

ALTERATIONS

IN THE GRAND TRADITION OF OLD TEXAS WHERE MOTHER TAUGHT DAUGHTER THE FINE ART OF SEWING — SO HELEN MARIE TAUGHT EDITH MARIE THE SECRETS OF SEWING AND ALTERATIONS.

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Neighbors wary of man's 'pets'

United Press International
BELL GARDENS, Calif. — Gerald Bixler's neighbors had been complaining about an alligator walking down their street.

Armed with a search warrant, animal control officers and firefighters raided a swamp near Bixler's home Thursday and seized the wandering alligator, three snapping turtles and nine assorted desert and swimming turtles.

"When I arrived," said Burk Bussiere, director of the Southeast Animal Control Shelter, "I thought I was on the Disneyland jungle ride."

Bussiere said the fire department drained about 3,000 gallons of water from the swamp before he got a noose around the alligator and pulled out the snapping reptile.

Bixler, 35, was charged with violating the Bell Gardens municipal code by "keeping wild and vicious animals." He was not arrested.



When every wink counts

Long nights and little sleep take their toll on many students during the early days of each semester. This student, catching a few extra winks last week in parking lot 7, seems an exception.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Lesdyne

what's up

Monday

SPACE: The Texas A&M Space Topics and Research Society will hold its second meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 504, Rudder Tower.

SCUBA CLUB: Christmas trips to Florida and Mexico will be discussed at the TAMU scuba club meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 502, Rudder Tower.

J-BOARD HEARING: There will be a Student Government Judicial Board hearing, concerning the Spring '78 constitutional referendum at 7:30 p.m. in room 501, Rudder Tower.

AGGIE CINEMA: "Idi Amin Dada," about one of the most perplexing and chilling dictators of modern times will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

Tuesday

MANAGEMENT: There will be a management society organizational meeting at 8 p.m. in room 308, Rudder Tower.

AG ECO: Agri-business tours will be discussed at the Ag Eco meeting in room 108, Harrington.

SADDLE AND SIRLOIN: A fall barbeque will be held in the Bryan High School cafeteria, located on 3401, E. 29th St.

SPEECH: "Israel's Future—Swords or Plowshares," will be the topic of a speech by Arthur Avnon at 8 p.m. in room 601, Rudder Tower.

AGGIE CINEMA: "To Kill a Mockingbird," the tale of a small-town Southern lawyer who tries to raise his two children in an atmosphere of prejudice and fear arising from his defense of an accused black rapist, starring Gregory Peck and Robert Duvall, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

Wednesday

SPEECH: Economist Armen A. Alchian will speak on "Inflation—Causes and Effects and How to Deal With It," at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

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Winter Olympic games 'reality' becomes costly

United Press International
ALBANY, N.Y. — Organizers of the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympics (LPOOC) had hoped to stage the Games for \$100 million, but then "reality" struck when the cost of putting on the games will run as high as \$117 million.

At a hastily called news conference, officials of the Olympic Organizing Committee said the construction costs will be \$14 million more than anticipated.

The Rev. J. Bernard Fell, executive director of the LPOOC, noted the present Olympic budget was able to "expand or contract" but was not expected to exceed \$117 million.

Ronald MacKenzie, president of the LPOOC, said the additional \$14 million, \$9 million is in new funds "needed to cover additional items that were not considered at the time original budgetary projections were made." These items, MacKenzie said, included additional housing requirements and improvements to the existing Olympic facilities.

Also included in the increase is \$2.6 million relating to costs for environmental monitors and the construction of a new 70-meter ski jump. Fell said the new 70-meter jump was required because environmental advisers had told the organizing committee that the existing jump was "esthetically unacceptable."

While stressing that he did not expect a deficit at the conclusion of the games, Fell said if one did occur, he was not sure where the additional funds would come from. "I don't know where I'd look," he said.

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Joann Brockschmidt	Maria Perez
Diane Dunn	Lorey Summers
Molly Enloe	Eileen Wall
Elizabeth Hartman	Doris Wilding
Debbie Jordan	Karen Williams
Linda Dunn	Donna Duke
Deborah Wright	

Smokey Bear has secretary

Janelle Overhouse doesn't look anything like Smokey Bear, the famed animal forest ranger who reminds kids and adults alike: "Only you can prevent forest fires."

Yet Overhouse, in her job at the Texas Forest Service headquarters on the Texas A&M University campus, is a sort of personal secretary to Smokey and his friend, Woody (give a hoot, don't pollute) Owl.

She is responsible for seeing that items about Smokey and his forest friends, as well as other Texas Forest Service publications, reach school children and other interested people throughout the state.

Overhouse laughs when asked if she's the state's official Smokey. But the former Friendswood resident does get Smokey's mail and there is a smiling picture of him behind her desk. A well-worn stuffed bear is perched on top of a nearby filing cabinet. In her seven months on the job, she's become something of an authority on the bear.

"The real Smokey died in 1975," she said, "but now Smokey Junior has taken his place."

Overhouse forwards all mail actually addressed to the bear to his headquarters in Washington, D. C., where Junior resides in a zoo.

As Smokey's assistant, Overhouse mails coloring sheets and comic and coloring books to children, teachers and parents throughout Texas.

Overhouse also handles requests for other Texas Forest Service publications, everything from tree identification guides to highly technical papers on conservation and forest management.

Requests are received from more than 1,600 individuals a year, with many asking for more than one publication.

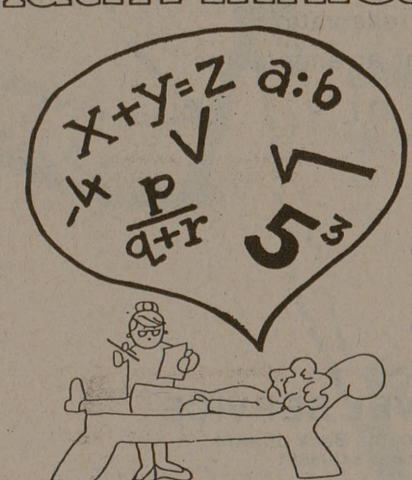
"But the Smokey stuff is sort of special," she says with a smile.

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