

Crew shows trip slides

Shuttle flight was 'fun'

United Press International
SPACE CENTER, Houston — Challenger's five astronauts said nothing on Earth could top the fun and adventure of their 2.5 million mile, six day space voyage that took them around the world 98 times.

"The view from space was spectacular," said Guion Bluford, the first black astronaut to fly in space. "We defy Hollywood to match

this," quipped Commander Richard Truly as he showed videotape of Challenger emerging from a dark sky onto a California desert runway bathed in light from the world's largest spotlights.

Pictures of the first-ever night launch and night landing of a space shuttle were among dozens of slides and "home movies" showed-off Tuesday by Truly,

Bluford and fellow crewmates Daniel Brandenstein, Dale Gardner and Dr. William Thornton.

"There are things we saw that have not been seen before," Truly said as he showed slides of erupting volcanoes, blue swirling ocean currents and fault lines on the earth's surface.

The crew returned to Earth Sept. 5 with other slides showing the orange fireball that enclosed

the Challenger as it rocketed in and out of the Earth's atmosphere. Some pictures showed an unexplained gold glow around Challenger's tail during orbit.

"You see the world from a larger perspective. If anything, it certainly increases your feelings and desire to keep the world for peace," said Truly, who will leave the astronaut corps in October to head the Naval Space Command.

Mississippi mayor angry over survey

United Press International
JACKSON, Miss. — Mayor Dale Danks blasted the National Coalition to Ban Handguns Tuesday for its just released survey listing Jackson with the sixth-highest murder rate in the country.

Danks called the survey "ludicrous, misleading and detrimental to the city of Jackson" and he threatened legal action unless the Washington-based organization "issues an apology and a retraction of its survey."

Sam Fields, coordinator of legal affairs for the coalition, said from his Washington office

that the group "would not apologize" and "would welcome a lawsuit." He said a legal fight would give the coalition the "unique opportunity to debate homicide in the city of Jackson."

An irate Danks called a news conference to refute the coalition's new release listing "the most dangerous metropolitan areas" in the country. Odessa was listed first with a homicide rate of 29.8 deaths per 100,000 residents, while Jackson was listed sixth with 20.3 murders per 100,000.

Danks maintained Jackson is actually 17th in homicides, not

sixth as claimed by the handgun group.

While the police department considers only the population within the city limits, the handgun control group utilizes the population within the Jackson Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. The FBI report lists Jackson's population at 203,839, but when the SMSA is included, the population jumps to 320,101.

When the population within the city limits was used to determine the murder rate, it actually increased from 20.3 to 25.1 per 100,000 residents.

Lawsuit tries to block scheme

United Press International
ST. PAUL, Minn. — Attorney General Hubert H. "Skip" Humphrey III said he hopes to use a civil lawsuit to block a suburban Dallas firm from operating a pyramid scheme in Minnesota.

Humphrey said that Dynasty System has recently begun promoting a multi-level, chain-referral or pyramid sales program in which "members" are recruited for a fee into a three-party program — Dynasty I, Dynasty II and

Dynasty III. Each new "member" is encouraged to recruit four new members, receiving a percentage of each new recruit's membership fee and annual renewal, Humphrey said. He said members also receive commissions on the sale of required purchases and on their recruits' service fees.

Humphrey filed suit Tuesday in Washington County District Court against Dynasty System Corp. of Irving, and two Minneso-

ta men listed as salesmen for the firm, Arthur R. Ross of Owatonna and Douglas D. Ward of Woodbury.

He accused them of violating the state's consumer fraud laws in connection with the sales of Dynasty programs in the Twin Cities, Owatonna, Rochester and Oronoco in Minnesota.

The lawsuit seeks to block the company and its salesmen from selling memberships in its promotion program. It also seeks restitu-

tion for any money paid to the firm by Minnesota residents.

The attorney general said the company program is purportedly to sell mouthwash and a novelty pen. In reality, he said, these "products" are little more than an afterthought, and the company's entire emphasis is on the endless recruiting of new participants.

"It's an inevitable mathematical fact that most of the participants will lose money," he said. "These schemes are doomed to collapse."

Key witness safe with friend

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Teresa Starr, a key prosecution witness against her step-father Charles Harrelson in his trial for the murder of U.S. Judge John Wood Jr., was feared missing by police after her apartment was found ransacked.

But police said Wednesday that Starr was out of town with her boyfriend and in no danger following a fruitless search for the woman Tuesday.

"We wanted to make sure there was no foul play involved and we have been assured that there is none," an investigator said.

Police were summoned to Starr's apartment early Tuesday following an anonymous telephone call that the woman feared for her life. Police refused to elab-

orate on the call.

Burglary Sgt. Mike Akeroyd said police could not tell if anything was taken in the break-in, but that several items of obvious value were not taken. Starr's north San Antonio apartment was ransacked, and Akeroyd said it was "a mess."

Starr was a key prosecution witness against Harrelson in his murder trial for the May 29, 1979 slaying of Wood. He was convicted and to two life sentences for Wood's murder.

Starr's mother, Jo Ann Harrelson, was convicted of conspiracy in the judge's killing and is serving 30 years in federal prison.

Starr was jailed for six months when she refused to testify before a grand jury investigating the judge's death.

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