National

#### Plush buses newest status symbols

## Entertainers take to the road in style

"It's a status symbol for many of these entertainers," he said. "Burt

saw Dolly Parton's bus and loved

it. She planned to use her bus on

the set of the movie 'The Best Lit-

tle Whorehouse in Texas.' Univer-

sal Studios was just going to give

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mbembe" escribed it United Press International NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A tear-al Tammy Wynette passed crisp 1600 bills to the crew and then long, reddin ling between It is describ flexible ne anned the wheel to drive her ew \$250,000 touring bus out of cail, and sho eeds on white with an app ow on the m It was Wynette's second cus-

memade bus — complete with a purposter brass bed. Climbing airline fares — parti-calarly on short-haul flights — precaused more and more enter-mores to take to the road again. The ach rich orthertoriones ride id depiction resemble The cash-rich entertainers ride 'e becom style. Their homes away from years ago.

The "Black Beauty," a custom busjust sold for use in the Rolling Co., forcing Jackson to look to iece of grom ged in 70 m an said. The me, therefores, floods at would he es' tour, boasts a remoteontrol color television-videotape wokup complete with tapes of inst-run movies, a microwave Arthur) Ca en, a trash compactor, a mobile lephone, a \$13,000 stereo sys-World'enst and a computer bar that doles shots of bourbon, gin, whisvodka and scotch. It sleeps up 2 and there is a "state room" the group's star, Mick Jagger. We want you to be as comfort-Ver able in one of our buses as your own would be sitting in your own

ne," said Jerry Messier, a for-cabinet maker who left Cali-iafour years ago to build buses Sal or the Music City Manufacturing wood.

hite House press room in a

elchair Monday and, display-

ighis customary wit and warmth,

ld reporters: "I miss most of

ouse since being shot in the larch 30 attempt on Reagan's

rials we can to make the bus to get the bus after seeing one

dresulta White House visit

agan at his side, returned to the bished press room.

United Press International The presidential press secret-WASHINGTON — A misty-ary was on hand for the formal dedication of the newly refur-

friends.

His return to his former baili-the was the first official visit the made to the White His made to the White His day when

more plush. Expense, of course, is owned by Dolly Parton. usually not a consideration.

Burt Reynolds just accepted delivery of his \$400,000 custom masterpiece, but unlike most entertainers, Reynolds plans to use it as a dressing room on the set of his new movie, "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas."

He turned to custom buses

one, has a dressing room and

makeup room, hand-laid stone

tile, a brass sink and air brush

The presidential press secret-

Brady gave the thumbs-up sign as he was wheeled in and said: "It's nice to be back. Hello, good

Reagan told the gathering: "Jim

we're all waiting for the day when

you are back for good.

and Mel Tillis.

Burt a trailer. "He said, 'Wait a minute, I'm the star,' and decided to get us to "Burt's like a kid with a new toy," Wayne Charleton, the firm's business manager, said. build him a bigger bus.

The company, owned by David Jackson, was formed in 1962 to 'Reynolds wanted a jacuzzi or a hot tub in his bus, but we talked him out of it. That might present a problem with the floor collapsing make the most popular version of the pedal steel guitar - Sho-Bud. or the bus shifting weight suddenly

"Burt didn't want to be cramped in his bathroom. He other ways to use his expertise in metal fabrication and cabinetry. wanted to make sure his knees didn't touch his chin. Wynette, Reynolds, John Con-lee and T.G. Shepherd have pur-chased buses. The firm has leased Charleton said Reynold's show-

piece bus already has brought the firm more clients. The Robert Redfords

buses to other stars, including Kim Carnes, Bruce Springsteen, they're not going to let Burt Reynolds get ahead of them," Messier said. Johnny Paycheck, Loretta Lynn Reynolds' bus is the most ex-pensive bus ever made by Charle-Charleton said his firm is currently working on a voiceton and his crew. It only sleeps activated computer that, on verbal

command, would start the engine, turn on the lights or crank up the There's another reason that is stereo. The price of the computer especially attractive for entertain-

answer the telephone.

Then we customize.

Nashville for renovation. Messier said: "(The bus) comes

is about \$20,000, he said. ers who have a problem making The company's sales depend on ends meet with the Internal Re-word of mouth. "We have no vast venue Service.

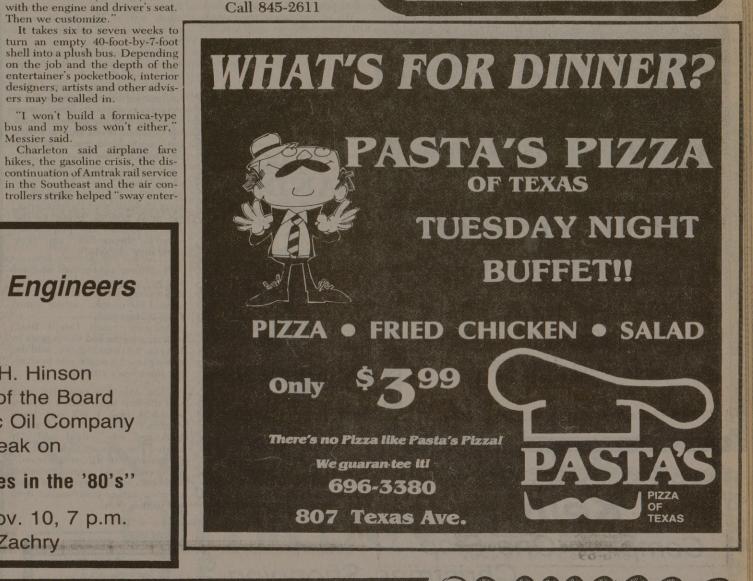
sales organization," Charleton said. "The only sales we do is Messier said: "It's very profitable for entertainers and us as far as a tax writeoff. It's the only way to go and be comfortable and it's a The buses are purchased from American Eagle Manufacturing hell of a lot cheaper than renting a Co. in Texas for about \$130,000 plane and then brought to the garage in

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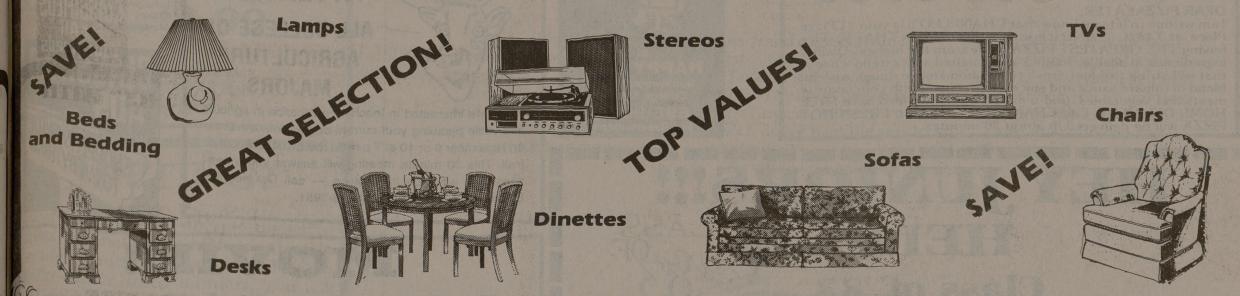
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