

## Christian schizoid

United Press International  
AUSTIN — The 13-year-old son of former presidential press secretary George Christian will enter a private psychiatric hospital today for treatment of a condition doctors said led him to shoot and kill his junior high English teacher.

John Daniel Christian was ordered committed to Timberlawn Hospital in Dallas for treatment of latent schizophrenia. Psychiatrists who testified at a hearing last week concerning his mental competency said the treatment would take at least two to four years.

Distict Judge Hume Cofer, who ordered the Christian boy committed to the hospital, said all costs will be paid by his parents. Hospital officials have said the cost at Timberlawn is \$129 per day — almost \$50,000 annually.

Christian walked into his English classroom carrying a .22 caliber rifle on May 18, and fired three shots that killed his teacher, Wilbur Rodney Grayson.

Psychiatrists said the youth hid in a closet that morning until his parents left home, and carefully considered killing himself before carrying the rifle to school during what one described as a "psychotic episode."

"John was, in terms of psychiatric statements, in a state of depersonalization," said Dr. Daniel Mathews.

"He was standing outside himself watching this happen." Both Mathews and Dr. Richard Coons told the juvenile court hearing the Christian boy probably had suffered from schizophrenia most of his life, but had been able to avoid problems because of his superior intellect.

Both doctors said they consider the boy a high suicide risk, particularly when he begins to deal with feelings concerning the shooting of his teacher.

George Christian was press secretary to former President Lyndon B. Johnson and two Texas governors, and most recently his public relations firm was involved in the unsuccessful re-election campaign of Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

The juvenile court retains jurisdiction over the Christian boy until he reaches 18 years of age.

Travis County District Attorney Ronald Earle, who initially indicated he would recommend the boy be committed to the Texas Youth Council, agreed at Friday's hearing the TYC has no facilities adequate to treat Christian's mental problems.

## Government to give Texas \$3 million

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The government Monday announced \$64 million in scholarship grants to help states send 255,000 students to college next year.

California will get the lion's share at \$10.2 million because distribution of the federal Office of Education money is based on past college attendance. New York will receive \$6.2 million.

The money will be provided to all 50 states and territories on a matching basis, meaning at least \$128 million in federal and state money will be available to undergraduate students this September.

The funds are only a tiny part of several federal programs which aid college students. During the current year, the government is providing some \$2.5 billion in direct and supplemental student grants.

"But this matching grant program is important," said an Office of Education spokeswoman. "It gives the states incentive to keep their own scholarship programs going."

The funds have already been sent to the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and other trust territories.

Texas and Illinois will get over \$3 million each. An estimated 13,531 students will receive part of Texas' \$3,382,659 in grant money.

## Bergland suggests waiting before allowing meat import

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — President Carter is expected to rule soon, perhaps today, on a proposal to lift the restraint on importing beef to deal with the rising cost of meat.

Press secretary Jody Powell said that in making his decision Carter would consider the difficult years beef producers have had recently as well as the rapid growth of meat prices.

"He is very much aware of the very difficult past couple of years for livestock producers and their concern. This year is the first in several they are beginning to get a decent return on their investments and some chance to recover some very serious economic losses in the past," Powell said.

"He is very aware of the cyclical nature of that business and what we would like to do is to be in a position, as he said during the campaign about the farm products, to dampen the boom-or-bust nature of agricultural production."

"At the same time, he is also very keenly aware of the rapid growth of

prices (and the effect) that it can have not only on consumers but also on production — that sort of wide swing in production and supply."

Under the existing voluntary restraint agreements for 1978 made under the meat imports act, up to 1.3 billion pounds of beef are being let into the United States. That is about 7 percent of U.S. consumption.

If the amounts allowed in under the restraint agreements are allowed to increase or if all quotas are suspended, about 250 million more pounds of beef would be allowed into the country. That represents about one pound per person, less than 1 percent of U.S. per capita consumption.

A Bureau of Labor Statistics economist said beef accounts for 1.4 percent of the urban cost of living index.

