

### Flasher reported in Dallas

**United Press International**  
DALLAS — Residents of Dallas' affluent Highland Park area received letters from the police department warning about a "flasher" who has exposed himself to 11 children and two women.

The letters warned parents to speak to their children about not talking to strangers or accepting candy.

In one incident, the nude man jumped out of a pickup truck, exposed himself and then drove off. Police said the naked

man also has been spotted while jogging, riding a bicycle and standing on a park footbridge.

Police say they have few clues. "You're dealing with little kids," said Sgt. Larry L. Gentry. "One kid said he has a beard, another said he doesn't."

## Unemployed benefit claims falling again

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — Initial claims for unemployment benefits, a key barometer of the nation's jobless picture, dropped for the third straight week in the week that ended Nov. 6, the Labor Department reported Thursday.

The steady decline could be a forerunner of a decrease in the overall 10.4 percent unemployment rate when November data are released Dec. 3.

The department's Employment and Training Administration said there were 629,000 new claims for unemployment benefits in the week ended Nov.

6 according to figures adjusted for seasonal factors, a decrease of 23,000 from the previous week's revised level.

It was the lowest number since mid-September, and a sharp drop from the high of 703,000 claims recorded for the week ended Sept. 18.

The agency also reported total benefit claimants for the week ended Oct. 30 at 4,657,000, a drop of 21,000 from the previous week, and the third consecutive week that figure has declined.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the 87.5 million Americans covered by

unemployment insurance remained at 5.3 percent for the fifth consecutive week.

The number of claimants includes only the regular state programs and not include those almost a million others who are receiving benefits under different programs.

Unadjusted data for areas in the week ended Oct. 30 showed 855,000 receiving federal unemployment benefits, 399,000 on extended benefits; 73,000 railroad workers; 29,500 federal employees; 8,700 newly discharged veterans.

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## Smokers try breaking habit for entire day

**United Press International**  
Millions of Americans snuffed out their cigarettes Thursday to try to break what health officials say can be a fatal habit.

Great American Smokeout organizers predicted two-thirds of those who try to quit smoking for 24 hours will fail.

The American Cancer Society, sponsor of the sixth annual event that began at midnight Wednesday, said last year 16 million people tried to keep away from cigarettes but all but 4.5 million lost their willpower before the 24 hours were up.

The ACS estimated 30 people out of every 100 who joined the cause this year will make it throughout the day without lighting up, and seven of 100 will stop smoking for good.

Actor Larry Hagman is leader of this year's Smokeout and Richard S. Schweiker, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, is its honorary chairman. Some 1.5 million joiners will wear Hagman red rubber bands and snap them against their wrists when the cigarette urge hits.

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop had a piece of advice for smokers making the effort to quit.

"The honorary chairman of this event, HHS Secretary Richard S. Schweiker, would say this to every smoker in the country: Test your habit during the Great American Smokeout. At best, you start on the road to quitting permanently. At worst, you find out what kind of grip habit has on you."

Soap opera stars, medical specialists and ex-smokers gathered, pampered and engaged hundreds at the Smokeout kickoff rally Wednesday in New York City.

Midtown Manhattan was treated to buttons and signs like "Smoking Stinks" and "Kiss Me I Don't Smoke."

In Monticello, N.Y., buffs at an insurance company get a \$10 bonus if they light up during Smokeout.

Moral support for the game came Wednesday from Saul Shiffman, assistant professor of psychology, University of South Florida, Tampa.

It's anything but easy, a smoker to give up the habit permanently or even for one

## Commander dies in copter crash

**United Press International**  
MORGAN CITY, La. — A Marine "Huey" helicopter on a routine cross-country mission crashed into a makeshift levee in south Louisiana, killing the unit's commanding officer and injuring two other men.

The death of Lt. Col. James R. Mires, 42, of Orange, Texas, was confirmed late Thursday by the emergency room at Lakewood Hospital in Morgan City and by military officials in New Orleans.

Also injured was Lt. Col. John G. Burns, 40, of Philadelphia.

Authorities said Burns was scheduled to relieve Mires as commander of the Marine Aircraft Group 46 Detachment B on Sunday.

The crash also injured was Cpl. Bill J. Wilson, 20, of Lake-

side, Calif. Their unit was based at the Naval Air Station in Belle Chasse, La.

The aircraft went down between U.S. 90 and a stretch of Southern-Pacific railroad tracks.

The crash occurred about 6:30 p.m., reportedly after the helicopter struck some power lines and plummeted 500 feet.

Capt. Bill Wood of the Marine Aircraft Wing in New Orleans said there would be speculation on the cause of the accident until military investigators completed their work.

"There has been no detailed information," he said. "It's normal policy not to release anything until the investigation has been completed."

Wood said the helicopter crashed early Thursday evening in Belle Chasse.



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Dallas

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