

Life term upheld for forgery

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Wednesday upheld a life sentence against a San Antonio man convicted of forgery.

Defense lawyers argued prosecutors failed to prove Flemon V. McNeese knew the check was forged. McNeese's attorneys also demanded acquittal on grounds the check was too ambiguous to sustain a conviction because the amount stated in figures, \$127.90, did not correspond with the sum written in words, "One Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars."

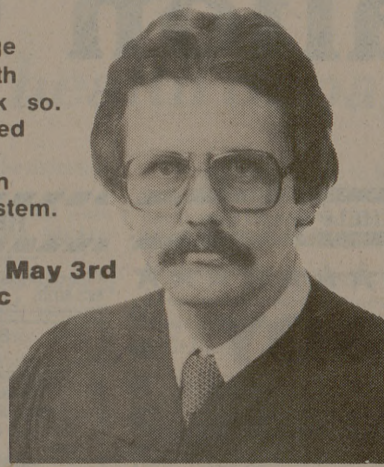
A teller at Union State Bank in San Antonio questioned the check when she noticed it was drawn on the account of a fellow bank employee, Lorce Duhart.

Duhart called security guards and later found his home had been burglarized and some checks stolen earlier in the day.

"The appellant bolted and ran when a security officer at the bank attempted to ask him about the forged check," the appeals court noted Wednesday. "The evidence is ample to prove that appellant knew the check was forged and that he possessed it with the intent to utter it and to defraud another."

Does it have to take two years for a lawsuit to come to trial?

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Doing some light work

Workers from Collier Electric Co. fasten down the last light post on the east side of Kyle Field Wednesday. Construction on the stadium is scheduled to end by May. Work on the addition to G. Rollie White Coliseum should continue through the summer.

Staff photo by Brian Blalock

Old elevator to be replaced

By JANA SIMS

Campus Reporter
A 16-year-old elevator responsible for an injury to a Texas A&M University professor last week is slated for replacement, possibly during this summer.

Dr. Claudine Hunting, a modern languages professor, was hospitalized for two days after suffering a concussion when she got off the elevator on the fourth floor of the Academic Building last Wednesday. The car was four inches short of the floor, and Hunting tripped and hit her head against a wall about six feet in front of the elevator. She was unconscious for about 20 minutes.

Joe Conway, superintendent of building maintenance, said the elevator is worn-out but he does not consider it a hazard. He said because of its age, it's hard to get parts for it, and it takes longer to repair.

He said several times the elevator has become stuck. He said one time he had to get 18 people out of the elevator at once.

Overloading is the problem. Conway said the elevator is built to hold 1,500 pounds, approximately eight people. "But," Conway said, "we can't stand there and tell people not to get on." Overcrowding causes the leveling mechanism to compensate for the excess weight, making it out of balance for additional trips with the correct number of people, thus causing it to stop uneven in with the floor.

A number of people said they will be happy to see the elevator replaced.

Gladys Douglas, a secretary in the psychology department administrative offices, located on the fourth

floor, said she no longer rides the elevator alone. She said it is undependable and she prefers to take the stairs.

Carole Knapp, a secretary in the history department, third floor, said the elevator breaks down often.

"It gets stuck about once every two weeks and someone has to come out and fix it," she said.

Charlotte Watson, a secretary in the same office as Douglas, said she remembers a time when she was in it, and the doors opened and she was halfway between two floors and had to be pulled out.

Modern languages department head Dr. Anne Marie Elmquist said, "We're accustomed to stepping off but not looking down at where we're going. But you shouldn't have to look down to check before you step out."

"I really think there should be a new elevator," she said, "not a patch-up job."

Conway said the present car will be removed and all-new equipment will be installed — possibly this summer after his department receives some bids on the replacement — and he will try to schedule a time when the elevator doesn't get much use.

The new elevator, which Conway said will cost about \$40,000 will provide better service. He said later equipment can compensate better for changes in weight.

Also planned for this year is another elevator to replace one in the animal industries building. Originally a freight elevator, the old one installed in 1935, and Conway said it's too old to use.

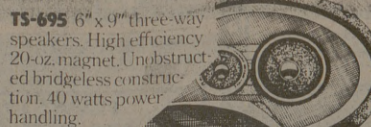
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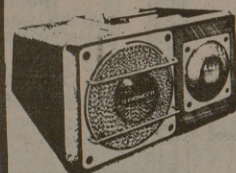
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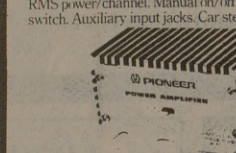
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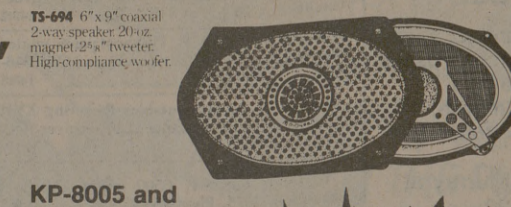
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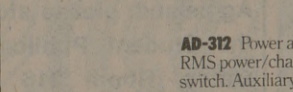
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