

WEST TEXAS Country Trader



The West Texas Country Trader is a Supplement of:

Abernathy
Weekly Review
The Canyon News

The Castro County News
The Clarendon News

The Lorenzo
EXAMINER
HEREFORD BRAND

Plainview Daily Herald
Ralls Reporter-News

Thursday, July 7, 1994

The Slatonite
The Tulia Herald

Eye on the Panhandle

Leisure time profile...

By GORDON ZEIGLER
AgReview Writer

With summer less than two weeks old, travel opportunities still abound across the Texas Panhandle/South Plains region.

Today, Country Trader focuses on some of the outstanding tourist attractions of Amarillo:

Amarillo Civic Center: A 270,000 square-foot multi-purpose facility. In Nov. each year the Civic Center hosts one of the world's largest farm and ranch shows. "Old West Days," a tribute to our Western heritage, is hosted each August.

AgReview

American Quarter Horse Heritage Center and Museum:

See Leisure Page 4

Summer fun opportunities abound across the Texas Panhandle/South Plains region...



Courtesy Photo/The Musical TEXAS

Fireworks nightly

Fireworks for the Fourth faded into history this week, but more will explode nightly during the musical TEXAS in Palo Duro Canyon.

The fireworks are part of the colorful pageantry and fun available by attending the long-running attraction.

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South Plains

Ag News

July 16

TULIA'S SWISHER COUNTY PICNIC — Traditional picnic celebration features noon barbecue meal.

July 28

OKLAHOMA STATE TWO-CYLINDER SHOW — One of the major tractor shows in the Southwest, to be held in Fairview, Okla.

Aug. 4-8

PLAINS ANNUAL CELEBRATION & RODEO — Days of celebrating and fun, with old tractors to be displayed.

Aug. 17-18

CARGILL SEED ANNUAL SEED DEMONSTRATION — Akin farm will be host to crop demonstrations and fun. Texas Plains Chapter of the Two-Cylinder club will provide display of old tractors.

City of Dimmitt industrial effort succeeds; new pepper plant scheduled for fall opening

By JOHN BROOKS

Castro County News

A major pepper processor, packager and retailer will relocate in Dimmitt before Sept. 1, civic leaders here have announced.

Maximo Foods, which will process 2.3 million pounds of jalapenos and chiles between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31, will move its pepper processing and packaging operations from Vega to Dimmitt before Sept. 1.

Next winter, the company plans to process carrots until the pepper production season begins the following Sept. 1.

Maximo will hire about 50 persons on at least a part time basis beginning this fall. That work force could expand, and most workers

would probably be full-time within two years. Several Dimmitt residents are already working for Maximo at its facility in Vega.

"We feel optimistic about Maximo Foods," said Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins. "We feel like it can be an asset to the community. It not only creates jobs but should give an opportunity for local growers for peppers and carrots."

"Maximo has a marketing plan in place and they have good prospects for growth which would increase the number of jobs available. They have even more long range projections that would provide for even more jobs and opportunities here."

Maximo has been running peppers at the Vega facility for three years. It also makes guacamole, but will keep the guacamole operation in Vega for at least another year. The company has a large cold storage facility in Vega to store the avocado-based product.

Jalapenos and the peppers would be individually quick frozen (IQF) after being washed and sorted, according to Lee and Ralph Hilpert of Maximo. The company has signed several wholesale contracts with Nobel-Sysco, a large food distribution company, and grocery distributors. The company already has a deal with Affiliated Foods in Amarillo, which is the grocery supplier for Dimmitt Thriftway. The Hilperths said they are negotiating contracts with other grocery suppliers including Fleming Foods, the supplier for IGA Foodliner here.

Maximo also is packaging some of its products for direct retail sale, the Hilperths said.

negotiations are almost complete for the company to assume control of the former LaMantia, Cullum and Collier vegetable processing facility just off E. Halsell in northeast Dimmitt. The facility was last used about six years ago to process watermelons.

The company has secured a \$50,000 loan from First State Bank of Dimmitt to help fund the move and relocation here. The loan was

guaranteed by the City of Dimmitt, and the company has pledged about \$68,000 worth of equipment as collateral to the city in exchange for guaranteeing the loans.

"The council has to weight the risks against the benefits, and we are getting, for guaranteeing the loan, Maximo's agreeing to move its pepper operation to Dimmitt," Collins said. "We feel this would benefit the business community and agricultural community as well as being an ideal project for Dimmitt. The council thought the risk involved was worth the reward and voted unanimously to support the project."

