

he nation

Earthen dam bursts in Florida, 80,000 flee, damage hits \$4.35 million

United Press International
KEECHOBEE, Fla. — Millions of gallons of water that had been held back by an earthen dike burst through gradually Thursday, but there was no telling how soon area residents would be able to live on land again.
 Officials said they could not understand why the Florida Power and Light Co. dike gave way early

Wednesday. It had been inspected Tuesday and was reported sound.
 A 300-foot section of the dike at Indiantown burst without warning about 1 a.m., releasing enough water to cover 80,000 acres around the northeast shore of Lake Okeechobee with 1 foot of water.
 The swirling water drove hundreds of people from their beds, sent cattle stampeding for high

ground and derailed a Florida East Coast Railway freight train.
 Up to 7 feet of water covered parts of the 60 square miles of scattered farms, fishing camps and trailer parks from Port Mayaca northward for about 20 miles.
 Dozens of people were rescued from rooftops and cars by boats and helicopters, but officials reported neither serious injuries or fatalities.

At least 700 people were forced to evacuate in Okeechobee and Martin counties, said Clyde E. Kauffman, Okeechobee County Civil Defense director.
 He gave a preliminary damage estimate of \$4.35 million. The figure included 255 trailers, 62 homes, nine commercial buildings, a motel, 30 boathouses and a 13-mile stretch

of U.S. 441 that had been flooded.
 Charles Scheer, an FPL spokesman, said the water had begun to recede slowly by Wednesday night, but he made no estimates on how long it would take for the water to disappear.
 "There wasn't any reason that we could expect this to happen," said an FPL spokesman.

trouble is, he was hanged in 1903

Pardon possible, if man asks for it

United Press International
CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Gov. Ed Herschler said Wednesday he would consider pardoning a notorious western range detective if the man personally requests it.

Trouble is, Tom Horn was hanged in 1903.
 The whole thing began when Warner Brothers started making a movie about the life of Horn, who was convicted of fatally shooting a 4-year-old boy in Platte County. The studio's publicity people thought it would be a nice gesture if Herschler would grant Horn a posthumous pardon at about the time the film is released.

Cloe Zuber of the state Archives and Historical Department confirmed Wednesday that her agency had conveyed a request for Horn's pardon to the governor, on behalf of Warner Brothers and Solar Corp., a company owned by Steve McQueen. McQueen stars in the movie, which is not yet finished.

On Wednesday, Herschler's droll reaction to the request was: When Tom Horn personally requests a pardon I will give some consideration to it."

State Travel Commission Director Randy Wagner said the first he heard about a pardon request was right after Warner Brothers finished a rough cut of the film, when he received a call from the

studio's public relations director.
 "He said that having been involved in the production of the film it convinced him that Horn was innocent," Wagner said. "He suggested it would be quite nice if a pardon would come at the time the film was being released."

Horn has been blamed for the killing of many cattle rustlers in both Colorado and Wyoming, but it was the fatal shooting of Willie Nickle, 14, that was his downfall. After being convicted of murder, he was hanged in Cheyenne at the age of 43.

Travel Commission spokesman Ernie Over said that at one point the studio had thought about shooting some scenes in Cheyenne.
 "They wanted us to work with the Cheyenne merchants to take down all the neon signs and put dirt on the streets," Over said. "They wanted to revert Cheyenne to the time of the movie."

"They didn't even get to the starting box with that proposition. They took it down to some fake town in Arizona."
 A sneak preview of the movie was shown in Cheyenne Friday and one of those attending was former Supreme Court Chief Justice Rodney Guthrie. He said the film was not intended as a documentary. Instead, he said, it portrayed Horn as a man who lived beyond his time.

Bargain hair-do nets her \$7,500

United Press International
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A woman who claimed a J.C. Penney hair salon treatment netted her \$7,500 in damages by a treatment she came out looking worse than when she went in.
 Maxine Hempen filed a \$500,000 suit against the national chain store last week. The jury awarded her the full amount following two days of testimony. She claimed she suffered extensively as a result of the treatment.

When she finished the treatment she testified her hair looked like steel wool and she developed a large burn on the back of her neck. She said she complained to the store manager and received a second treatment free of charge.
 After the second treatment, she said, "I really had Phyllis Diller hair."
 She said her hair soon began breaking off, then falling out in handfuls.

"Hair was all over me," she said. "In my bed, on the carpet."
 She said in March of this year she shaved off her hair and said it has grown back only partially.
 Hempen said she still suffers eruptions on her skin and estimated she had permanently lost 20 percent of her hair.

Mercedes test nets 3,020 mpg

United Press International
MONTVALE, N.J. — Mercedes-Benz says its experimental diesel-fueled vehicle designed to reach maximum of fuel economy set a record of 3,020 miles per gallon.
 The automaker said Wednesday the mileage record was set at the International Fuel Saving competition at Veltheim, Switzerland, by a torpedo-shaped vehicle with bicycle wheels, driven by Frank Maier, 17, of Stuttgart, Germany.
 The mark was accomplished by sacrificing speed. The little car moved at only 10.3 miles an hour for 60 miles.

Charged in rape dismissed

United Press International
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — A judge dismissed charges against nine men and a Knox County deputy who were accused of a gang rape in a house.
 Sessions Judge Harold Wimberly dropped the charges Wednesday, saying it was unlikely that the alleged assault "occurred in the manner described" in the complaint filed by a 22-year-old woman.

The charges stemmed from a complaint filed by a woman who said she was tied to a bed at the fire station and assaulted by 25 to 30 men during an 18-hour period.
 But defense witnesses said the woman was elsewhere during the time of the alleged attacks and was seen drinking bourbon, offering sex to bystanders and exposing her breasts.

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