

Brain decides death

CHICAGO — The law should accept that a man dies when his brain ceases to function, six New York doctors said in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Feared him all her life: Hill's ex-wife

HOUSTON — Saying "there was never a time I wasn't fearful of him," a former wife of Dr. John Hill testified Monday the plastic surgeon admitted killing his first wife because she refused him a divorce.

Ann Kurth, who became the second Mrs. Hill following an extrajudicial affair with the doctor, divorced him after nine months of marriage because she said he tried to kill her on several occasions.

A detailed account of Kurth's life with Hill was subsequently published in a paperback book, but the jury considering a \$7.6 million wrongful death suit against oil millionaire Ash Robinson was not allowed to hear her testimony in the packed courtroom.

Robinson is the target of the suit brought by Hill's third wife, Connie Hill, his grandson, Robert Ashton Hill, 17, and the doctor's mother, Mrs. Myra Hill. They claim Robinson bought Hill's death for \$25,000 to avenge the death of Joan Robinson Hill, the doctor's first wife and the oilman's only daughter.

Joan Robinson Hill died March 19, 1969, of a mysterious virus. Hill was shot to death Sept. 24, 1972, in the foyer of his colonial mansion.

Kurth was subpoenaed to testify because Robinson's defense is trying to show Hill's shady character would have prevented a long or happy marriage with Connie Hill, nor could he have provided long term financial care now being asked for as damages.

State District Judge Arthur Lesher ruled Kurth's testimony on the critical points violated confidentiality provision between husband and wife under Texas law.

Kurth told the court in testimony for the record but not for consideration by the jury that Hill confessed how he killed Joan moments before he crashed their car into a bridge abutment.

"He said she would never give him a divorce and that was the only way to terminate the marriage," she told W. Robert Brown, Robinson's attorney.

"He described to me all the things he had done," she said. "He said he had grown cultures from every kind of human excrement and had given them to her injected in cream puffs."

"He said she was really sweet about it. He gave her mystecin (a drug) and from then on it was just a matter of time."

Kurth said Hill admitted the chain of events during a 2 a.m. drive June 30, 1969. She said he became upset about her questioning his conduct during a polygraph examination in which he allegedly cleared himself of any involvement.

"He was agitated because I questioned something he had done," she said.

She said Hill drove by the horse farm his deceased wife operated and said: "That's where someone lives who doesn't live anymore. . . . And then the car wrecked. . . . He crashed about 45 or 50 miles per hour into the concrete bridge abutment on my side of the car. . . . He pulled a syringe out of his pocket and turned and tried to aim it at me. He appeared to be insane. He was like a madman. . . . He pulled out another one. . . . He tried the same thing again. . . . I begged him not to do that," she said during direct examination.

Kurth said she exited the car about the time another automobile appeared on the scene. She then accompanied Hill to a hospital where they both received treatment.

"The principal reason for deciding that a person is dead should be based on a fundamental understanding of the nature of man," the doctors said.

"Without a brain, the body becomes the convenient medium in which the energy-requiring states of organs run down and the organs decay. These residual activities do not confer an iota of humanity or personality."

Some states still define death in other ways or fail to provide uniform definition, leading to complex legal questions about medical treatment.

"We are convinced that society now has sufficient philosophical certainty. . . . to use destruction of the brain as an indicator that the person has died," the team said.

The accepted definition of brain death was worked out at Harvard Medical School in 1968. It includes: "Unreceptivity, unresponsiveness, absence of spontaneous movements and breathing, absent reflexes, fixed

dilated pupils, and persistence of these findings over a 24-hour period in the absence of intoxicants or hypothermia."

The doctors also reasoned that the concept of death when the brain stops functioning does not conflict with either Orthodox Jewish nor Roman Catholic dogma.

The Orthodox Jewish position allows a distinction between cell life and the total life of an individual. By that definition, "there is no religious imperative to continue to use a respirator. . . . in an otherwise dead patient."

In Roman Catholic thought, the primary concept of death is separation of the soul from the body. Since that event cannot be observed, theologians have accepted outward signs such as the end of heartbeats and breathing as marking death.

While there is no consistent Protestant position, many Protestant theologians have accepted the end of brain function as the indicator of death, the doctors said.

