



In the shade of the tree

staff photo by Eileen Manton

Rita Sarina, a sophomore secondary education major from Dallas, and Joseph Black, a junior mechanical engineering major from Houston, enjoy a walk under a tree.

Specialists recommend contact lenses for kids

United Press International
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Those millions of men and women who pop plastic lenses into their eyes each day instead of putting on eyeglasses may see a younger generation join that same routine.

Most of the 15 million to 20 million people in America who wear contact lenses are between the ages of 16 and 30, but many specialists in the field believe more children will and should be fitted for the lenses.

Dr. David W. Hansen, president of the Heart of America Contact Lens Society, said he sees an increase in the number of children under 10 being fitted for contacts. Research has proven, he said, that during those early years contacts can retard myopia or nearsightedness.

In the past, contact lenses have been thought as cosmetic or beauty aids, but Hansen said his society's major concern now is to look at contacts as health care devices.

"It is a misconception that contacts are just for adults and not children," Hansen said in an interview. "We must remember children are more adaptable to anything. Even 4- or 5-year-olds can be taught proper hygiene and lens removal."

The Iowa optometrist joined about 600 other doctors and 200 assistants recently for the 21st Annual Heart of America Contact Lens Congress, where spe-

cialists from Australia, Canada and Sweden, as well as the United States, shared current information about contact lens research, materials, instrumentation and systems for patient care.

The Heart of America Contact Lens Society is a group of optometrists in seven midwestern states that was formed 21 years ago to educate the public about contact lenses.

Hansen emphasized the importance of looking at contacts on more of a functional basis, not just as a substitute for eyeglasses. Contact lenses can benefit those who suffer from cataracts, birth defects, traumatic injury to the eye, strabismus (cross-eyed), amblyopia (loss of sharpness in vision), nystagmus (jerky movements in eye), keratoconus (bulging eye) and hereditary defects, such as albinism.

Many of these problems are detected during childhood, so parents should be aware of the contact lens as a therapeutic device, Hansen said.

When the first generation of contact lens was introduced in the late 1940s, the lenses were large bulbous discs that covered the white part of the eye as well as the cornea. In the early 1950s smaller plastic lenses were introduced.

Today there are four types of lenses on the market — hard, soft, extended wear and oxygen-permeable.

The soft lens was introduced

in 1971. There are now 42 soft lens designs, Hansen said. The Food and Drug Administration approved the "extended wear" lens last February and later approved "tinted" lens (soft) and a "toric" soft lens, which corrects astigmatism. A bifocal lens is on the way, he said.

Hard lenses made of a rigid plastic generally give better vision and are less expensive.

Soft lenses, which are larger than hard, are made of water-absorbing plastic, and each lens contains between 30 to 40 percent water.

Extended wear lenses are super soft and made of new materials that are 60 to 80 percent water. They can be worn as long as a month.

Oxygen- or gas-permeable lenses, which are as hard as the traditional lens, are made of a material that allows normal air gases to pass through the lens material for a healthier cornea.

Now You Know

The first income tax in U.S. history was slapped on taxpayers Aug. 5, 1862 to raise funds for fighting the Civil War.

Sun Belt boom increases growth of Brownsville port

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — The growth of the Sun Belt has stimulated the South's economy but also has burdened its cities with monumental population and environmental problems.

The city of Brownsville has grown to 100,000 in the past four years and Matamoros, across the river, has 300,000 people. By the year 2000 both cities could have a combined population of 1 million.

Al Cisneros, director of the Brownsville Navigation District for 12 years, is well aware of monumental problems progress has brought, and will continue to bring, to the area.

The navigation district was established in 1937 using a 17-

mile channel. But when the port was established, the district also bought 43,000 acres of land surrounding the port. Today 200 companies employ 6,000 people in the port areas to transport four million tons of cargo a year through the channel.

The remainder of the 43,000 acres of the navigation district will be used only for industry, Cisneros said.

"Our growth is yet to come," Cisneros said. "We have prevented urban development from encroaching on the port. We own the land and we only allow industry. To us environmental protection is a important as industry development, but we have separated the two."

Cisneros also said the author-


ity wants to deepened the channel from 36 feet to 55 feet to permit bigger ships access to the port.

"Our port is too shallow to allow the types of (large) ships being built today across. The refineries shipping their products could greatly reduce their costs if they had larger ships," he said.

A major problem in the Brownsville-Matamoros area is the lack of international bridges to accommodate the constant heavy traffic between the two countries. One downtown bridge is the most heavily used. Another small rail bridge also exists.

Cisneros said at least four more bridges are needed.

MSC CRAFT SHOP - Sp. 1982 - NEW CLASSES



Day	Class	Dates	Time	Cost	Instructor
Monday	QUILTING (2)	Mar. 22-Apr. 12	7pm-9pm	\$12.00	Norma Metzger Kathryn Telch
	ADVANCED GLASS ETCHING	Mar. 1-Mar. 29	7pm-9pm	\$12.00	
Tuesday	BEGINNING STAINED GLASS	Feb. 16-Mar. 9	7pm-9:30pm	\$15.00	Connie Hester Ann Dobbs Helen Finney
	BEGINNING POTTERY	Feb. 16-Apr. 13	7pm-9pm	\$24.00	
	CREATIVE ILLUSTRATION	Feb. 23-Apr. 6	7pm-9pm	\$38.00	
	GLASS STAINING	Feb. 23-Apr. 6	7pm-9pm	\$18.00	
A Course in Enhancing Creativity and Artistic Confidence A Fresh Approach to Developing Your Drawing Skills					
Alternate Method to High Cost of Genuine Stained Glass. Inexpensive Plate Glass Used in Conjunction with Stains to Create Affects of Stained Glass. Various Methods and Techniques Will Be Taught.					
	MATTING & FRAMING	Apr. 13-Apr. 27	7pm-9pm	\$ 9.00	Russell Cox
Wednesday	CHINA PAINTING	Feb. 17-Mar. 31	7pm-9pm	\$18.00	Inge Vasovski
Thursday	BEGINNING GLAZE MAKING	Feb. 16-Mar. 4 & 25	7pm-9pm	\$ 9.00	Rebecca Roberts-Hirsch Wayne Helton
	WOODSHOP ORIENTATION	Feb. 25-Apr. 6	3pm-5pm	\$20.00	

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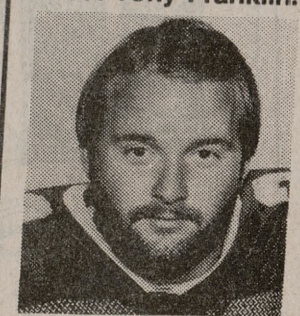
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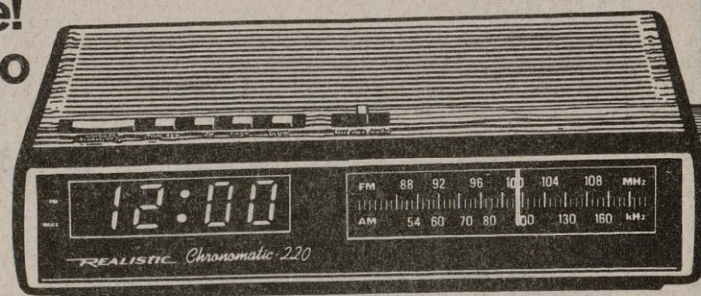
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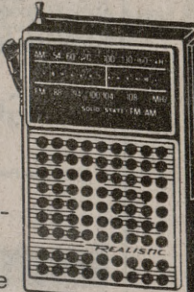
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