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'Depleted' wells recoverable Drained wells yield oil

recovering heavy crude oil from wells classified as depleted by oil companies. The method will work or "When wells are considered and sands as well, he said.

drained, they still have 70 to 90 per-United Press International drained, they still have 70 to 90 per-PORTLAND, Ore. — A nuclear cent of their oil in the ground, but it physicist said Tuesday he has found a can't be removed by conventional way to unlock vast oil and gas re- methods," Merki said. "We can get

sources within the United States that could make the nation independent of foreign oil. Physicist George Merki, based in Houston, told the Portland Rotary Club his process already was at work the clay that prevents oil from flow-ing out of wells, he said. The method will work on oil shale

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Merki estimated the United States has enough oil to last 700 years, and enough natural gas for 500 years, if they could be extracted from difficult geological formations.

Merki said the cost of the process is negligible — \$3 to \$5 per barrel of oil. He said he has formed a corporation to exploit the method and that two wells in Pennsylvania and Ohio are demonstrating its practicality.

5 arrested in \$1.2 million N.Y. con game **United Press Interna** 

NEW YORK - Five women, including one from Houston, have been arrested and \$1.2 million in stocks, bonds and cash recovered in what is being billed as the biggest con job in the city's history.

Police Wednesday were seeking a man described as the brains behind a team of female con artists who bilked the \$1.2 million out of an 80-year-old Park Avenue woman

The man escaped following a shootout, police said, in which he and a companion allegedly tried to run down police officers with a car.

Detective John Hawthorne of the Manhattan senior citizens robbery unit said the man operated out of a Bronx apartment and used a team of women who bilked their victims, mainly old people, with the classic 'pocketbook drop" con game.

One of the female con artists approached the woman on the street and showed her a roll of bills she said she had found on Friday. The woman promised to share the loot if her target put up her own security as a sign of good faith, police said.

The victim, whose name was withheld, turned over \$1.2 million in cash, stocks and bonds under the illusion that she was going to get an even larger amount in return. On Friday night, she discovered she had been fleeced and contacted the

When she did not properly sign one of the securities, one of the alleged con artists contacted her on Monday, asking for the signature. Police were called and when Valerie Arnez Lott, 23, of the Bronx arrived at the elderly woman's apartment, she was arrested.

Geraldine Dickerson, 30; Tee Redmon, 20; and Roslyn Waggoner, 18, who came to New York recently from Houston, were arrested in the apartment and charged with grand larceny and possession of stolen property, police said.

A fifth suspect, identified as Murphy Redmon, was traced to the Stadium Motor Lodge. ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

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## what's up at A&M

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Notices of meetings and events may be brought Room 219, Reed McDonald, for publication in the What's U column.

#### Thursday

ALPHA PHI OMEGA SERVICE FRATERNITY: Will serve fr pizza after a brief presentation at 7 p.m. in Room 350, MSC. CIRCLE K: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room 510, Rudder.

- SENIOR PLACEMENT SEMINAR: Malon Southerland of th TAMU placement office will speak on placement procedures, r sume writing, interviewing techniques and job search technique Sponsored by Cap and Gown/Mortar Board, the Senior Hon
- Society. Today and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Room 701, Rudden CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 301. Rudder
- ords or tr "We a WATERSHIP DOWN': This animated film about a group of rabbit fleeing from the encroachments of man will be shown at 8 and 1 p.m. in Rudder Theater. (PG)
- TEXAS A&M EMERGENCY CARE TEAM (TAMECT): Will how an organizational meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 302, Rudder. OMEGA PHI ALPHA FALL RUSH: At 6:30 p.m. in Room 145, MSC
- om Hop Casual dress "We're MSC BASEMENT COMMITTEE: Will present comedian Ste osecut
- If the SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY: A play, sponsored by Alpha B ne medi
- Omega, will be shown tonight through Saturday at 8 p.m. Rudder Forum. Tickets are \$2 at the door or at Rudder boxoffic and proceeds benefit the Theater Scholarship Fund.
- OPAS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: Those interested in joining OPAS in the '79-'80 season, apply today or tomorrow at the OPAS cubics eekend Center (8-Room 216, MSC. her get
- GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL: All members are urged to at tend this meeting at ll:30 a.m. in Room 216-T, MSC.
- TEXAS A&M FENCING CLUB: All members and newcomers welcome to attend at 7 p.m. in Room 221, G. Rollie White.
- 204. HECC

#### Friday

- sive adve tended. SAN ANTIONIO HOMETOWN CLUB: Will have a party with "Of tho music, food and drinks at 7:30 p.m. in the Q-huts. ent felt b
- MOVIE: MSC Arts will present 'Johah Who Will Be 25 in the Year 2000' at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. (R)
- INDIA ASSOCIATION: Will present the Hindi movie 'Chitchor' wi English subtitles at 8 p.m. in Room 701, Rudder.
- UNIVERSITY APARTMENT COUNCIL: Anyone living in Univ sity married student apartments interested in running for office should contact Gus Wilson at 696-2604.
- SOFTBALL: Texas A&M Invitational Softball Tournament Travis Park, Bryan.
- A&M WHEELMEN: Will have the Steep Hollow Mad Dog Ramble, leisurely 23-mile bicycle ride in the country east of College Stat Meet at 9 a.m. at Rudder Fountain.

### Sunday

- MSC BASEMENT COMMITTEE: St. Elmo's Fire will perform a open-air concert at 8 p.m. at the Grove. Tickets are \$1 at the gate;i case of rain, concert will be in the Basement Coffeehouse, and tickets will be \$2.50.
- ALPHA PHI OMEGA: Will have a meeting for new members at 630 p.m. in Room 401, Rudder. Everyone is welcome.

Moore at 8 p.m. in the Basement Coffeehouse. Tickets are \$2, and are available at the MSC Box Office.

- **RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 8 p.m. in Room

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