

Group initiates plan to save wild burros

United Press International
BEAUMONT — G.W. Biscamp and his wife, Pamela, have turned their air conditioning company office into an adoption agency for some of the burros that the Navy's China Lake, Calif., Weapons Center is trying to get rid of.

"We just want the Navy to give us a chance to do what we can to save the burros before they kill them," Biscamp said.

Biscamp, 27, his wife, 28, and some friends have organized Equine Rescue Inc. For \$50, people can adopt one of the 3,700 to 5,000 burros the Navy doesn't want.

The Navy, which killed 648 burros last year and allowed humane groups to round up 26 more, has not yet agreed to Equine Rescue's plan, but the Biscamps hope to convince the Navy their plan is a good one.

The Biscamps contacted Rep. Jack Brooks, D-Texas, and are organizing a campaign in schools and daycare centers to have children draw burros, write "Please don't kill them" on the bottom and send them to the Pentagon.

The burros, descendants of burros used by prospectors and traders in the California mountains, run wild around the weapons center.

It costs much more than \$50 to catch a burro in California and truck it to Texas. And the Biscamps are trying to raise the extra money, in addition to seeking new homes for them.

"I don't think it will be any problem to raise enough money," Mrs. Biscamp said.

"Some people who can't take a burro, or who don't want one, but don't want them to be killed have donated money," Mrs. Biscamp said.

"We're hoping that if other people around the country see that we can place 50 burros here in Beaumont they will decide to do the same thing."

Adoptees will have to let Equine Rescue inspect the burro's new home.

"A burro is not a dog," Biscamp said. "We don't want people putting them in a dog run."

Mrs. Biscamp said: "They can be very gentle and lovable."

Biscamp added: "But don't expect them to be that way the first few weeks."

Proposed Reagan plan to give states money, control of social programs

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan is embracing a far-reaching plan that would give state and local officials control of 40 transportation, education and welfare programs now run by the federal government, sources say.

The "turnback" plan — part of Reagan's "New Federalism" — would give Washington more authority to state and local governments — will be the cornerstone of the president's 26 State of the Union address, congressional sources Monday.

Sources say the president will propose a doubling of federal excise taxes on alcohol, tobacco and gasoline, and any new revenue generated would also be added to the trust fund.

The nation's governors have lobbied for a tax turnback to compensate for cuts in federal aid over the last year. But the transfer of additional spending obligations to state and local authorities under the Reagan plan makes it unclear whether they would emerge net winners.

Sources declined to name specific programs that would be turned over to state and local authorities, saying only they have to do with transportation, education and welfare.

The revenue-generating part of the plan, such as which excise taxes to increase and by how much, was very fluid and could change between now and Jan. 26, one source said.

The turnback proposal may be submitted to Congress separately from the 1983 budget, which will be presented Feb. 8, sources said.

Under the plan, programs would be transferred from federal to state or local control and funded through a huge trust fund, one source said.

The trust fund would be created, in part, by combining the \$6 billion general revenue-sharing program with Community Development Block Grants and Urban Development Action Grants, for which Congress has authorized about \$4.1

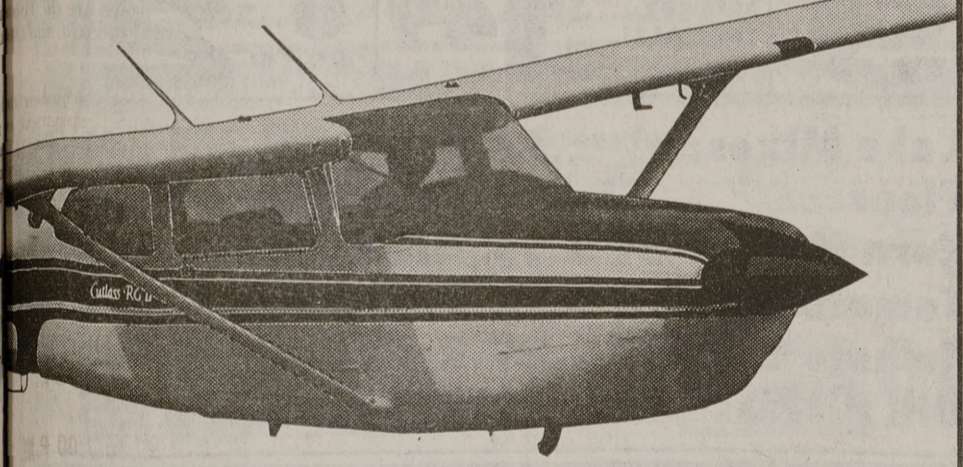
Two-seat outhouse stolen

United Press International
BURLINGTON, Ill. — Alfred Perkins and his wife left the city five years ago to escape urban crime, but didn't know they would be victimized by a caper that could only happen in the country.

Someone stole their outhouse.

Perkins said the two-seat outhouse, which stood next to a small guest house near his home, was stolen while he was on vacation between Dec. 12 and Dec. 28.

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Warped

By Scott McCullar



Prosecutors use dog hair, carpet fibers to link Williams with Atlanta victims

United Press International
ATLANTA — Prosecutors set up a slide projector and a huge screen in front of the jury box Tuesday to show the dog hairs and carpet fibers — providing the major physical link between Wayne Williams, 23, and his alleged victims.

The first witness to testify on fibers in the state's painstaking murder case against the black photographer was expected to be an expert from the Du Pont chemical firm.

Williams is on trial for the murder of Nathaniel Cater, 27, and Jimmy Ray Payne, 21, two of the 28 young blacks abducted and killed in Atlanta in a 22-month-long series that ended when Williams fell under suspicion last May.

Witnesses in pre-trial hearings said fibers from rugs in Williams' home and hairs from his family's dog Sheba, matched those found on the bodies of Cater and Payne.

Williams' voice was heard in the courtroom Monday for the first time in the trial, now in its fifth week. It came via a tape recording made of a news conference Williams called after his nine-hour interrogation at FBI headquarters June 3, nearly three weeks before his arrest.

Williams complained of harassment by law enforcement officers, insisted he knew none of the victims and said he survived the interrogation by FBI agents only because "I'm a hell-raiser, a born rebel."

Earlier, the FBI agents portrayed the session — during which he was actually questioned for about three hours — as a relatively mild one.

The final witness Monday was Richard Ernest, a microanalyst at the state crime lab, who led a nine-hour search of Williams' station wagon while the suspect was undergoing his interview at

the FBI offices. Ernest identified ice cream cartons, several plastic bags and

a brown paper bag as containing sweepings removed from the car.

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