the nation

New Haven adopts Entertainment battle nears trict handgun law Home video systems replacing normal viewing

sales between private indi-

ow, the citizens group that led laws. victorious fight says it will cam-

the first of its kind in the nation, approved by the city's Board of men with an 18-4 vote legally and illegally.

Control Inc., said Tuesday the city restriction. pt it statewide.

le said the committee also would o see the state adopt a system of said. types of handgun licenses — for dand unloaded guns — and dunloaded guns — and ire proficiency tests for those in the right direction."

New Haven Police Chief Edward Morrone called the law a small step in the right direction."

ng for the licenses. Ve feel much stronger standards et that kind of permit," he said. of pistols and revolvers to retail mises.

dealers who comply with all state United Press International General who comply with all state EW HAVEN, Conn. — A local and federal gun laws and bars private has been passed banning hand- individuals from selling handguns among themselves. It also allows the city to enforce state and federal gun

"Without a doubt, it's nothing but n now for state approval and a another emotional and non-erranging law. enforceable ordinance, "said Alder-The New Haven law, believed to man Robert Silverman, who voted against the proposal. "Guns will continue to change hands in New Haven

nday.

Silverman said people wanting to buy or sell handguns can simply go to a neighboring town to avoid the new

p will try to get the ordinance oved in nearby suburbs to put Something like this should not be on pressure on the Legislature to the municipal level. This is a state issue where it could be enforced by the agencies that could handle it," he

Violators of the ordinance can be fined \$100 or jailed for 60 days. The be imposed before a person ordinance does not affect the common practice of pistol clubs to loan or New Haven law restricts the rent out handguns on their pre-

ourt denies suit over egality of income tax

United Press International NEW ORLEANS — The 5th U.S. uit Court of Appeals has denied it by a Texas man claiming the rement to file a federal income eturn is unconstitutional.

efederal appeals court Tuesday d a lower court ruling saying Hanson had no grounds on to state a valid claim against

nson had asked the 5th Circuit ule the tax return unconstitution-ecause it violated United Nations

with Lynd ravelers checks

ical history 30 billion yearly

olitician Company United Press International Lacked NEW YORK — Some \$30 billion al success orth of travelers checks are issued orld wide each year, one industry

rring to the back market, Visa credit card, says the nation thopes to collar 10 percent of the

plaxed premarket, some \$3 billion worth, dur-

in, commend the 1980 season and that it ain eadership of gain 40 pct. within five years.

A new entry into the travelers

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resolutions concerning the protection of human rights and access to

The appeals court said, however, Hanson never made that contention before U.S. district court, and so it did not have to consider the argument on appeal.

Furthermore, a United Nations resolution does not confer rights on United States citizens that are enforceable in court in the absence of implementing legislation," the 5th

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United Press International Remember the "45" record player?

Its fat spindle now shares a shelf with the Edsel, but for people deciding which video cassette recorder to buy, the memory is indelible.

Compact and economical, in 1948 the 45 was touted as the brave new home entertainment system by the folks who developed it at RCA. After all, transferring the strains of Glenn Miller from those hefty 78's to a featherweight finegroove vinylite platter was revolutionary enough to serve up a special machine.

The 12-inch, long playing disc made its debut the same year. Like the 45, the idea was to decrease the revolutions and increase the playing time — but Columbia's version spun at 33 1-3 rpm's. With a smaller spindle and a larger disc, it bore little

resemblance to the 45. The two gizmos marked the dawn of high fidelity. Consumers went wild over the quality and longer playing time. But, because neither company wanted to back down and agree on one speed, both machines were rushed into the marketplace.

The battle began. By 1950, a gaggle of high fidelity players incorporating all three speeds were on the market, although audiophiles were beginning to agree that Columbia's choice of rpm's gave the best sound reproduction, as well as 30 minutes of play. Even so, RCA kept its marketing muscle behind the 8-minute 45. Then somewhere between the jit

terbug and the twist, alas for the 45, the catch word changed to "stereo. Recorded music took another evolutionary step and it took it at 33 1-3 revolutions per minute. As it turned out, what one well-

known company advertised as the final audio answer was merely a flash And of those left holding the 45, many vowed in the next format fra-cas, they would wait until the dust

settled and a clear winner emerged

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before laying out money for a poten-tially incompatible piece of hard-

Well, round two is here and this time, television spawned the di-

Wall Street has dubbed the future of television "the emerging video environment" and manufacturers are calling a wide range of gadgets that

Video is simply information laid down on tape in magnetic tracks and translated into the soundtrack and the lines of a television image through tape heads reading the signals.

hook into the basic boob tube "home

Consumers are befuddled. When they shop for the most enticing video offering — the machine that can record the Dallas Cowboys on a half-inch videocassette while they are out for the evening or watching the Rams on another channel — they notice an ominous symptom. There are two incompatible technologies for sale.