Meanwhile, community leaders are still working with a Fortune 500 company which is looking to expand operations.

The company is being offered an incentive package worth \$22 million, including a 10-year, 100 percent abatement on property taxes. A loan package, land offering, utility extensions, help with obtaining permits and other incentives are being offered.

Officials are working with another company that plans to make a proposal next week to the city council. The company could add up to 50 jobs almost immediately to the city if the company moves here. The company would be ag-oriented, Collins said.

Heat sends fish deeper, but angling still good

It's dog days time in Texas. The weather is hot and the fish maybe a bit sluggish. Yet, there are still some hot fishing holes around the Lone Star State.

A recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Service fishing report indicated:

ARROWHEAD: Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; white bass are very good; crappie are fair in the deep water; catfish are good to 3 pounds.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water muddy, 81 degrees, 1 1/2 feet low; black bass are slow; hybrid striper are good to 8 pounds downrigging cranks; white bass are good on ghost minnows in 12-15 feet of water; crappie are slow; catfish are good in the 2 pound range on worms and liver.

FRYER: Water off color, 1 foot high; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on minnows and plastic worms in 3 feet of water; crappie are slow with some to 3 pounds caught on minnows; channel catfish are fair to 6 pounds on shad and minnows.

GRANBURY: Water murky, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 pounds in 4-12 feet of water; striper are fair to 8 pounds on live shad in 20 feet of water; white bass are fair to 13 inches on white jigs in 20 feet of water; crappie are good to 1 1/2 pounds on small minnows in 20 feet of water; catfish are good drifting shrimp.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 71 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds on minnows and artificials in 6 feet of water; smallmouth bass are fairly good to 4 1/2 pounds on minnows; crappie are fair on minnows and jigs in 28 feet of water; catfish are good to 7

pounds on minnows; walleye are good on Rat-L-Traps, night crawlers and minnows in shallow to 20 feet of water.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 6 1/2 pounds on topwaters early in the shallows; striper are fairly good to 8 pounds on shad in off the Tanglewood Point; white bass are slow; crappie are slow; catfish are slow.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 72 degrees, near normal level; all fishing slow except for white bass which are fairly good; walleye are fair but are deeper; catfish are fairly good.

O.H.IVIE: Water clear in the main lake, 78 degrees; largemouth bass are very good on topwaters, buzz baits, spinners and cranks early and late along the shoreline with plastic worms working midday along the main lake points and ridges in 20-35 feet of water; smallmouth bass are good and mixed with the largemouth near the rocky areas; white bass are fair with some nice catches in the main lake surface schools; crappie are poor; channel catfish are fairly good over the baited holes in 15-30 feet of water at numerous locations on all types of baits; yellow catfish are fair on trotlines using large baits along the rocky ledges; walleye are poor.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, normal level, 84 degrees; black bass are slow with some schooling early at the lower end of the lake; striper are good but running small in the surface schools early at the lower end; white bass are fair in the schools but are running small with some caught trolling in 15 feet of water; crappie are fair in 20 feet of water under the docks using live minnows; catfish are fair to

4 pounds on trotlines on various baits including blood bait.

SPENCE: Water clear, 78 degrees, 27 feet low; black bass are fairly slow due to the lack of fishermen; striper are good to 24 pounds in the surface schools early; catfish are good over baited holes.

THEO: Water clear, low levels; all fishing slow due to lack of fishermen except for catfish which are fair to keeper size on cheesebait off the banks.

TWIN BUTTES: Water clear, low levels; all fishing is slow due to lack of fishermen and low levels except for bass which are fair in 30 feet of water on 10 inch red shad and tequila sunrise Power Worms.

WHITE RIVER: Water clear, 73 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass are fair to 5 pounds in the grass; crappie are slow; channel catfish are fair to 7 pounds; yellow catfish are slow; walleye are fairly good to 7 pounds.

BELTON: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 7 pounds in 20 feet of water and deeper; crappie are fairly slow; white bass and hybrids are fairly good trolling and using live shad; catfish are good on shad and prepared bait.

BROWNWOOD: Water clearing, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds; crappie are fair to 15 per stringer on live minnows and jigs; channel cats are very good on trotlines at night.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 83 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 5 1/2 pounds on chartreuse worms at the upper end of the lake in the deeper areas and near the docks; striper are good to 17 pounds on live shad.

