Charged with alien smuggling

Egg farmer pleads guilty

SAN ANTONIO - The owner of a Denton County egg farm pleaded guilty in federal court Monday to one count of conspiring to import illegal aliens in a case criticized by U.S. Rep. Henry B. gon-

In a plea bargain agree-ment, Helen Mahard pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge before U.S. District Judge Fred Shannon. The agreement also called for a guilty plea on behalf of the Mahard

Egg Farm Inc.
Assistant U.S. Attorney Dan Maeso charged that Mrs. Mahard and her husband conspired in February 1982 to import illegal Mexican aliens to work on the egg farm near Prosper, Texas, in Denton

The plea bargain also cal-led for charges against Mr. Mahard to be dismissed at Mrs. Mahard's Dec. 16 sentencing. The maximum penalty is five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

The case was highlighted last week when Gonzalez, a Texas Democrat, charged that four aliens being held to testify in the case were farmed out to work long hours for low wages at a south Texas feed

U.S. Attorney Ed Prado confirmed last week the four men had been farmed out by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. But Prado said federal officials were unaware the men were made to work up to 80 hours a week for a reported 85 cents an

When the aliens complained about their working conditions, they were picked up by the U.S. Border Patrol. They had been in custody since last year waiting for the Mahard case to come to trial.

Shannon ordered Monday that the four men be released and that money owed them by

the U.S. Department of Labor be forwarded through a Mexican consulate.

"Let the people go," Shannon told Prado. "It's almost Thanksgiving. Let the people

After the hearing, Prado turned to several Border Patrol officials in the courtroom and told them, "We need to get rid of these people

However, Prado told Shannon the government was not prepared to release up to 65 other illegal aliens, who are being held in Del Rio as material witnesses in alien smuggling cases.

18-year-old charged with aiding a suicide

HOUSTON — Kent Kretsinger's suicide, allegedly with his girlfriend's aid, shattered the lives of two families. Now, 15 months later, the families are immersed in an unprecedented court case.

Kretsinger's girlfriend, Jean LeeAnn Miller, now 18, is charged with aiding a suicide, a felony in Texas carrying a maximum possible penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$5,000

Arraignment is scheduled Dec. 5, with trial expected some-

time next spring.

Friends said Kretsinger was outwardly a happy-go-lucky high school graduate when he shot himself in the chest with his father's .38-caliber pistol Aug. 27, 1982.

Miller is charged with aiding Kretsinger by driving him to his house that day and addressing his suicide notes, for which she allegedly provided envelopes.

The case almost was over before it began. State District Judge Charles Hearn dismissed the original indictment last May, ruling prosecutors did not spe-cify how Miller supposedly helped Kretsinger killed him-

But another judge, Michael McSpadden, best known locally for putting people in jail for not saying "yes, sir" and "no, sir" to him in court, took a personal interest in the case.

whose foreman was a lawyer, Frank Briscoe, who had handled some legal affairs in Kretsinger's

death. Kretsinger and Miller met in summer school, where Kretsinger was taking a course he needed to graduate from high

Friends said Miller was something of a novelty when she came to Klein High School one day with her hair dyed purple. Friends said she was heavily into punk rock music. She also wrote poetry dealing with anger and

"Kent was fascinated with her," recalled friend Matt Brandon, now attending Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches.

He was a long-distance runner, an aspiring photographer and a saxophone player. Kretsinger was working as a busboy, preparing to go to junior col-

Friends said Kretsinger was known to talk of committing suicide, but his mother, Ann, a single parent and assistant manager of a furniture store, described him simply as "my loving

She said he did not show any suicide inclinations, although he did leave a will, leaving his car and other belongings to Miller. In suicide notes to friends and family, Kretsinger said he was happy and gave no reason.

"I thought she had a po over him," Mrs. Kretsingers "But it was the power of Kent died for love. He love

like you love a person fo Mrs. Kretsinger did nota Miller to come to the fun

Miller's parents, Jack and Miller, had a different viet the relationship between k singer and their daughter. "He had an incredible p over Jean," they said in a win

statement. "He convinced that he would only be happy he committed suicide. 'It appeared he had b planning his suicide for s time. He had developed a

to make sure the attempt w be successful this time He ned the entire scenario. Prosecutor Don Stricklins "I have no doubt that Kent Kr

singer shot himself." As whether Miller was present the time, Stricklin added that we can prove." Mrs. Kretsinger said she

disappointed when the cases dismissed the first time but a was surprised when a grand became involved after the jud dismissed the case. "I don't want to hurt Jen

But it's not right for things happen and be forgotten. And don't want this to happen to one else," Mrs. Kretsinger sid "I'm not bitter. But my two life " are my life.' Mrs. Kretsinger believes

son's death was caused by influence of punk-rock m with its lyrics focusing on h lessness, but she said she pa blames herself.

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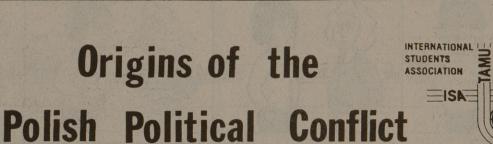
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'Most parents are embar sed or ashamed and don't wa known. I'm beyond that,"

The Millers indicated in the statement they feel their daug ter is a victim of the suicide, they said she has had consid able difficulty since, includ undergoing psychiatric trea

"Evidently, there is a desire cause as much damage as pos ble to Jean, even though she is victim of the suicide, not the WASHII cause," the family statement



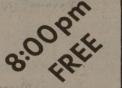


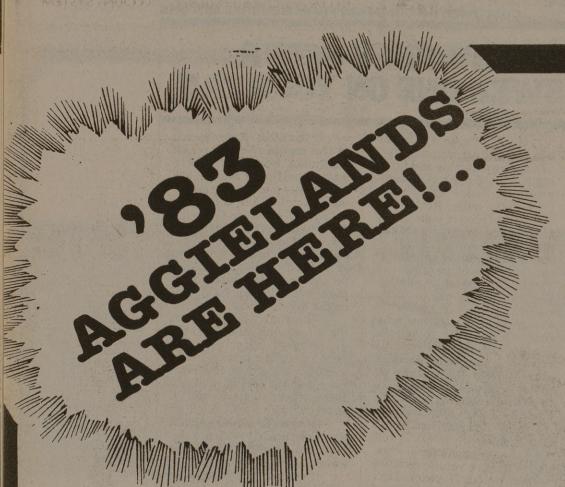
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