm just as red, white and blue as any other girl," said Miss Wyoming Lauree Renee Biggs, who represents a state that has had only one top 5 finisher — in 1948.

"I'm not intimidated by the fact," said Miss Alaska Beth Ann Gustafson, who comes from a state without a Top 5 contestant. "Alaska is far, far away. We're just not considered pageant country."

"This year it's going to happen," said Miss Nebraska Vicki Linn Train, which also has never had a top 5 finisher. "I'm going to put Nebraska on the map."

It's 'Dead Again' at the top of the box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Apart from *Dead Again*, the nation's box office showed little life in the first week of the fall season.

Dead Again, the reincarnation thriller from director-star Kenneth Branagh, sold \$4.4 million in tickets. It was the movie's second week at No. 1.

Other movies performed weakly, with several of the top 10 films holdovers from early summer, Exhibitor Relations Co. reported Monday.

Here are the top movie ticket sales Friday through Sunday according to Exhibitor Relations, with distributor, weekend gross, number of theater screens, average per screen, total gross and number of weeks in release.

Figures are based on a combination of actual box-office receipts and studio projections.

1. *Dead Again*, Paramount, \$4.4 million, 789 screens, \$5,534 per screen, \$17.3 million, three weeks.
2. *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*, TriStar, \$3.1 million,

1,800 screens, \$1,726 per screen, \$187.3 million, nine weeks.

3. *Child's Play III*, Universal, \$3 million, 2,130 screens, \$1,410 per screen, \$9.7 million, two weeks.

4. *Hot Shots!*, 20th Century Fox, \$2.72 million, 1,891 screens, \$1,437 per screen, \$58.7 million, six weeks.

5. *Doc Hollywood*, Warner Bros., \$2.68 million, 1,664 screens, \$1,613 per screen, \$43.3 million, six weeks.

6. *The Doctor*, Disney, \$2.3 million, 926 screens, \$2,487 per screen, \$28.6 million, seven weeks.

7. *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, Warner Bros., \$2.1 million, 1,506 screens, \$1,397 per screen, \$153.1 million, 13 weeks.

8. *Double Impact*, Columbia, \$1.6 million, 1,430 screens, \$1,086 per screen, \$25.7 million, five weeks.

9. *City Slickers*, Columbia, \$1.5 million, 1,215 screens, \$1,216 per screen, \$114.4 million, 14 weeks.

10. *Boyz n the Hood*, Columbia, \$1.3 million, 926 screens, \$1,374 per screen, \$51 million, nine weeks.

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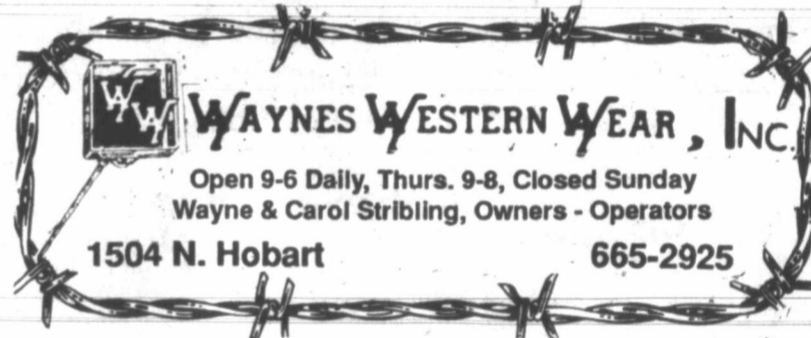
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Best housing deals away from big cities

By JOHN D. McCLAIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Looking for affordable housing? Then stay away from San Francisco in the West, New York in the Northeast, Chicago in the Midwest and El Paso, Texas, in the South.

Shop around instead in the Saginaw, Mich., area. Or Greeley, Colo., or Amarillo, Texas, or Nashua, N.H. The National Association of Home Builders' Housing Opportunity Index, released Monday, showed San Francisco to be the least affordable city in the United States during the second quarter.

It joined New York, Chicago and El Paso as the least affordable areas in their regions.

At the same time, homes in Saginaw, Greeley, Amarillo and Nashua most often were found to be within reach of the typical household in their regions.

Mark Tipton, the Home Builders president, said housing tends to be most affordable in smaller markets throughout the Midwest and South and least affordable in the larger, highly urbanized markets in the Northeast and California.

"Even though incomes in the Northeast and California are among the highest in the country, the costs of land, land development and construction have outstripped income increases and created a serious affordability problem in those areas," he explained.

In fact, the 13 least affordable cities were found in California. Metropolitan areas in both California and the Northeast rounded out the bottom 25.

