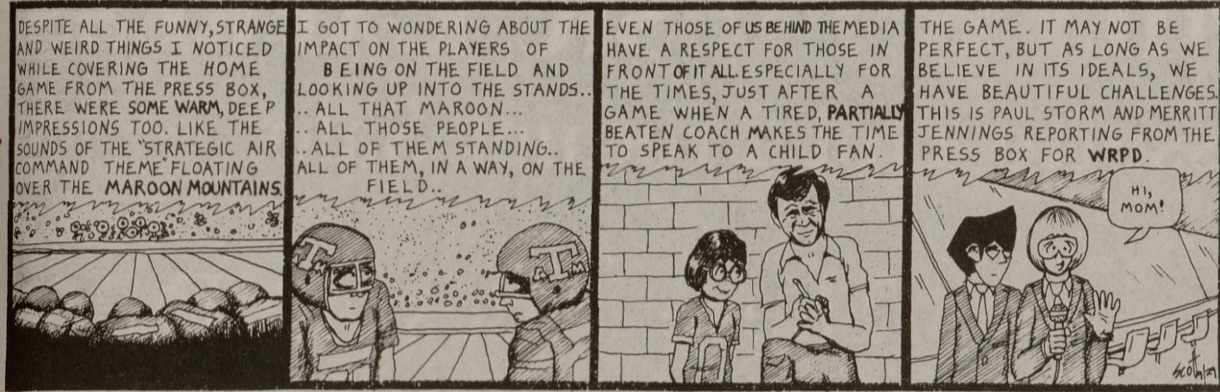


Warped by Scott McCullar



Report says pill killing American users yearly

NEW YORK — Birth control pills kill 500 of their 10 million American users annually, a new report on risks and benefits of current contraceptive methods said Wednesday.

The study, "Making Choices," estimated about 30 die annually from complications of tubal sterilization, 30 from use of the intra-uterine device, and 15 from trouble linked to abortion.

Deaths from complications of pill use could be cut to about 70 if no pill users smoked and if none took the pill after her 35th birthday, said Dr. Howard W. Ory, epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and an author of the report.

Despite deaths and other complications due to contraception, the report said unwanted pregnancy and childbearing pose a greater risk to a woman's life and health than the use of any currently available birth control method.

More than half of all American couples want no more than two children and most women, as a result, spend an average of 25 to 30 years of their adult lives trying to avoid pregnancy, the report said.

If health were the only consideration, a woman's safest course would be to start with the pill and continue with that method for four years (to get maximum protection against ovarian cancer), have the num-

Woman may be death row first

SALT LAKE CITY — New York socialite Frances Bernice Schreuder will become the first woman occupant of Utah's death row if a jury decides to send her before a firing squad for masterminding the murder of her wealthy father.

Schreuder, 45, was convicted of first-degree murder in the 1978 slaying of auto parts magnate Franklin James Bradshaw, 76. Jurors delivered the verdict late Tuesday and were scheduled to return Oct. 3 to issue a sentence.

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The heiress faces death by firing squad or life in prison.

Schreuder, a socialite and member of the New York City Ballet board of directors, turned pale but otherwise showed no emotion when the verdict was read.

Prosecutor Ernie Jones said the surprise testimony of her convicted killer son, Marc, led to the guilty verdict. Young Schreuder told the jury his mother ordered him to kill her father in 1978 because she feared the multi-millionaire would cut her out of his will.

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Ford calls for Watt to resign

SAN ANTONIO — Former President Gerald Ford Wednesday joined a list of prominent Republicans calling for the resignation of James Watt in the wake of the interior secretary's wisecrack about a coal advisory panel.

Ford, in San Antonio for play in the Texas Open golf tournament, told reporters he believed Watt's remark was "irresponsible" and harmful to President Reagan.

The former president was directing his comments to Watt's remark last week that a coal advisory board was made up of a "black, a woman, two Jews and a cripple."

"I think the decision is up to Mr. Watt," Ford said. "The comment was very irresponsible. I think in bad taste."

"In my opinion, Mr. Watt ought to realize he is a burden to the president and he ought to take action to relieve the president of that burden."

At least 11 Republican senators have called for Watt's ouster and 14 GOP House members, led by Rep. John McKernan, R-Maine, signed a letter to Watt Tuesday urging him to step down.

Now You Know

NEW YORK — The highest temperature reported Wednesday by the National Weather Service, excluding Alaska and Hawaii, was 101 degrees at Gila Bend, Ariz.

The low was 26 degrees at Grangeville, Idaho.

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