

Las Vegas Hilton arson-murderer attempts permanent escape: suicide

United Press International
LAS VEGAS — The attorney for the busboy convicted of arson and mass murder in the Las Vegas Hilton blaze denies his client tried to kill himself, but guards kept Phillip Cline under constant surveillance Monday in a jail hospital.

“Cline was seeking a temporary escape rather than a permanent one,” said attorney Kevin Kelly. “This is not a serious attempt to take his life.”

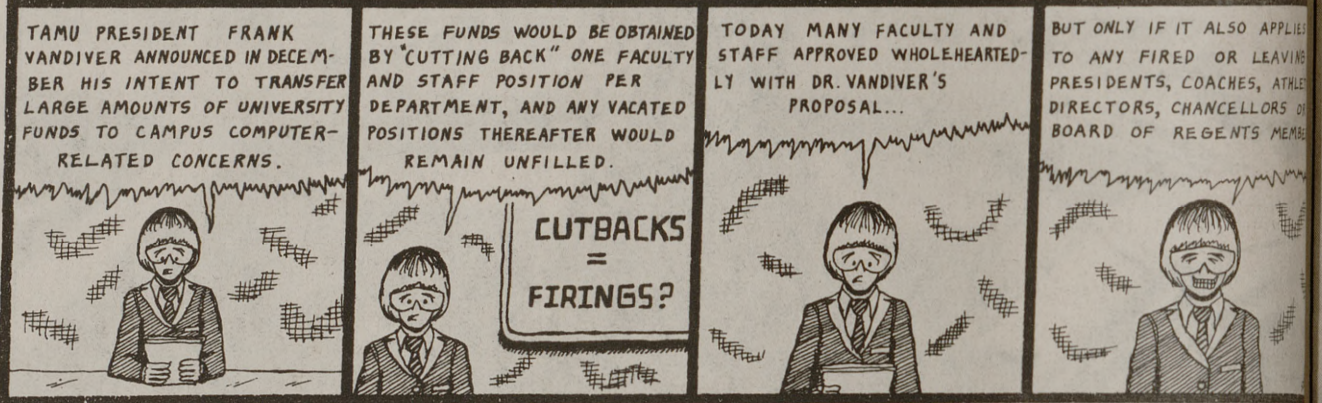
Cline, 24, was taken to Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital Saturday, less than 24 hours after he was found guilty of arson-murder counts for the \$14 million fire that killed eight people at the resort on Feb. 10, 1981.

Authorities, noticing Cline's speech was slurred and his movements uncoordinated, originally feared he had taken a drug overdose in a suicide attempt.

Traces of a mind-altering drug commonly found in prescription medication were found in Cline's stomach, but hospital officials said the drug did not endanger his life.

Warped

By Scott McCulla



Lung cancer deaths up

Fatality rate rises in '81

United Press International
NEW YORK — Lung cancer deaths are increasing and the disease will kill a record 111,000 Americans this year even though it is among the most preventable cancers, the American Cancer Society says.

The society said Sunday in its 1982 edition of "Cancer Facts & Figures" that an estimated 430,000 Americans will die of cancers this year — 9,000 more than died of the disease in 1981.

Two-thirds of the additional deaths will be directly attributable to lung cancer. In 1950, lung cancer deaths accounted for only 8.7 percent of the cancer mortality rate.

The report said the causes for today's rate of lung cancer, which has an incubation period

of 15 to 20 years for most lung cancer victims, began with smoking patterns a generation ago.

The society said Sunday in its 1982 edition of "Cancer Facts & Figures" that an estimated 430,000 Americans will die of cancers this year — 9,000 more than died of the disease in 1981.

"If it weren't for lung cancer — developing at a much faster rate than any other kind of cancer — the overall cancer death rate would actually be going down," said Lawrence Garfinkel, society vice president for cancer prevention.

"The irony of this situation is that lung cancer is among the most preventable. The best way to avoid getting it is to give up cigarettes."

On the treatment front, the society said research with interferon, a natural body substance working at least in part through the immune system, showed promising anticancer activity.

Interferon is being tested against multiple myeloma, melanoma, breast cancer and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"A number of patients so far have shown some response to interferon, ranging from those whose steady downhill course was stabilized to those whose tumors disappeared entirely," the society said. "It is still too early to tell what the long-term effect will be on the patients' survival and well-being."

From 1950 to 1978 — the last year for which statistics are available — the death rate for all cancers increased from 157 to 169.9 per 100,000 population. But excluding lung cancer, the death rate dropped from 144 to 128.7.

