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Purple bacteria converts light to food

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Scientists have discovered in the Dead Sea a purple bacteria that converts sunlight into energy and food, it was reported today.

Until now, the only system in nature known to convert sunlight has been the photosynthesis of green chlorophyll by plants, regarded as the ultimate energy source for all plant and animal life.

A team of scientists at the University of California Medical Center and the National

Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Laboratory announced the discovery at a news conference. They said it provides an important new understanding of plant and animal cell functions and may have practical applications in medicine, agriculture, the desalination of sea water and generation of solar power.

The discovery of the microscopic photosynthesis equipment in nature was made by Dr. Walther Stoeckenius of the

University of California Medical Center. He found the purple pigment in a bacteria from the Dead Sea and salt flats around the Mediterranean.

With all green plants at work absorbing the sun's rays, photosynthesis is viewed as the ultimate source of energy and food for all life on earth. It is also the most efficient way known for using the sun's energy directly. "The new photosynthetic process is based on a purple pigment instead of a

green one," the announcement said. The purple pigment is a protein molecule called "bacteriorhodopsin." It was found in a bacteria called halobacterium halobium, which lives in water nearly saturated with salt.

These bacteria have been known for 100 years and are the reason why red herring are red, the scientists said. They also account for the red eyes in salted fish.

What the scientists discovered was that a single protein molecule in the bacteria functions as a miniature lightpowered electrical generator. Dr. Stoeckenius and his team identified the purple pigment chemically and found that when illuminated it ejected protons to the surrounding liquid medium. An experiment was worked in which the pigment was used to pump hydrogen ions across a membrane, thus converting solar

energy into electrical energy.

The newly discovered purple pigment also appears to increase the evaporation rate of salts and may contribute to desalination of sea water," the scientists said.

It also resembles rhodopsin, a little-understood pigment of the eye and "may help explain the process of vision and its evolution along the life chain," the scientists said.



Massachusetts voters sift through candidates

By ARNOLD SAWISLAK
United Press International

Massachusetts voters went to the polls in snow and freezing rain today to sift through a field of eight major Democratic candidates in a presidential primary that could whittle the ranks of liberals seeking the White House.

Cold rain fell in Boston during the morning and snow dusted much of the rest of Massachusetts and Vermont, which was holding a less significant primary today. More than 100 Democratic convention delegates were at stake in Massachusetts as well as momentum and future campaign donations.

Mid-morning turnout was reported moderate at several Massachusetts polling places, a spokesman for the secretary of state said.

Democratic candidates Birch Bayh and Fred Harris sought last-minute votes underground in Boston subway stations and on trains while opponent Morris Udall shook hands in the rain at nearby Cambridge, Mass.

Three other Democrats hoping to do well in Massachusetts — Alabama Gov. George Wallace, New Hampshire winner Jimmy Carter and Sen. Henry Jackson — campaigned in sunny Florida today. Both Wallace and Jackson earlier campaigned hard against school busing in Boston.

President Ford and Ronald Reagan were in their second match of the year in Massachusetts, but neither campaigned and interest was centered on the Democratic ballot.

Only Ford and three major Democrats were on the Vermont ballot, a beauty contest with no delegates at stake.

The Alabama governor and Washington senator hoped to capitalize on the intense anti-busing sentiment that has polarized Boston. Both campaigned hard against busing to achieve integration, and one opponent accused Jackson of abandoning a career of civil rights advocacy for political gain.

Both men faced plenty of competition from New Hampshire winner Jimmy Carter and a crowd of claimants for the liberal wing Democratic vote in the only state carried by George McGovern in 1972.

Morris Udall, Birch Bayh and Sargent Shriver were the main contenders for liberal support. Fred Harris of Oklahoma, a low finisher last week, and Milton Shapp, who avoided New Hampshire, sought the same votes.

Primary day opened in Massachusetts and Vermont with light snow falling across much of the region. A spitting rain hit Boston, but to the north and west, communities reported snow. In Vermont, predictions of up to five inches of snow coupled with hazardous driving threatened to trim the turnout at annual town meetings where voters cast ballots in the primary.