Outlawed catfish wrangling exists in East Texas

By JOHN McFARLAND

Associated Press Writer

DeKALB (AP) — As soon as he saw the hollow log partially submerged in the brownish waters of the Sulphur River, Brice Love knew he'd found a perfect catfish den.

He waded through the snake-infested waters, then eased his hand deep inside the log's dark cavity. When he couldn't quite reach the 54-pound flathead with his hand, Love tried his foot. Big mistake.

"I had to drive my foot up to where he was, then he just swallowed it," said Love, recounting one of his many violent battles with catfish over the years.

Love, a 64-year-old outdoorsman outfitted in camouflage pants, shirt, hat and boots, says he's caught more catfish than he can count — including the leg swallower.

And for many years, Love didn't use hooks, poles or nets to

See Catfish, Page 3

CATFISH

From Page 2

wrangle the shark-looking beasts. He grabbed them. That is, he thrust his hand deep inside their mouths, then yanked them from the murky river.

Grabblers generally wade into creeks and rivers, then feel along the muddy bottoms or stab their hands into fallen logs in search of nesting flathead catfish — some weighing more than 100 pounds.

Unsuccessful grabblers may run into water moccasins, snapping turtles or even alligators. Successful grabblers don't fare much better: They get their fish, but they don't often leave the water with their arms unscathed.

"I've had mine peeled up to where it was nearly solid scab all the way up to my elbows," said Byron "Tycobb" Pynes, 78, whose grabblin' exploits are legendary in the DeKalb area.

"They can just plain tear into the meat," Love added, displaying his still-scarred knuckles.

Now illegal in Texas, grabblin' (the "g" on the end is never pronounced) still is practiced in parts of East Texas and the southeastern United States.

In Texas, grabblin' was mostly practiced in creeks and the Red, Sabine, Neches, Angelina, Trinity,

Brazos and Sulphur rivers, wildlife officials say.

Obviously, a sport in which participants want giant, slimy creatures to chew on their hands isn't going to have mass appeal.

"It's not a sport for the faint of heart because your natural tendency when a big fish bites is to pull your hand out," said Dr. Donald Jackson, a wildlife professor at Mississippi State University.

"They've established nesting spots and they're going to defend that," he said. "The thing to remember is that they attack you. You've got to plunge your hand deep into the fish's mouth and hold on for dear life."

Catfish don't have the razor-sharp teeth. Their bite feels like extremely coarse sandpaper.

"They can scratch you really, really bad, and have very powerful jaws that can clamp down on you very hard," Jackson said. "It looks like you've been in a fire at the end of the hand-grabbing season."

Legal in Mississippi, grabblin' has been against the law in Texas for about 20 years. But some East Texans say grabblin' continues.

"There are still some that do it," said Bob Sinclair, a longtime East Texas sporting goods distributor who lives in Tyler.

"I don't know anyone specifically who still does it. I just recognize their faces from around East Texas and listen to their tales when I see them," Sinclair said.

However, Sinclair says grabblin' just isn't what it used to be.

"It used to be a big deal — you know, with good old redneck boys," he said. "On July 4th or other holidays, back when everybody in a family lived in the same area, they'd all get together down by the river, and the boys would all dive in buck naked to feel for catfish."

There aren't many grabblers left like Tycobb Pynes and Brice Love — both of whom insist they haven't grabbed since it was outlawed.

"Most of the older fellows who used to do it are dead now," said Scottie Norrell, who runs a combination convenience store-archery shop in Paris, about 90 miles northeast of Dallas.

Phil Durocher of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department says grabblin' is illegal because it is extremely effective, and could deplete the catfish population.

It's not exactly safe, either.

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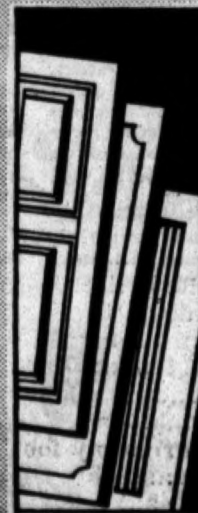
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LEISURE

From Page 1

Heritage Center showcases the history and modern activities of the American Quarter Horse through hands-on activities, exciting video productions and educational exhibits, and visitors can find unique merchandise at the museum store, Quarter Horse Outfitters. Located at 2601 1-40 East at Quarter Horse Drive, the museum is adjacent to the American Quarter Horse Association, the international headquarters of the world's largest equine breed registry. For more information, call 806-376-5181.