Last Friday, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland, Presidential Assistant Stuart Eizenstat, inflation czar Robert Strauss and chief economic adviser Charles Schultze and others met to discuss three options:

—To wait and see what happens to beef prices.

—Lift the amount allowed into the country under the voluntary restraint agreements.

—Lift beef import quotas.

The second and third options would have about the same result because there is not a worldwide surplus of beef.

After the Friday meeting, Bergland said, "I think the preferred alternative was somewhere between a postponement for a while and negotiating the voluntary import limits."

Bergland's recommendation, based on a prediction that beef prices might rise more in June and then fall after the summer, was to wait for 60 to 90 days.

He said it would be "catastrophic" to the cattle industry, which is making money for the first time in nearly four years.

He predicted they might sell off more cattle and slow down the rebuilding of herds, keeping the supply down and the price high longer.

## Firemen learning sign language to assist deaf during emergency

United Press International  
WICHITA, Kan. — Firemen responding to calls and unexpectedly encountering deaf persons soon will be better able to assist them through the use of sign language.

In their first lesson a dozen firemen in Station No. 1 painstakingly formed symbols with fingers at the direction of Paul Laughlin, an instructor with the Deaf and Hard-

of-Hearing Counseling Services.

The quick course, which will be given to all 423 city firemen, includes 12 common phrases such as "Do you need to go to the hospital?" and "I will help you."

"What you want to be sure and do is talk at the same time you are signing," Laughlin told the group. "Don't exaggerate lip movements or

you will look like a fish gaping."

The course is the first such training for firemen in Kansas and Deputy Fire Chief Tom Page, who coordinated the program with the Parents Association of Hearing Impaired Children, says it may be the first in the nation.

Page said once Ron Flickinger, president of the parents' group, proposed the course, "it hit me like a bolt of lightning that we were playing with luck" in not having offered the sign language instruction before. "It was just a matter of time."

Laughlin acknowledged that some deaf people might answer firemen's questions in sign language too quick for them to understand.

"You will be asking him if he needs to go to the hospital, and this guy will say, 'Yes, my doctor's name is so-and-so, his phone number is, I want to go to Wesley (Medical Center) and I am a diabetic,'" Laughlin said. "And you will be saying, 'Huh?'"

## Oil company abandons well

United Press International  
STAMFORD, Conn. — Continental Oil Co. is abandoning and plugging the first exploratory oil well to reach target depth off the East Coast. The well, in the Baltimore Canyon 77 miles east of Atlantic City, was dry.

Conoco spokesman John Lord said 57 days of operation failed to indicate the presence of natural gas or produce a single drop of oil on the Block 590 site.

"This experience demonstrates the high odds against discovery in a frontier area and the high financial risks involved in the search for new petroleum supplies," said Michael B. Morris, Conoco executive vice president for worldwide exploration.

Conoco spent more than \$4 million since April 10 drilling the oil hole to a depth of 12,000 feet with the semi-submersible rig New Era.

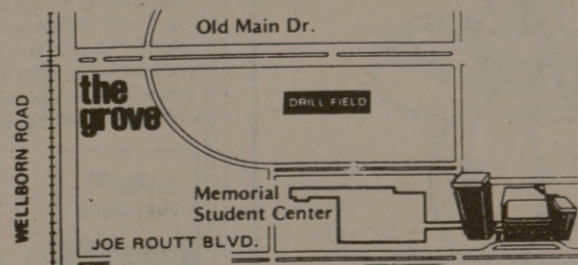
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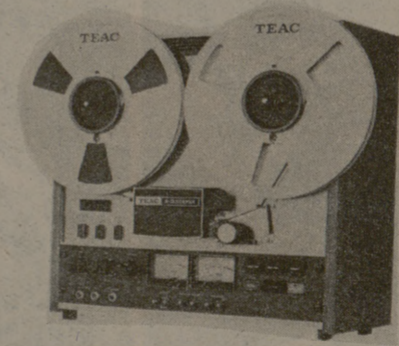
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