Pioneer spirit in song

Austin Elementary School music teacher Mrs. Pat Surface leads the student body in song during the school's recognition of Stephen F. Austin Day. The youngsters at Austin are wearing pioneer dress today as part of their observance of early American lifestyles. Fourth grader Cindy Kohler prepares to speak to the assembly. The assembly at Austin is associated with the 25th Texas Public Schools Week which ends Saturday. All Pampa public schools are open for visits by the public through Thursday.

(Pampa News photos by Michal Thompson)

The Massachusetts secretary of state expected about one million of the state's 2.9 million registered voters, while Vermont officials printed 200,000 paper ballots.

While Ford and Reagan were competing for only 43 GOP delegates, the Democratic prize was one of the richest in the nation. Voters were electing 87 Democratic delegates from congressional districts, with the remaining at-large seats to be filled by state party leaders on

the basis of the district balloting.

In addition to the fight for delegates, the candidates were looking in Massachusetts and Vermont for momentum. Carter seized the front-runner's role after New Hampshire and the other Democrats, especially Bayh and Jackson, spent the week here trying to slow him down.

For his part, Carter split his time between Massachusetts and Florida where he faces a showdown with Wallace and Jackson March 9. The former Georgia governor predicted he will win a first ballot nomination at Madison Square Garden in July.

All the candidates scrambled for impressive endorsements. Jackson coming up with a last-day coup in the form of Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who returned to his Harvard teaching job only Monday.

The Ford campaign, with no candidate to show off, relied on extensive telephone canvassing to turn out the GOP vote and looked for a win stronger than the President's whisker-thin edge last week.

Ford to drop 'detente'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford says he has stopped using the word "detente" to describe U.S. relations with the Soviet Union and China because "I don't think it is applicable anymore."

But White House officials say his position does not signal a change in foreign policy with the superpowers.

In recent weeks with the heating up of the primary campaign, Ronald Reagan has criticized "detente" as a one-way policy with the United

States making most of the concessions. He said that the only benefit the United States has won from the policy has been "Pepsi Cola in Siberia."

The Soviet intervention in the Angolan civil war also has aroused some disenchantment with the policy.

Ford made his remarks in a television interview (WCKT-TV).

"I don't use the word detente any more," he said. "I think what we ought to say is that the United States will meet with

superpowers—the Soviet Union, China and others—and seek to relax tensions so that we can continue a policy of peace through strength."

"If we're strong militarily, which we are, and if we continue that strength, we can negotiate with the Soviet Union, China and others to maintain that peace. Detente is only a word that was coined. I don't think it is applicable anymore."

In an interview with NBC on Jan. 3, Ford said: "Politically, I believe any candidate who says

Antitrust suits dismissed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Justice Department today dismissed civil antitrust suits it filed more than two years ago against the nation's two largest tire manufacturers because of lack of evidence.

Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Kauper, in charge of the antitrust division, said he dismissed the suits filed against the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., "with the greatest reluctance" after deciding he could not prove his cases in court.

Kauper said he reached the decision on the basis of evidence compiled since the civil suits were filed in U.S. District Court in Cleveland Aug. 9, 1973, and in reevaluating evidence the department had obtained in four years of investigation before the filing.

The suits against the tire companies charge them with taking illegal actions to try to monopolize the tire replacement market by lowering prices to the point where it forced smaller competitors out of business.

A stipulation filed with the court allows the government to revive the suits at any time if it sees fit.

A spokesman said it is "not unusual" for the department to dismiss a case under these terms. He said a recent case that was dismissed had been filed against Northwest Industries Inc. in 1969. It was dismissed in 1974.

A statement issued by Firestone said the firm was "pleased" by the government's decision.

"We think such action is in the

best interest of the government and Firestone," he statement said. "In the long run it will prevent the waste of additional time and money by both sides."

Goodyear had no immediate comment.