Cadillac Ranch: The world's only! Ten Cadillacs ranging from a 1948 sedanette, to a 1964 hard top buried nose down at the same angle as the Cheops pyramids. Each car represents the style change in tail fins, from the first year they were made, until the fin faded from the Cadillac body style. A true Texas "bumper crop"! Located in a wheat field 7 miles west of Amarillo on 1-40.

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Don Harrington Discovery Center & Planetarium: This hands-on science and technology center and planetarium features imaginative programs which strive to uncover the mysteries of the universe. The center features interactive science exhibits and computer programs as well as exhibits that demonstrate the workings of the human body. The planetarium presents a variety of cinema. Over 360 films and the award winning

"Panhandle Promise," a history of the settling of the Panhandle. Now featuring "Jurassic Jungle." At 1200 Streit Drive. Call 355-9547.

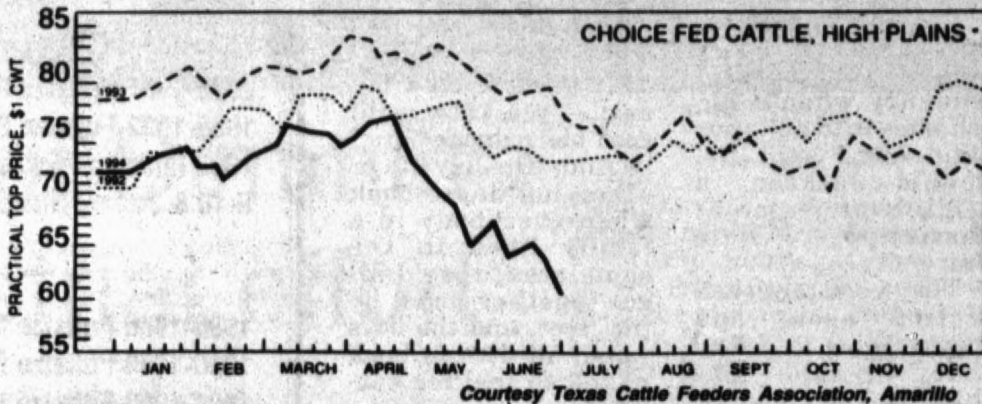
Historic Route 66 Antique District: Located along historic

Route 66. Old San Jacinto is quickly becoming one of the premier antique centers of the Southwest. Buildings that once housed theaters, cafes, and drug stores, are now the home of shops

specializing in antiques, collectibles, and other specialty items.

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum: This fascinating showcase of the Old West is the largest

state-supported museum in Texas. You can actually stroll through a life-size reconstruction of a typical frontier town of the 1880s, and enjoy one of the Southwest's finest collections of Western art and artifacts. Located one block east of U.S. 87 on Fourth Avenue in Canyon.



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YOUR HEALTH

Millions of Americans Live With Kidney Stones

By George A. Porter, M.D.

(NU) - If you or a loved one has ever suffered an episode of kidney stones, it's an experience you're unlikely to forget.

It's estimated that 1.4 million Americans are affected by kidney stones. While kidney stones are often a lifetime condition, not everyone with stones experiences painful symptoms. Nevertheless, it is estimated that stones account for one out of every 1,000 persons hospitalized yearly in the United States.

Kidney stones can damage the kidneys. They are solid chemical masses which can be as small as a grain of sand or as large as a golf ball. During their formation, kidney stones seldom cause problems. But when they move in the kidney(s) or in the urinary tract, extreme pain and bleeding usually occurs. Sometimes a stone may become lodged in a ureter or the urethra, causing excruciating pain and danger of infection. This situation requires immediate medical attention. Fortunately, most stones pass out of the body through the urinary tract without becoming lodged.

Kidney stone patients are often given large amounts of water to help "flush out" the stone as it passes through the kidneys or urinary tract.

Medications may also be effective for dissolving certain kinds of stones. In cases where the stones are too large to pass, or infections are present, stones may be broken up and extracted through a technique using shock waves, called lithotripsy. Surgical operations for kidney stones are required rarely.

For years, kidney stone patients have been advised to restrict calcium in their diets to help control a recurrence. But a new study led by American Kidney Foundation clinical scientist Gary C. Curhan, M.D., and reported in the March 1993 New England Journal of Medicine, suggests that calcium-rich foods may actually ward off kidney stones rather than cause their formation. Further studies are needed to confirm Dr. Curhan's research.

