

Two families will face loss at Christmas time

United Press International
BOSSIER CITY, La. — John Wells was going to visit friends and looking forward to a family Christmas. Barbara Morrison and her daughter were on a more somber mission, traveling to attend a funeral. Neither party made their destination.

Wells, 53, and Mrs. Morrison, 36, were among six people killed Wednesday when a Trailways bus skidded off an East Texas highway and plunged into a creek bank.

Mrs. Morrison's daughter, Sharin Faircloth, 12, was one of six injured. Sharin, hospitalized in serious condition, underwent

surgery for multiple fractures in both legs.

Wells, a retired supervisor for Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp., was making the trip to Houston on his 30th wedding anniversary to visit friends.

"He didn't plan to be away long — just a quick trip to see friends and then back," said his son, John Walter Wells.

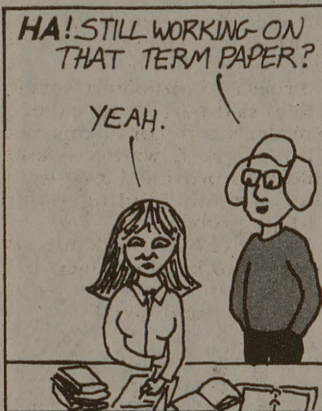
Wells, 53, was looking forward to Christmas, when all of his five children would be home. "He told me just the other day, 'It's going to be the happiest Christmas I've ever spent,'" the younger Wells said.

Barbara Morrison's grandmother had died of cancer.

Morrison did not have the money to pay for a trip to the funeral, so officials of her church in Bossier City gave her two round trip tickets.

Mrs. Morrison will be buried in Houston on a family cemetery plot. Sharin will return to Bossier City to live with her father, relatives said.

R.I.



Students chosen from 6 states

35 to interview President

United Press International
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A group of 35 teen-agers will fire questions at President Reagan Friday when they interview him as part of a program that gives students a first-hand look at how Washington operates.

The sophomores, juniors and seniors from Tennessee, Florida, New Mexico, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Texas were

chosen from a group of 433 students in Washington this week as guests of the Close Up Foundation, a non-profit, non-partisan group that operates a government studies program.

"It's a week-long program where they get to talk first hand with members of Congress, lobbyists, members of the media

and representatives from the State Department, Pentagon and other parts of government," said George Thompson, spokesman for the foundation.

Over 120,000 students have traveled to Washington to participate in the program since it began in 1971.

The presidential interview is

scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in the old Executive Office Building next to the White House.

C-SPAN (Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network) will have a delayed broadcast of the interview session followed by a call-in show during which students will answer questions from the public.

Continental plans to fly more cities

United Press International
HOUSTON — Continental Airlines announced Thursday to expand service to 50 flights and five cities. The lines filed for bankruptcy reorganization and drastically cut services in September.

Vice President Phil Bakes said service will start from Denver to Salt Lake City and Colorado Springs Dec. 16. Houston to Ixtapa, Mexico, Jan. 4 and Houston to Miami and Phoenix Jan. 15. Flights already scheduled to some cities will increase.

Bakes said the airline is on target with plans to be at 90 percent of pre-bankruptcy seat capacity by next summer.

At that time, he said, Continental hopes to have 75 or 80 percent of its pre-bankruptcy work force of 12,000.

Bakes said Continental has hired or re-hired an additional 1,000 employees. Continental cut the payroll to 4,200 in reorganization, and now employs 5,200 people.

Bakes declined comment on ongoing negotiations with the Air Line Pilots Association which struck Continental Oct. 1. The association charges the airline with reducing pay almost one-half and with extending hours, a violation of union contracts.

"Both parties have promised not to comment," Bakes said. "Negotiations really have not been conducted in privacy to have a chance of success."

Continental will defend its filing for Chapter 11 reorganization next week against a motion to dismiss for lack of justification. The unions have charged that the filing is a scheme to cut labor costs.

But Bakes said Continental is on solid legal ground.

"We are very confident we will come out of court with a ruling that our filing for Chapter 11 was justified under the law," Bakes said.

Since the strikes, Continental has hired people who never worked for Continental before.

Continental denies the unions' charge of "union-busting."

The airline said it had lost \$471 million since 1979 and was on the verge of going out of business when it filed for Chapter 11 reorganization Sept. 24 and suspended domestic service for two days. On Sept. 27, the "new" Continental called back a third of its work force at reduced pay and longer hours and resumed flying to 25 of 78 cities it had served.

Bakes said Continental's aim is to become the largest low-cost national air carrier offering major airline service.

Since the resumption of flights, Continental re-expanded service on Oct. 30 and Nov. 15 and says it is now back at 48.5 percent of pre-bankruptcy seating capacity.

The Union of Flight Attendants joined the pilots in striking Continental in October, but is not involved in the new talks. The International Association of Machinists went on strike when talks failed Aug. 13, before the bankruptcy.

juniors—seniors
grad, vet, med

The end is near!

Yearbook Associates, located at 1700 S. Kyle behind Culpepper Plaza, will be taking pictures Nov. 28-Dec. 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call 693-6756 or 845-2681.

Last chance! At the Pavilion—Dec. 5-9.
Aggieland yearbook