

How to pursue small claims

Taking a case to court

cases

vice name.

If there is a valid claim and

you must know the name of the

corporation or the person doing

age or repair estimates, receipts,

letters, contracts, promissory

notes, leases, canceled checks.

- Documents, such as dam-

business under the store or ser-

United Press International LOS ANGELES — Someone dent your car through their own negligence and refuse to pay?

The Battalion

March 4, 1982 /Page 1B

Did a lover break up with you and keep the \$1,200 waterbed

set you bought together? Have you ever paid a huge / TV repair bill only to find the set didn't work right?

These incidents are annoying, frustrating and costly enough to make a person want justice.

Last year more than 1.5 million people took such grievances to small claims court. Many of them won, quickly, simply and cheaply.

Small claims court is for the so-called common person with average income and limited knowlege of judicial procedure. James Morris, a small claims

court judge from Rochester, N.Y., has written a book, "You Can Win Big In Small Claims Court." It walks the reader through small claims court procedure step by step with actual cases and explanations for the

judge's ruling. "Not only is small claims court cheap and efficient, but clerk It will be necessary to show: — The full legal name and address of the person you're going to sue. If it's a business, what could take two days with a jury trial can be done in 30 mi-nutes," Morris said in an interview

Claims can be filed up to \$750 or \$1,000 in most states. California, among others, raised its limit to \$1,500 this year. Some states, such as Texas and Geor-gia, allow only \$200 or \$300. Others, such as Tennessee, New Mexico and Virginia, put the limit at \$5,000.

It is not necessary to know

probably will cost between \$2 and \$10. Morris says the average legal procedure to go to small claims court. Lawyers usually fee is \$7 are not involved. Some states don't allow them in small claims State the name and address

of the person being sued, the amount of money claimed, a evidence to prove the case, look up the number of the local small claims court and contact the brief-about 25 words-expla-nation of why the money is owed, your signature and the date

Section B

Morris warns that unless you are quickly paid the owed money in full, both parties should appear in court and re-port the settlement agreement to the judge. Above all, he counsels, don't

be afraid to use small claims court.

"There are many ways to make society more complex," he If the claim is a valid matter said. "Small claims court is a way for small claims court, filing to make it simple.

Paris newspaper says photo cited by Haig four years old

United Press International PARIS — The newspaper Le Figaro says the photo used by Secretary of State Alexander Haig to show the Nicaraguan government is massacring its Indians was a 4-year-old picture of Red Cross workers burning casualties of the civil war.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said: "it is unfortunate the photo was misidentified. Nonetheless,

treatment of the Miskito Indians remains as it was, as stated by the secretary of state."

ers) last December. Two hun-

dred Indians were cut to pieces

On Feb. 19, after meeting with AFL-CIO officials about Nicaragua, Haig said he "drew their attention, for example, to The photograph in the rightthe photograph in Figaro this wing publication carried a cap-tion that said, "the massacre of fiercely anti-Castro Miskito Inweek in Paris which showed the most atrocious genocidal actions that are being taken by the dians by Nicaragua's Socialist-Nicaraguan government against Marxist barbudos (Cuban advistheir Indian populations along

the east coast

The French satirical weekly Le Canard Enchaine revealed the photo published in Le Figaro's weekend magazine in early February actually was taken four years ago

The Gamma photo agency, whose photographer took the picture, said it bore the label, "Nicaragua, September 1978," but Figaro magazine had not asked for a caption.

Henri-Christian Giraud, editor of Figaro magazine, said the photograph was a mistake.

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Demirs with a warm kiss when her

Let's go play, Red seems to say to major from Bryan. Red greeted

a

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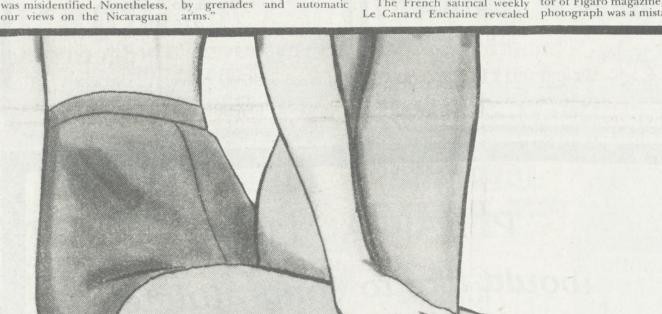
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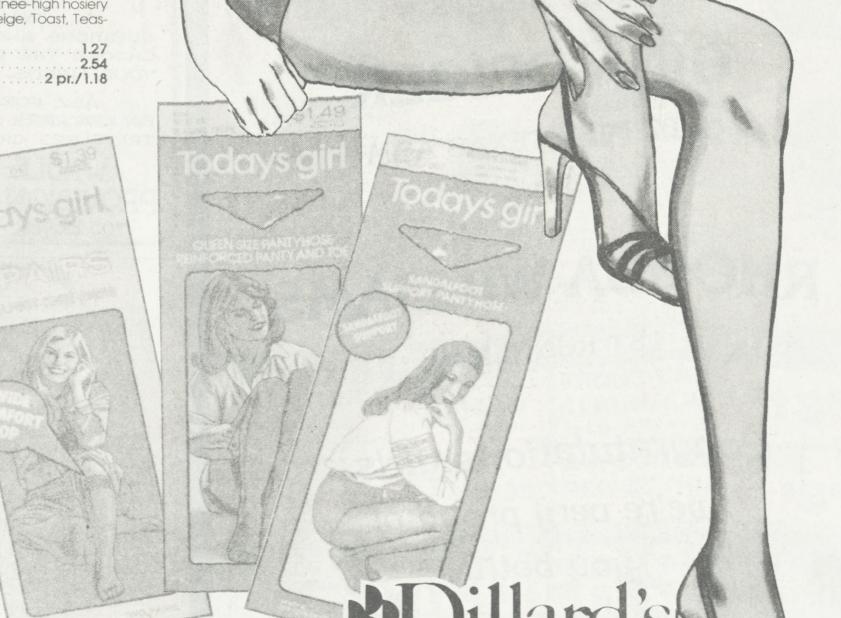
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