In the meantime, your best bet for controlling kidney stone recurrence is to establish your care with a physician trained in the treatment of kidney stones and urinary tract infections, and to heed your doctor's advice.

George A. Porter, M.D., is president of the American Kidney Fund, 1-800-638-8299.



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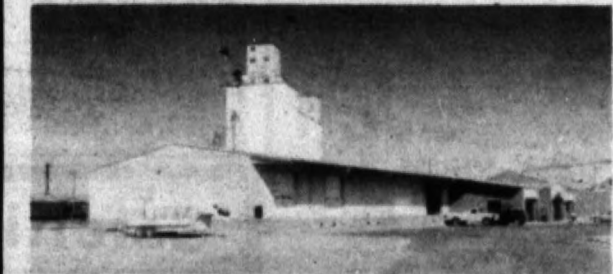
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Digesting the facts on food labels

The new food labels, featured on nearly all processed foods, provide information that can help consumers plan more healthy diets.

New title indicates the label contains the newly required information.

Serving sizes reflect the amounts people normally eat.

Nutrients list covers those most important to the health of consumers.

Other nutrients

Calories from fat are shown to help consumers meet dietary guidelines that recommend consuming no more than 30 percent of calories from fat.

% Daily value shows how one serving of the food fits into the overall daily diet.

Daily values based on a daily diet of 2,000 and 2,500 calories are listed on all labels. Some are maximums (fat, 65 grams or less), some are minimums (carbohydrates, 300 grams or more). Individuals should adjust the values to fit their own calorie intake.

Nutrition Facts
Serving Size 12 oz. (340g)
Serv. Per Container 1

Amount Per Serving
Calories 340 Calories from Fat 45

% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 5g	10%
Saturated Fat 2g	4%
Cholesterol 30 mg	6%
Sodium 470 mg	10%
Total Carbohydrate 61g	12%
Dietary Fiber 5g	10%
Sugars 2-3g	
Protein 14g	
Vitamin A 10%	Vitamin C 35%
Calcium 15%	Iron 10%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's misdeeds.
Calories: 2,000 2,500

	Less than 65g	50g
Total Fat	Less than 30g	25g
Sat. Fat	Less than 15g	10g
Cholesterol	Less than 300mg	200mg
Sodium	Less than 1,000mg	2,400mg
Total Carbohydrate	Less than 300g	275g
Dietary Fiber	25g	20g

Source: Texas Agricultural Extension Service

Cotton council mulls farm bill

LUBBOCK -- The National Cotton Council supports continuation of the current farm program because the program has served the industry very well and there's nothing politically feasible that offers any potential for improvement.

"When you think about our industry's progress under the current program, the rationale for continued support is apparent enough," Council Senior Vice President Gaylon Booker told conferees at the Texas Cotton Ginners annual recently.

"And except for people in areas affected by weather disasters, there has been broad-based improvement in profitability across the Cotton Belt, and in every segment of our industry."

Booker said the marketing loan concept, introduced in the 1985 farm bill and maintained in 1990 farm law, has enabled the industry to enjoy a significant increase in cotton offtake -- the combi-

nation of domestic consumption and exports. Offtake for the past five years, for example, has averaged 16.3 million bales compared to a six-year period in the early 1980s where offtake averaged just 11.2 million ales.

"The marketing loan, together with a market-oriented stocks-to-use ratio was our announcement to the world that we intend to

compete . . . that if you (foreign growers) want to overproduce, then be prepared to share the burden of subsequently adjusting production," Booker said. "It makes no sense, particularly with a new GATT agreement soon to be implemented, for the U.S. cotton industry or U.S. political leaders to get weak-kneed and give away the U.S. cotton production base."

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Leggings	2	20.00 per legging	40
Feathers	2 lb.	17.50 per lb.	35
			\$1,015