In addition to charging the firms with attempting to monopolize the tire replacement market, the suits alleged both companies made acquisitions of other companies in violation of antitrust laws.

"But my review has convinced me we cannot now establish the key elements of these cases under any theory we can or should legitimately advance," Kauper said.

"It has been with the greatest reluctance that I have come to the conclusion that the complaints in these cases should be dismissed," Kauper said.

Carter favors decriminalization

MIAMI (UPI) — Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter told students at Miami-Dade Community college today he favors decriminalization of marijuana, but not its legalization.

"I'm not in favor of legalization of marijuana. I'm in favor of decriminalization," Carter told one student questioner in apparent reference to moves to end felony prosecution

for possession of small quantities.

The former Georgia governor addressed about 500 students at the open air plaza of the college's downtown campus, answering a variety of questions ranging from foreign policy to the abortion issue.

Also campaigning in Florida today for the state's March 9 Democratic presidential primary were Govs. Milton Shapp of Pennsylvania and George Wallace of Alabama, both in Miami, and Washington Sen. Henry Jackson, who campaigned in Miami, Sarasota and Tampa before leaving for Boston to await the results that state's primary today.

Carter introduced wide receiver Nat Moore of the Miami Dolphins, who told the predominantly black and Cuban refugee student body, "Jimmy Carter is a plain man, the same as me and you are."

In a blast at Wallace, Moore said "he is the same George Wallace of four years ago." He says, "We're going to put them (apparently blacks although Moore did not explain) on a boat."

In his quest for Florida's 81 Democratic National Convention votes Carter also planned appearances today at Fort Myers, Sarasota and Orlando.

In a rare joint appearance last night, Carter, Jackson and Shapp sparred on a 60-minute televised program sponsored by the League of Women Voters—the second of five scheduled forums.

Wallace and the two Republican candidates—President Ford and Ronald Reagan—boycotted the program.

The three Democrats called for a national, one-check welfare system and the need for a national health care program. But they clashed on the best way to keep the Social Security fund solvent, how much elderly persons can earn before losing benefits, and elimination of tax deductions for home mortgage payments.

'To cover a retreat'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — For the past five years the federal government has used the \$30.2 billion revenue sharing program "to cover a retreat" from questions on "poverty, racism, unemployment and urban decay," according to a report released today.

The 2½-year project, "Revenue Sharing: The Case for Reform," was conducted by the League of Women Voters Education Fund, Center for Community Change, National Urban Coalition, and the Center for National Policy Review.

"Despite initial administration disclaimers, the program has been used over the past five years to cover a retreat from the assumption of national responsibility to deal with problems of poverty, racism, unemployment and urban decay," the report said.

It said current fund distribu-

Wins libel suit against Time

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Supreme Court ruled today in a libel suit filed by Mary Alice Firestone against Time magazine that publishers can be held liable for damages if reporters negligently misinterpret court decisions.

The five-man majority held that Mrs. Firestone, who won a \$100,000 suit against Time, did not become a "public figure" merely because her divorce suit

Wins libel suit against Time

gained wide public notice through the courts.

But the justices sent the case back to Florida courts for additional proceedings to determine if Time was negligent when it wrongly reported Russell Firestone was awarded a divorce from Mary Alice because of her adultery.

The 1967 Florida divorce trial involved accusations of adultery by both Firestones.

The trial judge awarded alimony to Mrs. Firestone, after noting her alleged "extramarital escapades" were "bizarre and of an amatory nature which would have made Dr. Freud's hair curl."

Time mistakenly reported in its "Milestones" column that Russell Firestone obtained the divorce on grounds of adultery, whereas under Florida law an

Flu lands 44 in hospital

Forty-four of the 106 patients at Highland General Hospital this morning have the flu or an upper respiratory problem, according to Robert Monogue, hospital administrator.

He said the McLean Hospital has 10 patients today, and five have the flu.

Today's News

	Pages
Abby	2
Classified	9
Comics	6
Crossword	6
Editorial	2
Horoscope	10
On The Record	4
Sports	7



CARNIVAL

by Dick Turner



"Janie tells me his parents have gone out of town for a week... can't say that I blame them!"

