



Battalion photo by Elizabeth Ghio

Catting around

Jeanne Smith, a member of Dr. Dobson's chordate anatomy class, works on cleaning out the skull of a cat.

Governor's conference supports farm program

United Press International
MARTIN, Okla. — A presidential task force should be appointed to review farm stability and health of the food processing industry, the Midwestern Governors' Conference said in a policy statement adopted yesterday.

The statement said proposed farm legislation now before Congress was substantially better than present or previous programs but short of the governors' goals. The statement also said the secretary of agriculture should not adopt the planned technique of offering a new farm bill on a "let it or leave it basis" for 1978 and subsequent crop years.

The resolution also rejected the concept of substantial increases in totally grass-fed beef is practical or possible in America and urged a reduction in foreign meat imports.

Pintos called 'firetraps' because of gas tanks

United Press International
WASHINGTON — More than 500 persons have burned to death in pre-1977 Ford Pintos because the gas tank is located in a place that it can explode during a rear-end collision, a magazine article released today said.

It also claimed Ford could have avoided the problem by installing a \$1 piece of plastic, now used on 1977 models, but declined to do so.

No recall of earlier models is planned, a report said, and as a result there could be at least 70 fire deaths per year in Pinto accidents in the future since there are about 2 million of the "firetraps" still on American highways.

The report was released by Mother Jones magazine in which the article, by Mark Dowie, appeared.

Ford Vice President Herbert L. Misch said the company was studying the article, which contains distortions and half-truths, and would comment later.

A government agency in the course of testing 40 Pintos, all 1976 models, found only one that failed a government safety standard requiring fuel tanks to have acceptable levels of leakage in 30 m.p.h. crashes.

"There was a measurable fuel leak in excess of the acceptable level in the one that failed," the official said, and an investigation — still under way — was opened. Since then, he said, three more '76 models have been tested without a repeat of the problem and in none of the cars tested was there a fire.

"It's quite a leap from that to what Mother Jones is talking about," he said. "We had no reason on the basis of our investigation or complaints from owners to do anything other than what was done."

The article said Ford rushed the Pinto to the market because of competition from small foreign cars even though "Ford engineers discovered in pre-production crash tests that rear-end collisions would rupture the Pinto's fuel system extremely easily."

Because assembly line machinery was already tooled when engineers found this defect, top Ford officials decided to manufacture the car anyway — exploding gas

Man kidnaps employe of East Texas millionaire

United Press International
TYLER — A few months ago, a 40-year-old businessman went to the press with claims he had been cheated by convicted swindler Billy Sol Estes and an East Texas millionaire.

But Don Trull took matters into his own hands yesterday.

Trull yesterday carried a five-gallon can of gasoline into a third-floor suite of offices housing Pyron Investments, a land investment company owned by Tyler millionaire Billy D. Pyron, the man Trull said was involved with Estes.

Police said Trull was aided by his fiancée and her two children.

Trull took Pyron employe Billy May hostage and doused the carpeting covering the Heritage National Bank building suite with gasoline, police said. He threatened to blow up the building unless he was given a \$775,000 promissory note signed by Pyron, the title to Pyron's late model gray Cadillac and \$10,000 cash.

His demands were met four hours later and he released his hostage.

A few minutes later, after Smith County Sheriff J.B. Smith told him "the situation isn't worth dying over," Trull surrendered. And within hours, all the suspects had been arrested and the ransom had been recovered.

Charged with aggravated kidnapping were Trull, his fiancée, Gleyne Clark Logan, 42, her son Mark, 21, and her daughter Julie Anna, 19. Bonds of \$15,000 were set for the two men and \$5,000 bonds were set for the women. Only Trull remained in the Smith County Jail late yesterday.

Deputy Police Chief Willie Hardy said Pyron arrived at his office about 11 a.m. and was ordered to go to a telephone downstairs and call the man who had taken over the suite.

Pyron notified authorities and along with Smith negotiated with Trull by telephone.

Pyron told authorities he withdrew \$10,000 cash from his personal account and had the promissory note notarized at the Heritage Bank downstairs. The note and \$2,000 were slipped to Trull under a door and the remainder of the money was placed in Pyron's car on the bank parking lot.

Shortly after Trull's 3 p.m. surrender, authorities arrested two women in Pyron's car and recovered the \$8,000 cash.

