

Features

Tourist-attraction plan hewn

Bedford builds a pyramid

United Press International
BEDFORD, Ind. — With a federal grant and geographic good luck, Merle Edington's dream is beginning to take shape — a pyramid that will tower 10 stories high above the farm land and forests of southern Indiana.

And if that's not enough of an attraction to draw Edington's hoped-for two million tourists a year — he's also going to throw in an 800-foot-long replica of the Great Wall of China.

Edington, president of the Bedford Chamber of Commerce, he hit upon the pyramid scheme as a way to get tourists to the world's largest building stone quarries.

Edington's version of Cheops on the Nile isn't going to cost Bedford a pharaoh's ransom.

"The land has been donated, the stone has been donated, most of the labor is being donated," Edington said.

The volcanoes of another age have provided for free the material that will compose the triangular structure — Indiana limestone that formed the blocks used by

architects to build, among other things, the Empire State Building.

Edington said he thought quarry operators might like to donate cut limestone that was just lying around, some of it piled 50 and 75 feet high, to build a tribute to an industry that was muscled out of construction by pre-stressed concrete and glass curtainwalls.

Instead of suggesting he had rocks in his head, the quarries complied.

Even Washington is helping out.

A slowdown in the Reagan administration's efforts to abolish the Economic Development Administration provided some of the cash needed to keep up with construction costs elevated by inflation.

Last week the administration processed 64 pending requests for \$23 million in grants and \$71 million in loan guarantees. Among those requests was \$200,000 for the pyramid project, which earlier had been granted \$500,000.

What still is needed is cash for equipment, light bulbs, hardware and sewage

disposal facilities.

Workmen already have laid 77,000 cubic feet of stone for the foundation of the pyramid.

It was when they were excavating the pyramid foundations Edington decided to add the replica of the Great Wall of China.

He said he had to do something to dispose of all his waste stone and earth. He thought of the Great Wall because "it's the only thing the astronauts could see from the moon that was man-made."

"This is going to be the museum of what mankind has built of stone throughout the ages," Edington said.

The pyramid is only at ground level, but people already are flocking to see it built. Edington has set up an 1890 caboose as a reception center and gift shop, from which people can wander out to be sidewalk superintendents.

"I don't know what people expect to see at this stage," he said, "because there's nothing like this that's been done in the history of the world."

Fort Worth honky-tonk showcases real building

United Press International
FORT WORTH — Not only is Billy Bob's Texas bigger than the famous Gilley's, but the bulls at the spacious new honky-tonk in Fort Worth's stockyards are live.

With room for 6,000 people, Billy Bob's is on its way to the Guinness' Book of World Records as Earth's largest nightclub, surpassing Gilley's in Pasadena.

"I'm not getting into this as a contest, only to say our place is bigger or better than some other place," said Billy Bob Taylor, a former Texas A&M football player and rancher who is the moving force behind the nightclub, which opened April 1.

"Our message is that if you want to see the real live West, come to the Fort Worth stockyards."

Billy Bob's has more than 100,000 square feet, room to seat 3,500 (compared to 3,000 at Gilley's) with a maximum capacity of 6,000 (5,500 for Gilley's).

Size isn't its only attribute. The club has 42 bar stations, two

13,000 square-foot dance floors and the entertainment includes some of country music's top performers like Larry Gatlin who performed at the opening.

And then there is the bullriding arena. No mechanical bulls at Billy Bob's. This place has an arena in which 500 people can watch professional rodeo performers ride heaving, nasty-tempered bulls. Although barred from the bullrid-

ing, the general public is invited to give calf roping a try.

Barnett, 34, and his co-owners have invested about \$5 million in revamping an old department store into their showcase nightclub. It is located in what was known at the turn of the century as "Hell's Half-Acre" where gunslingers, gamblers and hookers frolicked.

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General Studies Program

Students who plan to Pre-Register for the Fall Semester in the General Studies Program are URGED to pick up a Pre-registration Form in Room 100 of Harrington Tower from April 6 thru April 17th. Schedule of Fall Classes are available at Heaton Hall during this same time.

Modern courting is nonverbal affair

United Press International
SEATTLE — A man may be carrying a pocket computer, but he's not much beyond the cave man when it comes to courting women, says anthropologist David Givens.

Givens, a University of Washington professor, specializes in studying the ways men and women are brought together.

His main laboratory is the Hub, the student gathering center on the university campus. He spends hours quietly observing young men and women and what they do to attract persons of the opposite sex.

Givens finds early communication between strangers is nonverbal body language — non-conscious, subtle movements intended to show the man at his masculine best and the woman at her most feminine state of attractiveness.

This, the professor says, involves preening — the drawing in of the stomach and posture correction as each gradually becomes more aware of the other.

A man and a woman who reach the conclusion they are attracted to each other are in a state of "isopraxism," Givens says. They are behaving in similar patterns.

He says this behavior pattern is found also among birds and fish and is "real, real important in courtship."

In our supposedly more open society why do people fuss with such preliminaries? When boy wants to meet girl, or vice versa, why not just go up and say so?

Givens says they can't because there's some block in the human mind that prevents this approach.

"In the emotional centers of the brain, we're jerked around by these patterns formed millions and millions of years ago. What kills me about humans is that we're supposed to be so intellectual and evolved. Yet, in courtship, we're still with the apes and monkeys and whatever."

Besides, Givens says a spoken message is "too strong." The preening, hair tossing, tummy tucking or chest expanding is the unlearned, non-conscious, instinctive stuff of which budding romance is made.

The professor says the milestone in early courting lies in finding ways to "accidentally" touch.

"They'll do the sneakiest thing to get a touch," he says, then they'll snatch a hug and modify it with humor.

Givens says humor is vital.

"If the person gets serious real fast, it scares the other person away. At any time, the other person could drop it — the whole thing is like a dance."

As for men's booming speech and swaggering walk, Givens says that isn't so much to attract females as it is a "subtle challenge" posture to threaten other men away much in the way a ram threatens male rivals with its horns.

He says the roots of the flirting process are found in the parent-child bonding process where faces are thrust close together to magnify eye and body contact.

The childish actions later are used in the flirting process. Givens says women generally are much better at this process than men.

Flirting isn't limited to the young or the unmarried, he says, and it doesn't stop with old age.

"If they can still move, you'll find the same courtship units."

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