"In San Francisco, where the median income was \$49,900 and the median price was \$279,000, the typical family could afford a home costing \$139,720," Tipton said.

"Only 9.2 percent of the homes sold in San Francisco during the second quarter were priced at or below \$139,720, making San Francisco the least affordable market in the country," he added.

The index listed El Paso's affordability at 51.4 percent, primarily because of low incomes and not home prices; New York at 21.9 percent, and Chicago at 61.0 percent.

On the other hand, 90.1 percent of the homes sold in Saginaw-Bay City-Midland, Mich., could have been purchased at prevailing interest

rates by a household earning the area's median income.

The median income was \$39,700, meaning a typical household in the Saginaw area could afford a home costing \$111,160. More than 90 percent of the homes sold there during the second quarter were priced at or below that figure, the Home Builders said.

The median income means half of the household earned more and half earned less.

Amarillo, which had been at the top of the Home Builders' first-quarter index, dropped to fourth place in the latest overall listing. Still, it remained the most affordable area in the South with its homes within reach of 87.8 percent of its households.

Greeley's housing topped the West region, affordable for 77.1 percent of those living there.

Nashua led the East region with an 82.2 percent reading, but that was because of relatively high incomes since the median price of a home was \$111,000, well above those at the head of other regional lists.

The median price was \$61,000 in the Saginaw area, \$69,000 in Amarillo and \$65,000 in Greeley.



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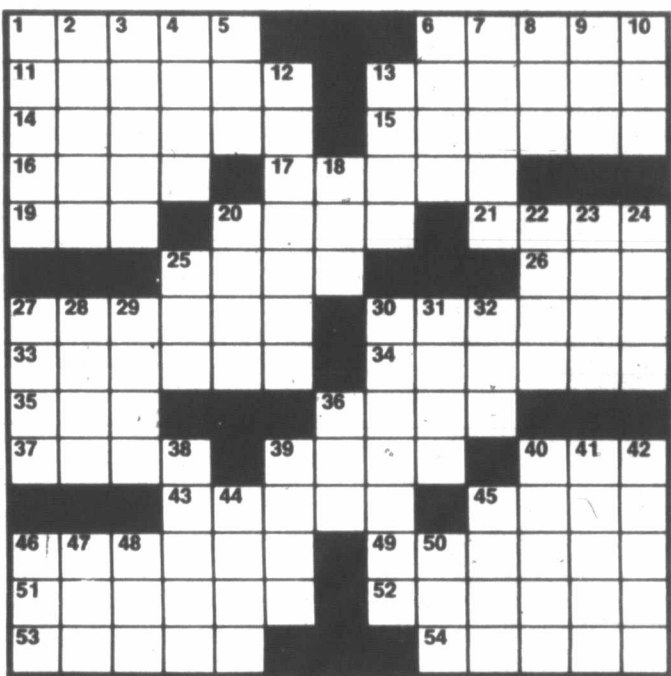
Today's Crossword Puzzle

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Some South Africans
 - 6 Black tea
 - 11 Proportions
 - 13 Siler
 - 14 In good working order
 - 15 Commands
 - 16 Ends
 - 17 School division
 - 19 Language suffix
 - 20 In the center of
 - 21 Bites
 - 25 Got rid of
 - 26 Openings
 - 27 Make paler
 - 30 Pitcher — Ford
 - 33 Most unusual
 - 34 Replaces tread of
 - 35 Hall!
 - 36 Engage
- DOWN**
- 1 Cruel person
 - 2 Fertile spot in a desert
 - 3 Warehouse
 - 4 Teases
 - 5 Short for Solomon
 - 6 Feathered friend
 - 7 Ancient