As Trull was being placed in a police car, he turned to Logan — who had been arrested in the lobby of the building — and said, "Mark, don't worry. Don't worry

about it. They ain't gonna treat me this way."

Hardy said the kidnapping stemmed from "confusion" over a business deal. Trull said involved himself, Pyron and Estes.

"He said some people owed him money and he felt like this was the way to get it back. He named Billy Sol Estes and Billy Pyron as owing him money," said Hardy. Trull, who recently moved to Tyler, was reportedly planning on opening a manufacturing plant.

Trull several months ago went to authorities and the press, claiming Estes renegeed on several business transactions.

Estes, convicted in a multimillion dollar fertilizer tank fraud in the 1960s, is barred by provisions of his parole from promotional and self-employed business ventures.

Trull told authorities that Estes was violating that parole and had in fact, forged Pyron's names to documents used to shore up a faltering electronics company allegedly controlled by Estes through a secret trust agreement.

Trull told the press he informed Pyron of the forgeries and was told "to go back and keep it cool." Trull said he tried to work out things with Estes, but later accused Pyron of also cheating him.

Queen's visit causes riotings, bombings

United Press International
BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Queen Elizabeth arrives in Northern Ireland today where a British soldier and Roman Catholic youth have been killed in mounting violence that threatens to mar the monarch's two-day visit.

Thousands of British troops and part-time soldiers sealed off all routes leading to Belfast Lough, where the royal yacht Britannia was scheduled to anchor for the Queen's visit.

British troops shot and killed a 16-year-old Roman Catholic youth yesterday when he hurled gasoline bombs at a military patrol in West Belfast. This came during a wave of rioting, arson and bombings, an army spokesman said.

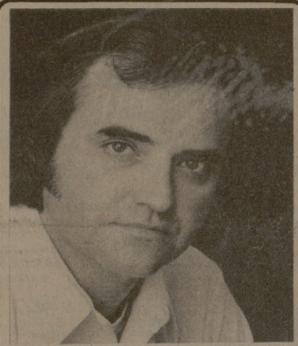
Gummen of the Provisional Irish Republican Army retaliated hours later by shooting a soldier outside the Moyard army base, only a few yards from where the teen-ager was slain.

Britain has mounted one of the biggest land, sea and air security operations in history to guard the Queen during her Silver Jubilee visit to Northern Ireland.

The IRA has pledged to give the 51-year-old monarch "a day to remember."

Authorities said 32,336 members of the security forces were on full-time alert for the visit, described by government officials as "the biggest security exercise ever mounted to protect the Queen."

The Queen was accompanied by her husband, Prince Philip, and their two younger sons, Princes Andrew and Edward.



Lynn Ashby

Columnist Ashby to speak Aug. 13 at commencement

Approximately 1,000 Texas A&M University students are set to receive degrees Saturday at commencement exercises which will include remarks by Houston Post columnist Lynn Ashby.

The ceremonies, open to the public, are set for 9 a.m. in G. Rolife White Coliseum.

Texas A&M Registrar Robert A. Lacey noted this will be one of the largest summer graduating classes in the school's history.

Ashby is both a University of Texas graduate and an honorary Aggie. The latter designation was bestowed on him earlier this year by Texas A&M's Association of Former Students. Ashby received his UT degree in journalism in 1962.

His column has been a regular feature of The Houston Post since 1971. He joined the paper in 1968 after six and a half years with The New York Times.

Mexican captain released after violating fishing zone

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — The captain of the first Mexican shrimp trawler seized for violation of the new 200-mile territorial limit has been fined \$3,000 and released along with his trawler.

The seizure of the 68-foot trawler Adriana July 28 was the first in the Gulf of Mexico under the new 200-mile territorial limit that went into effect March 1.

The maximum fine would have been confiscation of the vessel and its cargo, but U.S. District Judge Renaldo G. Garza levied the lesser punishment yesterday.

Jose del Carmen Hernandez-Lopez, pleaded guilty before Garza to "fishing without a permit in a U.S. fishery conservation zone." Garza gave the man a three-month suspended jail sentence.

Hernandez-Lopez attorney, Jack Sanchez of Brownsville, said his client's fine was equivalent with fines levied on American shrimp trawlers seized in Mexican waters.

Sanchez said the \$3,000 fine, \$1,491 worth of shrimp sold at auction by U.S. marshals and \$502 in marshal fees totaled

"just about what we (American) trawlers get charged when our boats get caught."

