



Dancing for art

staff photo by Michael D. Johnson

Alan Hegi, a senior English major from Pittsburg, Texas, and Mary Polinard, a senior management major from Galveston, waltz to baroque music recorded by the

Italian group I Musici. I Musici will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday in Rudder Auditorium, sponsored by MSC OPAS. Ticket information is available at Rudder Box Office.

Dallas hotels party hearty

United Press International
AUSTIN — Two fancy hotels near downtown Dallas sell more liquor — a combined average of about \$28,000 a day or \$10 million a year — than any other drinking establishments in Texas.

But figures obtained from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission showed that of the top 10 liquor sellers, six are nightclubs.

Loew's Anatole Hotel and the Hyatt Regency in Dallas were at the top of the list, each averaging more than \$400,000 a month in liquor sales. Others in the top 10 (for monthly average) were Billy Bob's Texas, Fort Worth; Hyatt Regency, Houston; The Marker, Houston; Gilley's Club, Pasadena; Cooter's, Houston; Hyatt Regency, Austin; Confetti-A Fundrinery, Dallas; and Diamondback, Houston.

The top 10 were compiled from the commission's latest figures for a 12-month period ending in August, and were based on the 10 percent state gross receipts tax on liquor sales.

Some hotels and clubs were not in operation for the full 12 months and others operated under different names or ownership for part of the period surveyed.

The highest rated nightclubs in the top 10 — Billy Bob's and Gilley's — both have country-western formats. But one of the hottest clubs in liquor sales over the last two months is Confetti in Dallas, formerly known as Cowboy.

The club, which made the name switch in June after being shut down for four months, had sales in July and August of about \$500,000, nearly doubling Gilley's and edging Billy Bob's by more than \$50,000.

The club last operated as Cowboy in January 1982 and had sales that month of only \$7,190. Prior to its closing, Cowboy's highest monthly sales dur-

ing the 12-month period were only \$168,440.

"The (cowboy) concept was dead so we had to go with something else," said David Atwood, beverage manager at Confetti. "We're kind of like the new kid in town."

Atwood said a second Confetti club will open in Houston.

Even though Billy Bob's and Gilley's have lagged behind Confetti in the last two reporting months, the country-western clubs had consistent sales over the 12-month period.

Loew's Anatole hotel had the highest sales for any establishment for any one month.

Loew's spokesman Mike Alexander said the hotel's sales do not vary much from month to month, and that a good month in sales could be a mix of elements.

"A full house is great, but there is really a mix of things that make it good — like a Texas-OU (Oklahoma football) weekend," said Alexander.

Brent Christie, food and beverage director at the Dallas Hyatt, said his hotel's liquor sales are linked directly to conventions and special events, such as the Texas-OU game and the Cotton Bowl.

But Maury Graves, food and beverage director at the Austin Hyatt, said Texas home football games do not bolster sales that much at his hotel.

Chris Aldieri, beverage director at the Houston Hyatt, said liquor flows more freely at conventions where the sponsors are making a sales pitch.

"They'll spend more for it (liquor) if they're trying to sell something," he said.

Aldieri said the hotel can count on big liquor sales when conventions are staged by oil or computer industry groups.

On the other hand, Christie said conventions that tend to spend the least on liquor are those sponsored by associations with a fixed liquor budget.

An informal survey of beverage directors at hotels and nightclubs showed that vodka is the best selling liquor because it is used in such a wide range of mixed drinks.

Bourbon is also popular, hotel officials said they are seeing more and more white tequila because of the popularity of margaritas in Austin.

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Today's Almanac

United Press International
Today is Thursday, Oct. 21, the 294th day of 1982 with 71 to follow.

The moon is moving toward its first quarter.
The morning stars are Mercury, Venus and Saturn.

The evening stars are Mars and Jupiter.

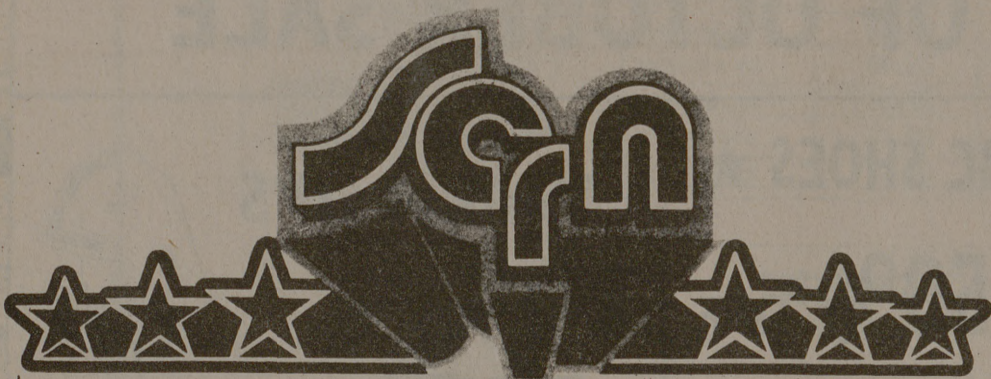
Those born this date are under the sign of Libra.
Alfred Nobel, Swedish inventor and founder of the Nobel Peace Prize, was born Oct. 21, 1833.

On this date in history:

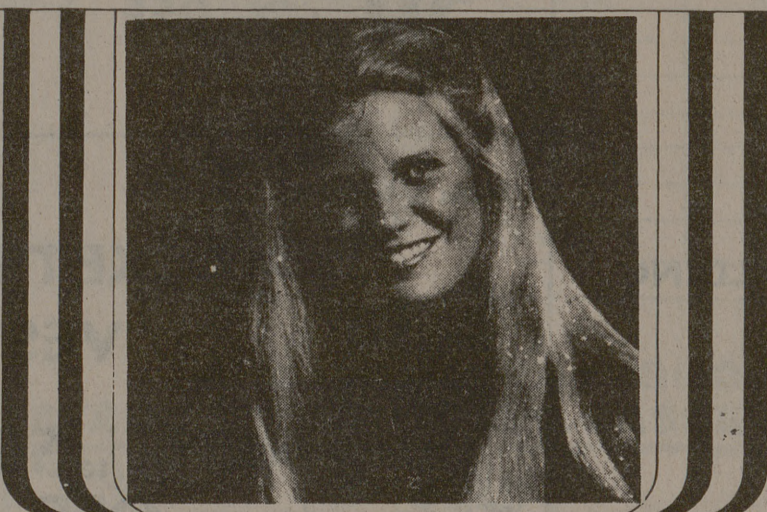
In 1879, after 14 months of experiments, Thomas Edison invented a workable electric incandescent lamp.

In 1917, the U.S. Army's 1st Division became the first American fighting unit to see action in World War I.

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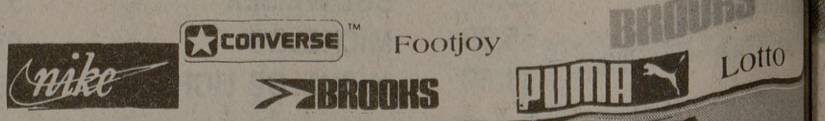
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