B.C.

by Johnny Hart



STEVE CANYON



SIDE GLANCES

by Gill Fox



"Baker, Munsey, Crumpacker and Knox... chairperson speaking!"

CAMPUS CLATTER with BIMO BURNS

by Larry Lewis



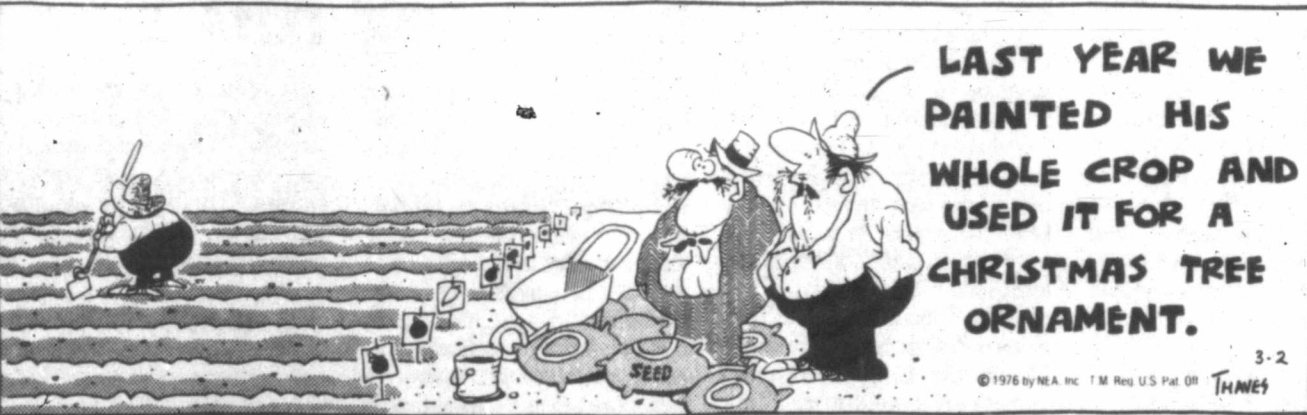
THE BORN LOSER

by Art Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST

by Bob Thaves



PRISCILLA'S POP

by Al Vermeer



CAPTAIN EASY

by Crooks & Lawrence



ALLEY OOP

by Dave Graue



ECK & MEK

by Howie Schneider



The Wizard of Id



WINTHROP

by Dick Cavalli



BUGS BUNNY

by Stoffel & Heimdahl



OUR BOARDING HOUSE

with Major Hoopie



PEANUTS



SHORT RIBS

by Frank Hill



MARMADUKE

by Brad Anderson



Presidential primaries—numbers games

By CLAY F. RICHARDS
 MIAMI (UPI) — It happens every four years. All the candidates play a numbers game when it comes to determining who has "won" a primary.

Jimmy Carter got a little less than 30 per cent of the New Hampshire Democrat vote and "won."

Ronald Reagan said he'd be happy with 40 per cent on the Republican side, and since he polled 49 per cent — losing to President Ford by about 1,300 votes — he also "won."

Morris Udall finished second on the Democratic side with about 26 per cent, but he led three other liberals, so he also "won."

And of course President Ford got more than 50 per cent of the vote — the kind of finish that qualifies as "winning" to almost anyone except his opponents.

Saying you "won" pays off. People still think Eugene McCarthy beat President Johnson in New Hampshire in 1968 and Sen. George S. McGovern defeated Sen. Edmund S. Muskie there in 1972. Actually McCarthy and McGovern got more votes than expected while Johnson and Muskie got less, but Johnson and Muskie won the primaries.

Man falls in Texas cave

BOERNE, Tex. (UPI) — Authorities said a man exploring one of the numerous caves in the Texas Hill Country slipped and fell 50 feet to his death this weekend.

Kendall County Sheriff Lee D'Spain said Sunday the victim was Jim Deall, 27, of Johnson City.

