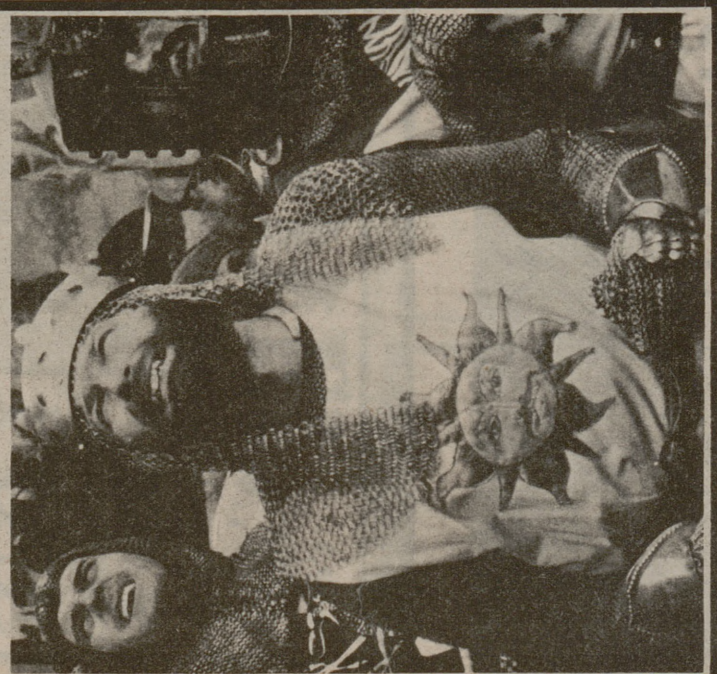
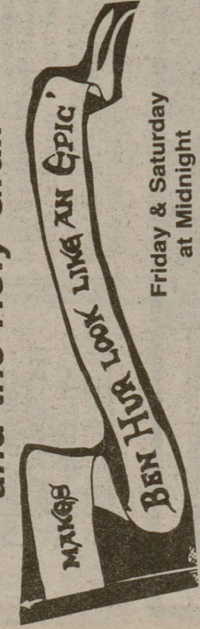


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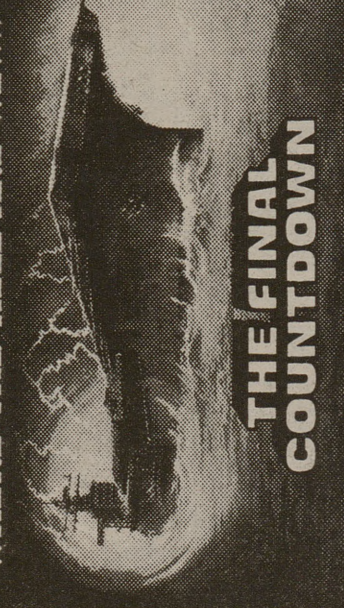
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PG

DOLBY STEREO

Local

Homeland strife is a big concern

War affects El Salvadorian Aggies

By SHARON D. RENFROW
Baton Rouge, La.
Extremist fighting in El Salvador strikes more than 70 Texas A&M University students close to home.
The international students hail from El Salvador say the fighting will affect them, too. "We are all affected by the situation," said Lolita Osequeña, a sophomore environmental design major. Her father is an architect in the capital city of San Salvador. Her mother, also an architect, is visiting Osequeña and her brothers but will return to San Salvador soon.
"We (the children) can make a life out of the country, but it is hard for our parents, who have lived here all their lives, to move," she said.
In the past 14 months more than 15,000 people in El Salvador have died in fighting. The U.S.-supported junta, under Jose Napoleon Duarte, has been struggling with the leftist guerrillas.

Those guerrillas are being supplied with arms by several communist countries, mainly the Soviet Union and Cuba. El Salvador's government has been under attack from right-wing terrorists as well. However, the students do not feel their families are in great danger.
"It's quiet where I live," Ramon Rivera, president of the El Salvador Association, said. His home is two blocks from the government center in San Salvador. "The terrorists aim for their objectives — they don't throw their bombs all over the place, so we aren't in much danger," he said.
Roommates Felipe Calderon, Ricardo Espitia and Lino Osequeña (Lolita's cousin), agreed with Rivera after being home for Christmas.
"El Salvador is not like a battleground, the way the news make it seem," said Lino, a sophomore in electrical engineering. "The first two or three weeks I went out with my friends."

Calderon, 19, a sophomore in industrial engineering, is from San Salvador and Espitia, a sophomore in agricultural economics, is from Santa Ana.
Lolo and her brothers are studying at Texas A&M because the universities in El Salvador are embroiled in politics and close often, she said.
"We saw what was going to happen," Lolo said. "Now, the idealists behind the guerrillas come into the universities and take advantage of the students who want change."
"Friends of my friends have been killed because of passing out propaganda," she said. "They are involved in terrorist organizations, guerrilla organizations."
"In a year and a half, El Salvador should have everything under control — if Reagan sends economic aid," Lino said.

Sunspot study identifies, classifies solar radiation

Despite the instability in El Salvador, all the students plan to return to their home one day — an era that will bring a peace and a summer.
John Lastrade, associate professor in the physics department at Texas A&M, said. "The sun is burning a huge hydrogen bomb on the surface of a ball."
The sun's equator rotates at that magnetic field lines twisted "like thread going around a ball," he said.
"When one of these fields or threads pops out of the sun, a hernia, and then goes back and forms," he said.
Sunspot peaks or maxima occur in 11-year cycles.
During the last sunspot minimum, over a year ago, there was an unusual "double-peak," a trade said.
"In September 1979 they (sunspots) peaked, started decreasing and then in May 1980 they peaked again," he said. "This created the second-highest sunspot maximum ever recorded."
The highest sunspot maximum on record was in 1958.
However, sunspots have so much value. Ultra-violet rays emitted by sunspots temporarily thicken the upper atmosphere, as a result of longer distance radio transmission results.
Lastrade said the Alaskan pipeline acted as a circuit or wire for sunspots, moved across it. The pipe and actually kept the oil flow," he said.
Although the Federal Aviation Administration has canceled flights over the poles during periods of high sunspot activity, because of high ionospheric absorption and other factors, the spectacular display of the northern lights — usually considered eye-pleasers — those who have seen them.

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Sunspot study identifies, classifies solar radiation

nuclear explosions, as well as sunspots, Russell said.
"We use the same equipment employed by the Air Force at Kirtland Air Force Base (New Mexico) for nuclear blast studies," he said, "but where the military studies electromagnetic pulses around missiles and aircraft, the electrical engineers set up equipment near power lines, transformers, substations and switching yards."
Sunspots, clumps of magnetic disruption on the sun's surface, appear as dark patches or spots because they are cooler than the surrounding area.
Early astronomers believed they were blemishes or clouds on the sun's surface.
With an average diameter equal to that of the earth's, sunspots resemble huge clouds of cosmic radiation.
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