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United Press International HOUSTON — When it was built 17 years ago, the Astrodome was one of a kind, at the beginning to show.

For example, the Astrodome Houston flats in 1965. is not one of the many stadiums domed, that have some sort of permanent giant-screen television replay for the fans. It is dirty. It has traffic problems. It has Ben Gillespie said. too few restrooms for women.

But the Houston Sports Association and Harris County offichange some of that.

spent on the adjacent Astrohall

Show and Rodeo.

The total cost, to be financed cutting edge of sports arena with hotel tax revenues and with hotel tax revenues and oldest of several domed stadiums in America and its age is dome cost only \$45.3 million to build from scratch on the south

'Since that time, there've in the country, domed or un- been quite a number of improvements made in technology that goes into operation of sta-Astrodome spokesman

"There has been just normal wear and tear on the facility over the years. And while there has cials plan to spend \$50 million been maintenance done, there over the next three years to are some other things we can do to restore some of its former

— and separate Astroarena, the Dome a more pleasant ex-home for the Houston Livestock perience." improving signage in the Dome."

outside the stadium, Gillespie said. Inside, bids will be taken replay for the Houston Astros, Houston Oilers, University of Houston Cougars and other

New signs will be erected outside, he said, along with new lights to help traffic flow and new patterns for traffic flow. "We'll be doing a lot of things

that aren't too visible, things like emergency power systems in Astrohall, and improve the not the same as men's.' sound system in the hall," Gilles-

pie said.
"We will be re-upholstering every seat — 50,000 for football Some of the money will be glory.

Some of the money will be glory.

"We feel there are things that Dome, and replacing those that are things that Dome, and replacing the will also be -convention and exhibit center can be done to make coming to need replacing. We will also be

strooms. The designers of the said. Inside, bids will be taken Astrodome thought women for a new giant-screen television only needed as many restrooms as men. There are 66 total, 33 for men and 33 for women. But over the last 17 years, Astrodome officials have learned something.

"I don't know quite how to say this, but women apparently take a little longer in the restroom than men do," Gillespie said. "So the amount of people women's rooms can handle is

The first step, expansion of the Astroarena from 154,000 square feet to 271,000 square, is underway, but Astrodome managers face some juggling in getting the work done over the next

Needy get damaged food

Episcopal minister has provided meals to 10,000 jobless and elderly people with damaged boxes of biscuits and oatmeal that normally would have been

"These people are devastated. Their dignity is gone.

Rev. Jim Bills said. family with four children came

two days last week. "We gave out lemonade and

United Press International CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — baby's bottle. We got milk for them the next day. The husband said he couldn't find a job," Carscaddon said.

Bills said many more would have flocked to the food lines but only 23 of the city's 550 churches have agreed to distri-bute the meals in the four-

month-old program.
"It's immoral that there are so There was a guy last week who took food and put it in his pocket to take and feed his kids," the "It's immoral that there are so many people hungry with so much food out there," Bills said Wednesday. "But many chur-Judy Carscaddon, who helps ches are so concerned with keephand out meals at Sts. Peter and ing their own shops in order in Paul Catholic Church, said a this economy, they really don't seem interested in reaching out.

SKI SILVER CREEK COLORADO

boxes of oatmeal, biscuit and Oats and Pillsbury factories meals at Sts. Peter and Paul three times a week. The meals Catholic Church. More than 100 are distributed at 23 churches and about 75 social service agen-

stores refuse to accept the damaged boxes, so ctor Bill Johnson said the progthe companies had been selling ram used \$50,000 in governthe food to farmers for a nickel a ment grants to get started, pound. The firms began giving Churches and agencies that disit away when Food Bank orga- tribute the meals pay the Food

nooga, an industrial city of 175,000 where 2,400 people have lost their jobs this year.

The Chattanooga Food Bank collects a truckload of damaged not transients, but unemployed.

Scores of the jobless and pancake mix from local Quaker elderly line up each morning for people a day are served in a gray brick building that once was a convent

Food Bank Executive Dire-People are apathetic." nizers pointed out donors re-Bills founded the free food ceive federal tax breaks, Bills the program going.

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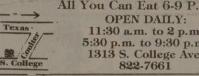
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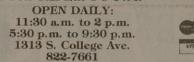
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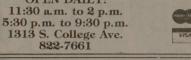


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Tostadas

WEDNESDAY **EVENING SPECIAL** Chicken Fried Steak w cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and

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THA

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