"Two of them had gone down into the cave Saturday on a rope ladder," D'Spain said. "They started back out of there and one of them slipped and fell about 50 feet and was killed. No one else was hurt."

D'Spain said the cave did not have a name.

Astro-Graph

Bernice Bede Osol

For Wednesday, March 3, 1976

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 Those whom you depend upon may not come through today. Don't be concerned. Things should work out in the long run.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 You'll be more prone to do things for others today if you feel you are doing them voluntarily. But even if you're pushed a little, do them anyway.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 Generally, you're a very sociable person. Today you may not be as accommodating, but eventually your real character will shine through.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 Initially you may have some self-doubts, but once you become enmeshed in a project you'll find you can handle it.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)
 Look for the plus side in any dealings today. If you encounter someone you've had a disagreement with, remember: Making up is a pleasant experience.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22)
 If you're doing a favor for someone today, work with their resources. It's important to show them how to depend on themselves.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 23)
 Don't anticipate the actions of others negatively. Once you have a chance to observe what actually transpires, you'll be pleasantly surprised.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22)
 Find time to work on things you enjoy doing for yourself today. You can do this without neglecting your obligations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)
 Grasp the reins if you feel there's a situation you can handle better than others. Your intuition is correct.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19)
 Don't set your sights too high today. You can accomplish that which is within reasonable reach.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb. 19)
 Conditions beyond your control may effect some changes in your plans today. However, they may turn out better than the original scheme.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)
 Encourage friends who can help you behind the scenes at work today. A word from someone on the inside can cut yards of red tape.

your birthday
 March 3, 1976

You've made some friends who are more concerned for your welfare than you are aware of. This year you may see evidence of their worth you'll find hard to believe.

William E. Miller of Lockport, N.Y., came out of the political woodwork last week. Miller was the congressman who was Barry Goldwater's vice presidential running-mate in 1964.

Miller is thinking of making a comeback.

"Why not?" he asked the Republican National Committee in a luncheon speech. "I lost by 16 million votes and I wasn't invited anywhere for six years."

Sargent Shriver lost by 20 million and now he's running for president.

Miller said he watched the seven Democratic presidential candidates on a televised forum a few days ago and thought he had the wrong program on.

"If the audience had been blindfolded and asked what their line was, no one would have known the occupation of those people," Miller said.

"The only funds we (the

Republicans) need to spend this year to win the White House is to put those guys on three or four more times," he said.

Jimmy Carter hired a small commuter airline plane to fly him to northern Berlin, N.H., near the end of the New Hampshire campaign. It was a bumpy, rough flight in a typical winter snowstorm.

After the plane landed, a reporter seeking to reassure

himself said to the pilot: "Well, I suppose it's old hat for you flying in this kind of weather."

"Hell no," said the pilot. "I just moved up here a couple of months ago from San Juan."

A poster inside the shack that served as the Berlin airport, showing a plane flying between mountains, was equally reassuring. It bore the caption: Fly the Cracks — Mountains Don't Move."

It's going to be a busy few days for Vermont Secretary of State Richard C. Thomas. The state is having its first primary Tuesday, and last Saturday a federal court ordered Thomas to reprint all the ballots, or to print a supplemental ballot to include the name of Margaret Wright, a black woman from Los Angeles.

The court also ruled unconstitutional a part of the new Vermont presidential primary

law requiring payment of a \$1,000 filing fee to enter the primary.

Ms. Wright, a "feminist-socialist", was one of six candidates submitting enough signatures to enter the primary but her name was excluded from the ballot because she said she was too poor to pay the \$1,000 filing fee.

George Wallace — for reasons is aides won't disclose —

will not let the national press travel on his plane.

Three weeks ago UPI asked to send a reporter on a week-long tour of Florida with Wallace — paying his own way — and was turned down without explanation. This is sharp contrast to other candidates,

who welcome reporters to offset the heavy cost of charter flights.

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you've made some friends who are more concerned for your welfare than you are aware of. This year you may see evidence of their worth you'll find hard to believe.