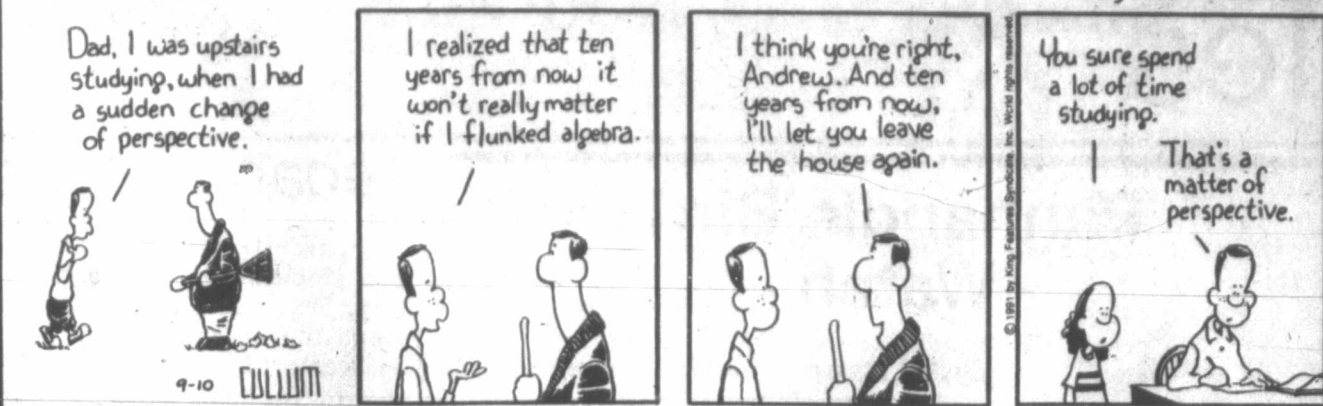
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

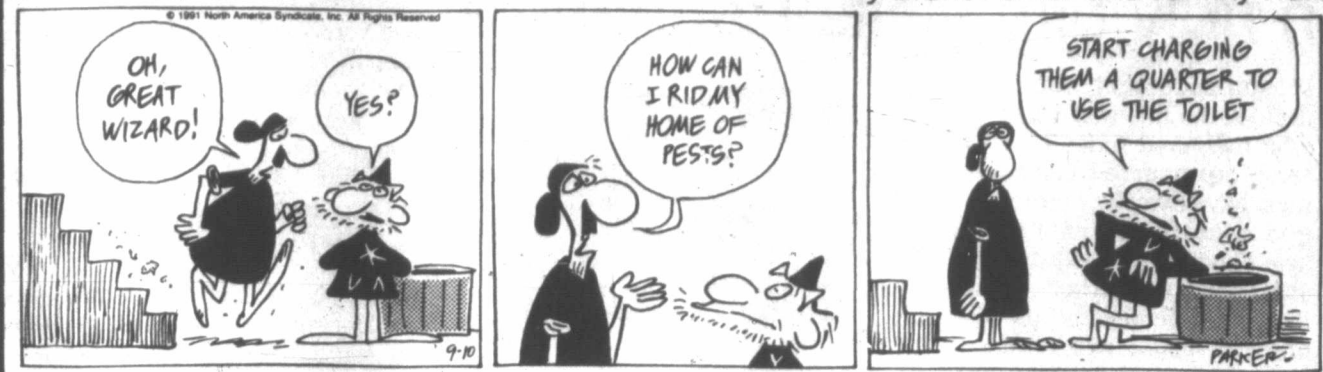


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WALNUT COVE



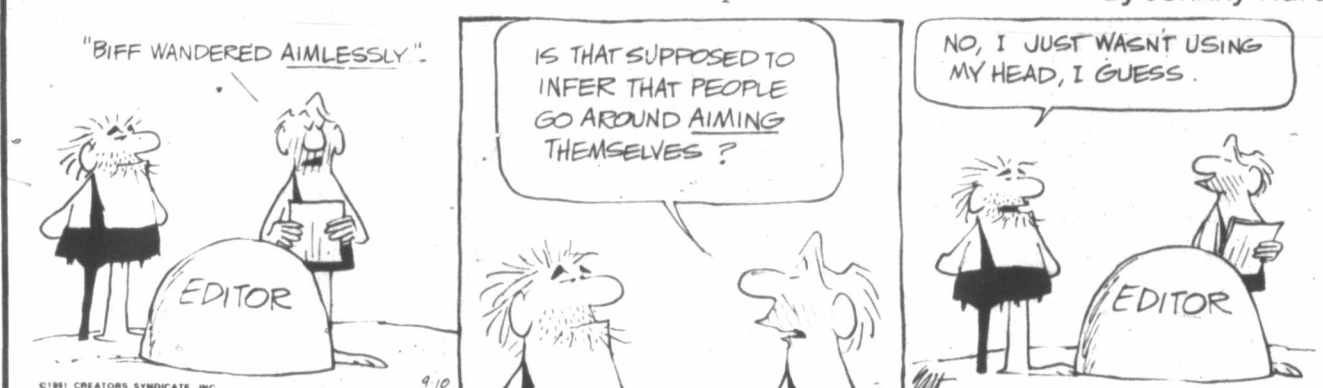
THE WIZARD OF ID



EEK & MEEK



B.C.