The society anticipates 129,000 new cases of lung cancer this year, 123,000 of colon-rectum cancer, 112,000 of breast cancer and 73,000 of prostate cancer.

"The startling aspects of lung cancer's rise in incidence and

mortality are matched by the of statistics relating to five-year survival," the society said. "The cancer's record is one of the grimmest."

It offers a 42 percent five-year survival among white men whose disease is still localized, 4 percent if it has spread and 9 percent overall. For blacks, five-year survival prospects are 24 percent if localized, 3 percent if it has spread and 6 percent overall.

Other highlights of the report:

- More than 278,000 Americans who get cancer in 1982 survive five years or more.
- Two million Americans have passed the five-year survival mark, a yardstick generally associated with cure. More than a million are working toward that mark.
- Several cancers had poor prognoses a few decades ago, but today are being cured in many cases, mostly because of drug advances. Among these are acute lymphocytic leukemia, adult myelogenous leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, Wilms tumor, testicular cancer, ovarian cancer, and breast cancer.

JAZZERCISE

A new session of Jazzercise will be starting in College Station on January 26. Jazzercise is a unique way of body conditioning using joyful jazz dance movements and swinging music. Each class works through a warm-up period, peak performance, then cool-down. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-5:45 p.m. or 6-6:45 p.m. Registration can be completed by calling instructor, Cindy, at 693-1309, after 5 p.m. please, or students can register in class. Classes are held at the Unitarian Fellowship, 305 Wellborn Rd, and each 4 week session, 2 classes per week, is \$15.

Postman-policeman nabs Jeep thief

United Press International
PORTLAND, Ore. — Richard S. Forza is one letter

carrier who really would rather be a policeman, and he showed his talents when someone took his Postal Service Jeep.

Forza, 25, a reserve policeman who has been a postal worker for two years, was sorting letters into apartment mailboxes Thursday when he saw a man driving off in his vehicle.

Forza, unable to keep up with the Jeep, flagged down another driver, Allen Lee Dowd, and told him: "Follow that Jeep."

The Jeep finally turned into a dead-end street and bumped a pickup truck from behind before coming to a stop, he said.

Forza said when the driver got out of the Jeep, he stuck his hand into his pocket as if he had a weapon but then jumped back into the vehicle.

Donald Edmun Gibbons, 22, was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and jailed with bail set at \$2,500.

Police find smuggled drugs

United Press International
SAN FRANCISCO — Narcotics officers have broken up what they call the City Prison's "Custard Eclair Conspiracy" — a plot to smuggle narcotics behind bars in eclairs.

Sheriff Michael Hennessey said investigators were tipped off two weeks ago by an inmate that drugs had been delivered to the jail inside sweets at least once.

So Friday an undercover officer posing as the brother of a prisoner gave a former inmate of the jail who was suspected in the smuggling ring \$50 to deliver amphetamines to City Prison. Hennessey said.

Narcotics officers said Sunday as a result of their investigation Sheriff's Deputy Robert Williams, 33, was arrested on charges of trying to smuggle methamphetamines in pastries.

Also arrested were Marvin Blueford, 39, an inmate who allegedly received drug-filled pastries from Williams and distributed them to other prisoners, and James McDonald, 18, who delivered the pastries to the jail.

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United Press Intern ALLISON — In t Texas Panhandle, a filled with choppy, surrounds a well spe cloud of natural gas is as more than two o-almovers attempt to into the ground to st

The well, which Nov. 3 approximate southeast of Allison releasing more than cubic feet of gas per d sparsely populated o

Some involved in have estimated the the massive digging a effort at approxima million dollars a day man for Apache Cor responsible for the dined to estimate th said the expense was a well control insura

Officials in Apa Minnesota, Minn. the well, which initia Oct. 4 but was r month later, began r uncontrolled flow o the wellhead."

Workers and are tell a different story "The pumper was after checking the w ing it had 11,000 pressure," said Orv who has a construct nearby Canadian.

"He heard an ex turned around to se mas tree and the pi hundreds of feet in

The pipe and Ch — pipes and valves the wellhead to cont and prevent a blov back into a virtual c pllosion cut into the

Now heavy equip ators are digging da in efforts to relocat the pipe releasing g well.

A Woodward, Ok viding firm, Cudd P trol, is in charge of ous operation to lte the well hole. Altho say chances of the are remote, highly gas hangs over th

Bob Cudd, wh

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