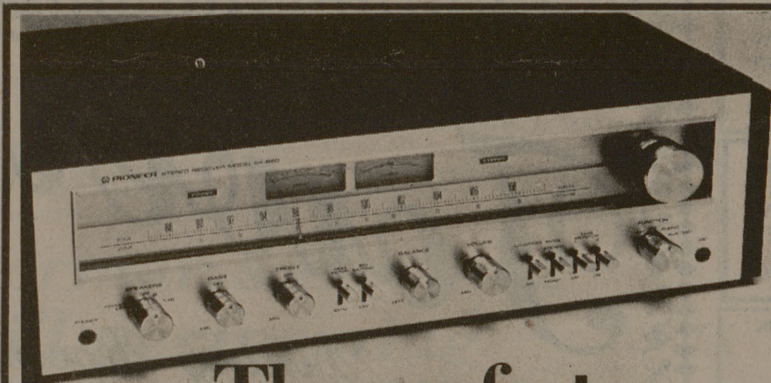
Monogram GLASSWARE
Choose either Roman, lettering in several patterns or script or the elegant look of one large English initial!
order now for delivery before the big rush!
EAST 29TH STREET
WAREHOUSE
3715 EAST 29TH STREET (713) 846-6771
TOWN & COUNTRY CENTER

the **CLOTHES HORSE**
JR. SHOP SIZES 3-13
has Racks and Racks of:
DRESSES DRESSES DRESSES
DRESSES DRESSES DRESSES
DRESSES DRESSES DRESSES
3801 E. 29th 846-2940
Town & Country Shopping Center

The Battalion Classified 845-2611

BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION'S LEADING AUDIO DEALER

GUSTOM SOUNDS

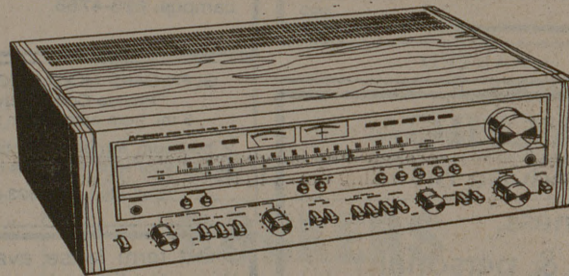


The perfect receiver for just about anyone.

Pioneer's new SX-850 has the right combination of operating features, performance specs and design nuances. Its front panel is a catalogue of conveniences. With dual tape monitor circuits and deck-to-deck dubbing, click-stop tone controls with defeat, high filter, dual tuning meters and microphone input. On the inside, there are technical advances that mean better sound, better reliability, and better value. Like an FET front end, speaker and transistor protector and circuit-board-mounted jacks. Continuous power output is 35 watts per channel minimum RMS at 8 ohms from 20 to 20,000 Hz, with no more than 0.3% total harmonic distortion.

Reg. \$325.00 **SALE \$229⁹⁵**

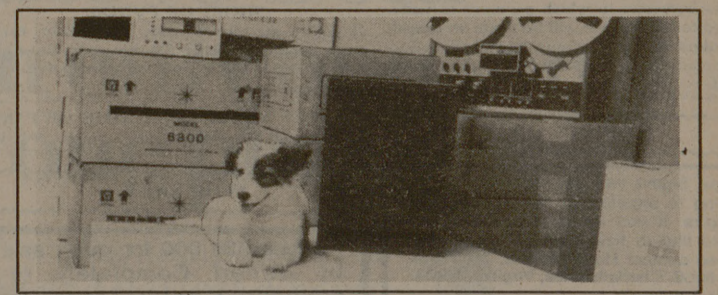
PIONEER SX-850 STEREO RECEIVER



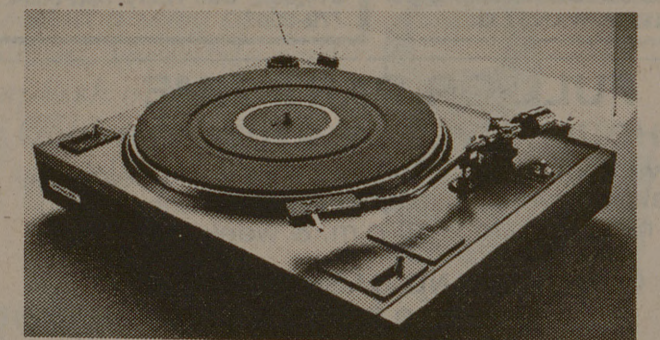
Continuous power output of 65 watts* per channel, min. RMS at 8 ohms or 85 watts* per channel at 4 ohms from 20 Hertz to 20,000 Hertz with no more than 0.1% total harmonic distortion. FM Sensitivity (IHF): Mono; 10.3dBf (1.8µV) FM S/N Ratio (at 65dBf): 72dB (mono), 67dB (stereo)

Reg. \$550.00 **ONLY \$389⁹⁵**

ONLY A FEW LEFT!