Robert Mauerermann, executive director of the Texas Shrimp Association, said he was pleased with the outcome of the case.

"I think it's only fair that the vessel is returned," he said. "A fine of this size is a little less than what our boats have been fined. But personally I wouldn't like to see an escalation of fines."

Mauerermann noted 223 American shrimp vessels were fishing with permits in Mexican waters this year and said "we are hoping they don't violate any laws. But if they do, we'd like to see minimum fines and fair treatments."

Sanchez said when the Adriana was caught just north of the Rio Grande Hernandez-Lopez was fishing without any navigational equipment.

"He only had a radio and a compass and was fishing with a pack of four other Mexican trawlers," Sanchez said. "They beat it back to the river before the Coast Guard got there. He (Hernandez-Lopez) assumed he was in Mexican waters, but that's no excuse, of course."

Archeological field school near Taylor ends training

The Texas A&M Archeological Field School will end its second field project on August 12.

Fifteen students are attending the school which is training them in archeological techniques, said Dr. Harry J. Shafer, assistant professor of anthropology at Texas A&M.

These students and other excavators have been living at the site in Williamson County at the Hoxie Bridge near Taylor since July 11. Ed Baxter, research associate in the anthropology laboratory said that the students live there five days a week, all day, and come home on weekends.

Baxter said that this school involves anthropology 330 which is set up for majors and minors in anthropology but not restricted to them.

This site was chosen, Baxter said, because it has several interesting features which will be good to explore. He said that all questions are never answered on the details of a site and he finds this particular site very challenging.

His interest surrounds the discovery of two types of hearth appearing at two levels

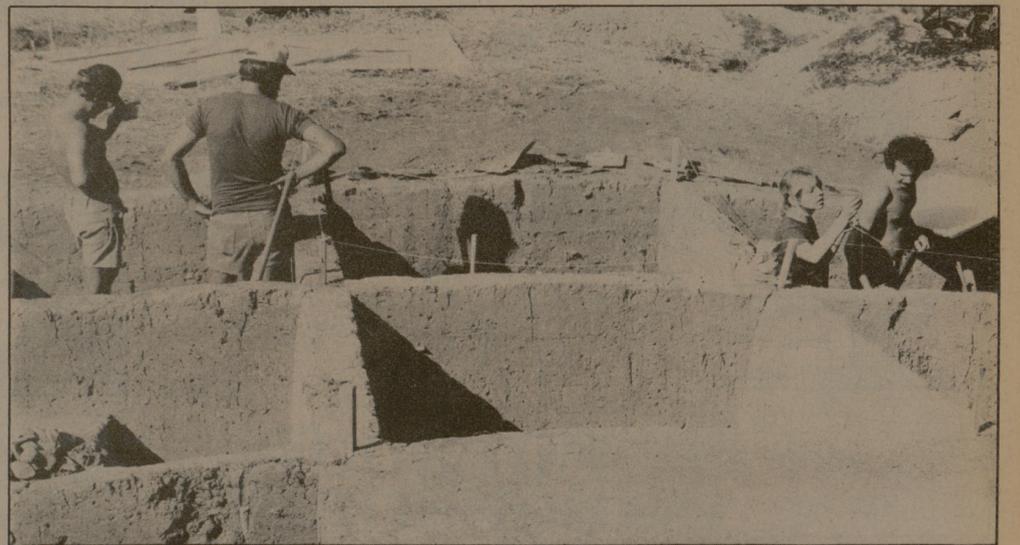
on a ridge along the San Gabriel River.

The area was carbon-dated and discovered to have been inhabited two different times, 500 A.D. and 1150 A.D., Baxter said.

This is intriguing because this one spot on the site was intensely used over a long period of time by two different sets of inhabitants, he explained. Why it was used is the question the excavators are trying to answer.

The school is sponsored by the anthropology lab, Baxter said. Students enrolled in anthropology 330 pay their expenses in their fees and also a living expense for food while on the site, he said. Clell Bond is the resident archeologist and will write up the contract for the site, he said, and the university pays the director's salary.

The purpose of the six hour course is to work on a site and learn from what you do, he said. Baxter added that they prefer that students enrolled have some background in archeology. The catalog indicates that six hours of anthropology and the consent of the instructor is required for enrollment in the course.



Battalion photo by Jan Williams

Some of the students in the archeological field school at the excavation site in Williamson

County. The exact location is Hoxie Bridge near Taylor.