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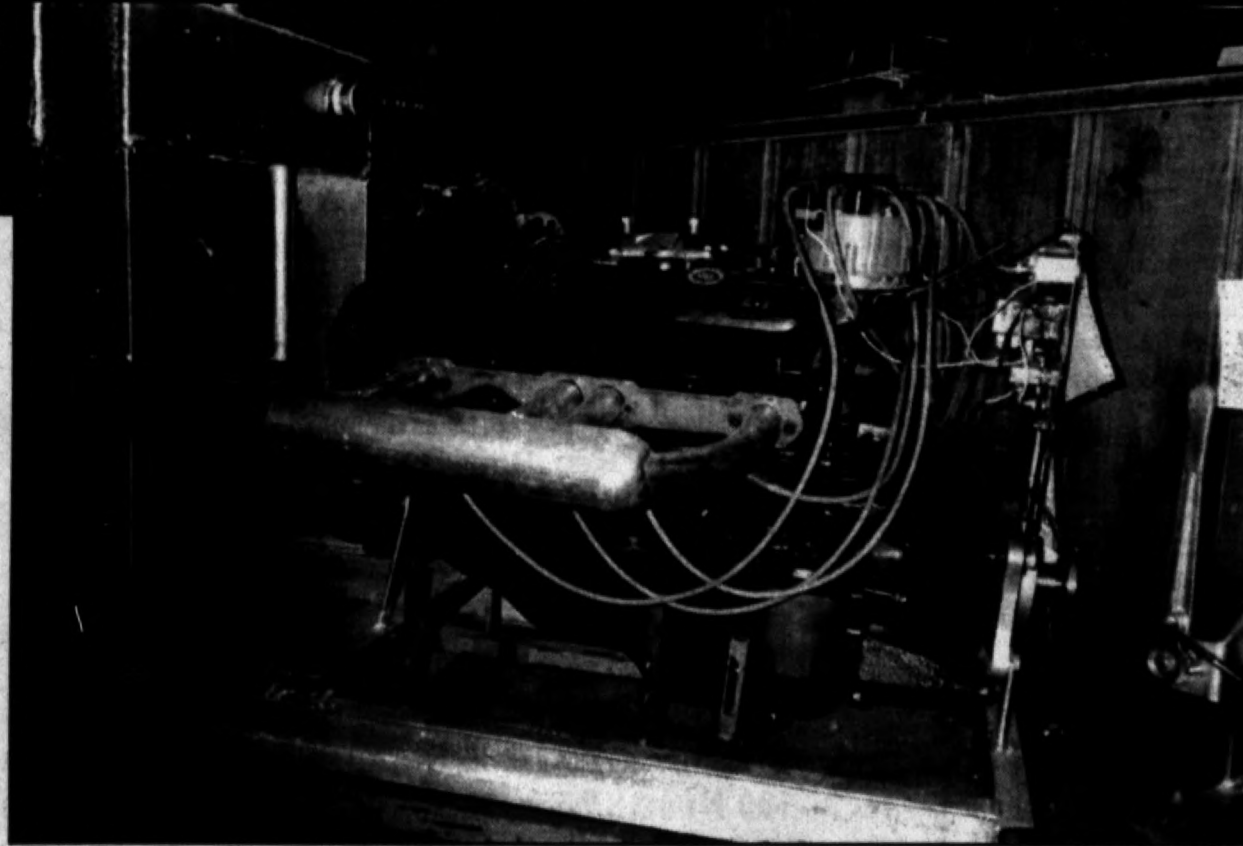
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Comet taking aim at largest planet

By TONY KNIGHT

c.1994 Los Angeles News

LOS ANGELES — When fragments of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 slam into the planet Jupiter later this month, they could cause explosions that are either as large as a million atomic bombs or as small as a mild atmospheric "burp."

Even the best scientific minds don't know what the great comet collision is going to look like. Such an event has never been recorded before.

Only one thing is certain; when that first fragment smacks into the solar system's largest planet on July 16, many eyes on Earth will be watching.

"The scientific world will be training everything they have on this event. That means ground-based telescopes, the Hubble Space Telescope, the Galileo spacecraft and everything else," said Susan Lendroth, a spokeswoman for the Pasadena-based Planetary Society.

"Everybody who has been working in the field wants to find a telescope where they can watch this," she said. "I've heard of people going all over the world trying to find a telescope where the viewing is better."

The world's astronomers have been buzzing about the impending comet crash since the discovery of the object in March 1993 by astronomers Eugene and Carolyn Shoemaker and David Levy.

Scientists say the collisions should provide important data on the composition of Jupiter's atmosphere as well as insights on how the solar system was formed. They also could shed new light on the theo-

ry that Earth's dinosaurs were wiped out by a cosmic collision 65 million years ago.

"This is a unique event in human history," said Stephen J. Edberg, an astronomer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. "There has never been a predicted collision between a planet and anything else."

Only the telescope on the Jupiter-bound Galileo space probe, which is about 150 million miles from the planet, will record the actual impact sites, because the fragments will crash into Jupiter's cloud tops on the night side of the planet.