And although the videocassette recorders (VCR's) in the stores are "Beta" or "VHS", a little research turns up other half-inch tape formats that once promised to do the same job but are already extinct, such as

Wall Street has dubbed the future of television "the emerging video environment" and manufacturers are calling a wide range of gadgets that hook into the basic boob tube "home video.

Quasar's "Good Time Machine." Even more confounding, there are rumors of as many as five other VCR formats, either cheaper or more talented, on the horizon.

The problem? In this format war, standardization may never come about. Neither system is likely to disappear and although VHS owners sion may not be important. outnumbered Beta owners three to one at last count, with more than a million units sold, the minority consists of a whopping 250,000 Beta

Sony, who started the whole home VCR sweepstakes with "Betamax," say they'll continue to churn out Beta designs, along with Sanyo, Sears, Zenith and Toshiba. Everyone else, including RCA, JVC, Panasonic, Magnavox, Hitachi and Quasar, is committed to VHS most manufactured by the Japanese electronics giant, Matsushita.

There are 18 companies making at least 50 different models of VCRs. For the prospective buyer, the In at least one way, Beta and VHS are alike. Both evolved from comtrick is to determine what each system does, how well it does it, and for

how much money. First, both formats use half-inch tape packaged in cassettes, but Beta cassettes don't fit VHS machines and VHS tapes don't fit Beta machines. Beta's "Omega wrap" tape path is particularly resistant to twisting. VHS cassettes have an "M-wrap" design — simpler than Beta, but more stressful to the tape. And when stopping a VHS tape, it is impossible to start up at exactly the same point in the program. Tape cassettes come in varying lengths, but time capacity depends ultimately on the machine.

Beta VCRs can tape 3 hours or 41/2 hours and a new cassette with more tape in it can increase recording time to 5 hours. VHS machines record 2 hours; 2 and 4 hours; 2, 4 and 6 hours or 2 and 6 hours. A VHS cartridge loaded with enough tape to preserve 9 consecutive hours of television is in the works and should be for sale

Both systems can also play back thousands of major movies that are sold for \$40 to \$100 nationwide in cassettes for either format. Preprogrammed tapes run 2 hours.

To decide the best format, you must decide what you plan to do with the machine. For some, recording hours and hours of network televi-

with four rotating heads — two for each half of the picture. Setting the machine in advance may be useless to others. But for

Sony pared down the professional machine for home use by incorporating only two tape heads - 58 microns. Then they developed less expensive, half-inch tape and laid the tracks down diagonally and closer together. And in 1975, Sony introduced the result of their tinkering: the 1-hour Betamax.

Video is simply information laid down on tape in magnetic tracks and translated into the soundtrack and the lines of a television image through tape heads reading the sig-nals. The heads (at least one to trace each half of the picture) are attached to a drum that travels over the tape surface at a fixed speed. To achieve the speed, you can either have fastmoving tape, fast moving tape heads or more tape heads.

consumers who want the time-shift

function, both species of VCR's bristle with timers. Many have preprog-

rammers that can be instructed up to

a week in advance to record football

on two channels Sunday and a pre-

dawn Fred Astaire movie Tuesday,

or other combinations of selections.

program choices built in - as many

as seven in one week on Sharp's newest VCR — but a special Sony

tuner can add more than the basic

three or four choices to the Betamax

and Sanyo builds five selections into

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at 15 feet a second on a huge machine

its latest "Betacord"

mercial video recording.

VHS units generally have more

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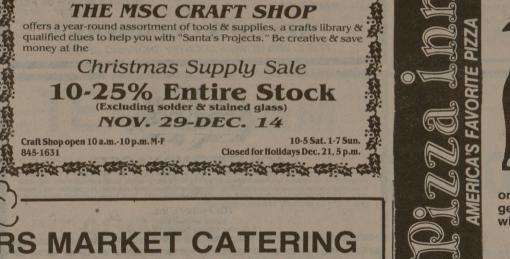
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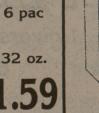
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