Astro-Graph

by bernice beds osol

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be very careful today that you don't let pessimism invade and overshadow your optimistic thinking. If you do, you're likely to experience defeat in a situation where you should be victorious. Virgo, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for Virgo's Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It could be difficult for companions to get a handle on your moods today. In some instances, you're apt to be extremely generous, while in others, the Scrooge in you could emerge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) An individual you'll have a conversation with today will pass your comments on to others. Be careful you don't repeat hearsay that could hurt someone's reputation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) There's a possibility you might be intimidated by your own vivid imagination today. Of course, this can be easily overcome by not worrying about things that may never happen.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The timing may not be right today to remind a friend about an overdue obligation. You've waited this long, you might as well be patient a little while longer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you're in need of advice today regarding a troublesome issue, don't settle for just one opinion. Several points of view could provide the best answer.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your mate's ideas or suggestions might be superior to yours today, so don't ignore what your partner has to say. Don't let your ego block your eardrums.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) It's best not to waste time today looking for the easy way out. Your road may be difficult, but you can overcome the obstacles and even take pride in doing so with a little perseverance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Partnerships may be of dubious value today, so don't rely upon them too heavily. In the final summation, it is going to be up to you to think your way through encumbrances.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You're likely to be productive today in serving your self-interests, but in situations where you're required to help those who previously helped you, you may not be as strongly motivated.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Think twice before investing in situations you know little about at this time. You could be buying pie in the sky because you think you understand something you don't.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) If there isn't something in it for you, you're apt to be a bit reluctant to extend yourself today. However, where personal gains are involved, it's a different ballgame altogether.

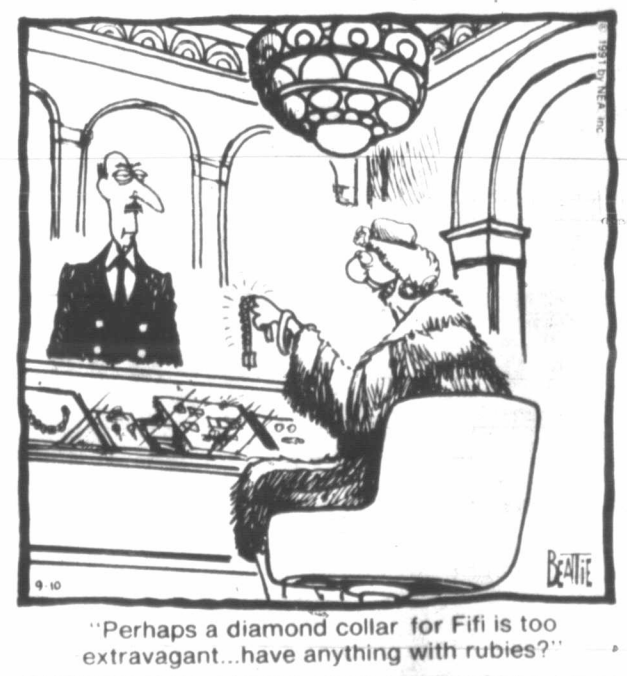
MARVIN



ALLEY OOP



SNAFU



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



MARMADUKE



KIT N' CARLYLE



WINTHROP



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



PEANUTS



GARFIELD



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FDA moving against wine with high content of lead

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration is calling for an interim ban on the sale of table wine containing relatively high levels of lead and renewing its campaign against drinking by pregnant women.

The FDA told the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms on Monday that any wine with more than 300 parts of lead per billion parts of wine should be considered unsafe for human consumption until a public comment period transpires and a permanent standard can be set.

ATF, a Treasury Department agency, had requested the information after reporting in July that a few wines sold in the United States had levels as high as 1,980 parts per billion. Most range from 41 to 94 ppb. John Volpe, executive director of the National Wine Coalition, said the industry had been asking the FDA for months to set a lead level and believes 300 parts per billion is reasonable.

"Only a handful of American wines are above that anyway," said Volpe. While the government's lead standard for drinking water is 15 parts per billion, no standard has existed for wine.

The lead standard for wine is not as stringent as for drinking water because wine is consumed less frequently and is illegal for children to drink. ATF also analyzed a smaller number of other alcoholic beverages, but the FDA said the data did not indicate that beer, sparkling or dessert wines, or spirits warrant immediate concern.

Volpe said the ATF report this summer may have frightened some people away from wine. A government standard would ensure consumers that no wine will be sold that has dangerous lead levels, he said.

FDA Commissioner David Kessler said scientists, the wine industry and the public will be asked to contribute information before a permanent standard is established.

Labels on alcoholic beverages bottled after Nov. 18, 1989 already are required to carry the surgeon general's warning that drinking during pregnancy could cause birth defects. The FDA says concern about lead makes it even more important.