But the crash sites will roll into Earth view in anywhere from nine to 23 minutes and into the Jovian daylight 10 to 20 minutes after that.

"It's unlikely that we'll see anything directly of the impacts," said Anthony Cook, an astronomical observer with Los Angeles' Griffith Observatory. "But it is possible that there might be disturbances in the cloud patterns of Jupiter where the impacts took place. A lot of spectacular things might be just out of sight as far as light shows."

During the five-and-a-half days that the impacts are expected to occur, every major telescope on Earth and most of the minor ones will be trained on Jupiter, 477 million miles away.

But the planet — which is large enough to engulf

1,300 Earths — is so bright and so well positioned in the night sky this summer, that amateur astronomers should have no trouble getting a relatively good view with their backyard telescopes.

Professional astronomers advise amateurs to spend plenty of time familiarizing themselves with Jupiter's cloud patterns before the impacts, so that they will be able to recognize tiny changes.

Members of the general public also will have a chance to study the planet during and after the impacts. Griffith Observatory will have its 12-inch and 9-inch tele-

scopes trained on Jupiter throughout the entire period. The instruments will be hooked up to a video camera so the images can be viewed on TV monitors at various places at the observatory.

The Los Angeles Astronomical Society will have an array of amateur scopes set up on the observatory lawn for members of the public to take a look each night from July 16 through the 21.

The comet impacts will coincide with the Griffith's planned celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon, and six telescopes on the lawn will be aimed at

the six Apollo lunar landing sites.

At Mt. Wilson Observatory, astronomers will train their large telescopes on Jupiter with the optics hooked up to a video feed for those invited to watch in the observatory auditorium.

The general public is not invited to Mt. Wilson, said spokesman Bob Eklund. But efforts are being made to allow television news cameras to patch in so home audiences can get a live picture, he said.

The question that none of the scientists seem able to answer is what is everybody going to see?

"The reality is we don't

know what's going to happen. We just don't," Edberg said. "It's pure exploration. The reality is that it could turn out to be flat and nothing happens. But we'll still learn something about what happens when something big goes into a planet."

The hesitancy of the experts has left the field wide open for some non-scientists who have circulated fliers claiming that the explosions will unleash the wrath of the God.

"Urgent public safety announcement! SOS. to the pope!" reads one flier predicting apocalypse. "A warning ultimatum from God to all governments."

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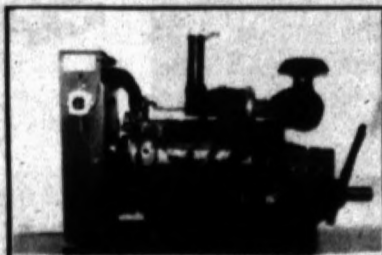


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Photo Woody Williams

Cameron Redfern shows off his entry - a Brazilian Rabbit - at the Randall County Junior Livestock show earlier this year.

Nazareth German Festival and Suds 'n' Sounds set Saturday

An arts and crafts show, German sausage meal and Suds 'n Sounds will highlight the 22nd annual Nazareth German Festival July 9 in Nazareth.

The Rough Riders Band of Nazareth and the Smokin' Armadillos of Bakersfield, Calif., will highlight Suds 'n Sounds from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Nazareth Community Center Ballpark on the east side of Nazareth. Admission is \$15, with proceeds going to the Nazareth Community Center and the Texas Deaf Program, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

A 2,400-sq. ft. dance floor will be in the park, along with a concession stand featuring food, beverages, t-shirts and caps. Coolers, but no glass containers, are allowed in the ballpark. You'll need a lawn chair and shade to enjoy the evening.

The German Festival will include an arts and

crafts show at 10 a.m. in the school cafeteria; a German sausage meal from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Community Hall; and raffles, children's barrel train and tractor pull, and other games.

Outdoor entertainment will be held in the area surrounding the hall throughout the day.

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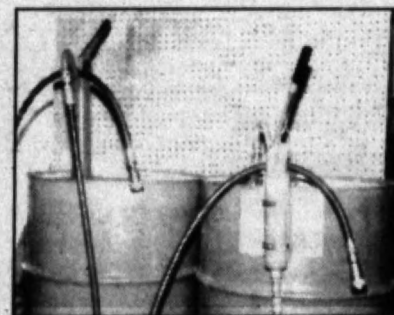
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