"The Woofers"



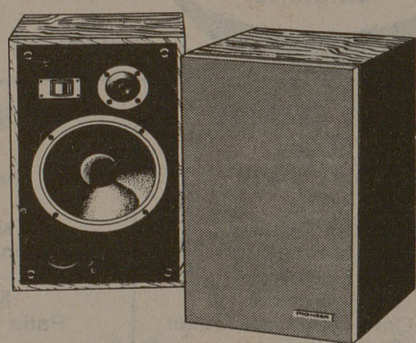
It has everything you'll find on a \$120 turntable. Except the \$120 price tag.

There's a good \$120 turntable around with a vibration-free 4-pole synchronous motor. A static balanced S-shaped tone arm. And the anti-skating device you need to get top performance from the light stylus pressure cartridges now on the market. There's another good \$120 model with a floating turntable and tone arm, designed to damp out external vibration. But to get all those features plus a die-cast aluminum platter and a rumble level of -50 dB (JIS) for less than \$120, a turntable has to be more than just good. It has to be a Pioneer PL-112D.

SALE \$79⁰⁰

A Great Turntable at a Great Price!

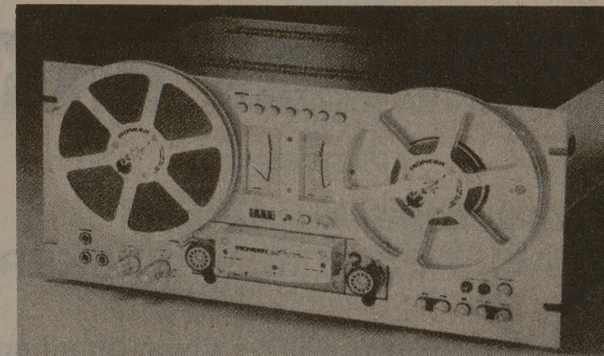
PIONEER HPM-40 3-WAY 3-DRIVER SPEAKERS



3-WAY 3-SPEAKER SYSTEM
Enclosure: Bass reflex type Speakers: 10-inch carbon fiber blended cone woofer, 1 1/2-inch carbon fiber blended cone tweeter. High-molecular polymer super-tweeter Impedance: 8 ohms Frequency Range: 35-25,000Hz Sensitivity: 91dB/W/M Maximum Input Power: 40W Crossover Frequencies: 4,000 Hz, 10,000Hz Dimensions: 12 1/2" (W) x 22 1/2" (H) x 12 1/2" (D)

Reg. \$150.00 ea.

SALE \$99⁰⁰ each



PIONEER RT-707 TAPE DECK

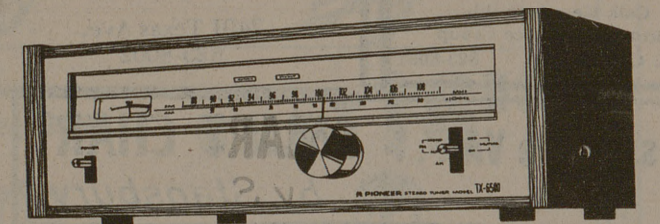
3-MOTOR 4-HEAD AUTO-REVERSE PLAYBACK STEREO TAPE DECK
Drive System: 3-motor direct drive system Motors: FG Servo AC direct drive motor x 1 (capstan drive), 6-pole inner-rotor special induction motor x 2 (real drive) Tape Speeds: 7 1/2 ips, 3 3/4 ips ± 0.5% Wow & Flutter: 0.05% (WRMS, at 7 1/2 ips) S/N Ratio: 58dB Frequency Response: 20-28,000Hz (7 1/2 ips), 20-20,000Hz (3 3/4 ips)

Reg. \$575.00

NOW \$489⁹⁵

Pioneer's Newest Tape Deck

PIONEER TX-6500 AM/FM STEREO TUNER



What it tunes out is as important as what it tunes in.

FM Usable Sensitivity: Mono; 10.7dBf (1.9µV) FM S/N Ratio (at 65dBf): 75dB (mono), 68dB (stereo) FM Capture Ratio: 1.0dB FM Alternate Channel Selectivity: 60dB Stereo Separation: 40dB (1kHz), 30dB (30-15,000Hz)

Reg. \$175.00

SALE \$129⁹⁵

ONLY A FEW LEFT!

SPECIALS GOOD THROUGH SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

3806-A OLD COLLEGE ROAD 846-5803

Next to Triangle Bowling Alley Open 10-6 Mon.-Sat.

GUSTOM SOUNDS

Tupinamba

Eddie Dominguez '66
Joe Arciniega '74

POP CHOSE WHO DEMAND THE REAL THING!
If you want the real thing, not frozen or canned. . . . We call it "Mexican Food Supreme."
Dallas location: 3071 Northwest Hwy 852-8570