"The scientific community has not found a level at which it can say that lead is safe," said James Mason, assistant secretary for health in the Department of Health and Human Services.

"Thus, our public health strategy calls on all agencies to eliminate lead exposure wherever practicable, but particularly where it can expose the one most sensitive to it — the developing child. In the case of wine, the unborn child might be exposed through wine consumption by a pregnant woman," Mason said.

Lead can cause severe neurological and physiological damage in children and high blood pressure in adults. Scientists say it collects in the bones and can pass to a fetus.

The FDA is studying the need for lead limits in other foods and may also tighten the standards for lead-glazed ceramic ware and possibly prohibit the use of lead-soldered food cans. Only about 3 percent of the food cans produced today in the United States are lead-soldered, compared with about 90 percent in the 1970s.

The FDA has said it will soon ban the use of lead foil wrappers over the corks of wine bottles. Until then, consumers are advised to fully remove the wrapper and wipe the bottle's lip with a cloth moistened with vinegar or lemon juice before pouring.

Croatia imposes curfew, but combat continues

By DUSAN STOJANOVIC
Associated Press Writer

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Croats slept under their first curfew since World War II, but the clampdown in the secessionist republic early today did little to quell ethnic fighting between Croats and Serbs.

Eleven people reportedly died in violence overnight, including two federal army officers killed by a car bomb.

The important Croat stronghold of Osijek in northeastern Croatia was shelled heavily, and fighting continued over an important highway and at several Croat-held towns in eastern areas.

Elsewhere, Macedonians awaited the official results of a Sunday referendum on independence, which was expected to pass overwhelmingly. Preliminary returns announced Monday in Skopje, Macedonia's capital, said 74 percent of the vote supported secession by Yugoslavia's poorest republic.

Although prepared to declare independence, Macedonia's leaders said they wanted to retain some links with other Yugoslav republics as part of a loose confederation rather than make the complete break sought by Croatia and Slovenia.

Croatia's Interior Ministry announced late Monday that an 11 p.m.-5 a.m. curfew was being imposed in 29 municipalities in the war-torn eastern areas of the republic bordering rival Serbia.

The curfew apparently is an attempt to deal with attacks by militant Serbs who oppose secession. The rebels have won control of about a quarter of Croatia's territory



(AP Laserphoto)

Leaders sing a solemn Macedonian song in Skopje Sunday night after a referendum on independence for the Yugoslav republic.

in the fighting that began after Croatia declared independence June 25, along with neighboring Slovenia.

Ethnic Serbs say they do not want to be part of an independent Croatia because they fear mistreatment. Croatian authorities say Serbia, the largest Yugoslav republic, instigated the rebellion in an effort to grab Croatian territory.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman said on Croatian television Monday night that at least 400 Croatian militiamen and civilians have been killed and more than 2,000 wounded. It is not known how many Serbs have died.

Conflicting reports and the difficulty of reaching areas where fighting is going on make it impossible to verify accounts of the fighting and casualties.

In the latest fighting, Osijek, the center of Croatian resistance in the northeast, came under heavy fire from the direction of Baranja, an area controlled by Serb rebels, the Tanjug news agency said. It said about 30 mortar shells were fired into the downtown and residential areas of the city.

One woman was killed and at least two people were wounded in the latest attack on the city of

130,000, the Croatian news agency HINA said.

Serb guerrillas appeared poised to try to take Osijek despite an agreement by all parties in the area last week to observe a cease-fire while federal and republic leaders try to negotiate a settlement. Talks under the sponsorship of the European Community are scheduled to begin Thursday.

On Croatia's Adriatic coast, two federal army officers were killed late Monday when a car bomb exploded in front of an air force base at Zadar, the army said in a statement.

Croatia accuses the Serb-dominated army of helping the Serb rebels, a charge that has won support in some Western capitals. The army rejects the accusation, saying it is acting only as a buffer between the warring sides.

Two Croatian militiamen were killed in overnight fighting in the nearby village of Krusevo, HINA said.

The Serbs continued attacks overnight on the Croat defenders of Kostajnica, on the border with the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Pakrac, in the ethnically mixed Slavonia region. Fierce fighting continued for a seventh day at Okucani, on the Belgrade-Zagreb highway linking the Middle East with Western Europe.

At least one Serb and one Croat were killed in Pakrac, Tanjug said.

In the Baranja area, three Serb guerrillas died when a rebel truck hit a landmine, Belgrade radio said. In the ensuing firefight with Croatian militiamen, another Serb was killed and eight were wounded, the report said.

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