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Toothpick related accidents cause serious injuries, death

United Press International

CHICAGO - Toothpicks may harmless, but toothpick-reseem lated injuries send 8,000 people to hospital emergency rooms each year, with some deaths reported from swallowing the wooden slivers, a researcher said Thursday.

At least three toothpick deaths have been reported to the Consumer Products Safety Commission since 1980, Dr. Lawrence Budnick reported in the Journal of Medicine. The Journal reports one case of a

which lodged in his liver, causing an abscess. Doctors were mystified and suspected Acquired Immune Defi-ciency Syndrome (AIDS).

When doctors used a surgical procedure to drain the abscess, the toothpick was found. The patient then remembered eating stuffed cabbages held together with toothpicks a week before his symptoms

began. Budnick, of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, said food preparers should "make certain that

any toothpicks served in foods are clearly visible."

He suggests spearing sandwiches with toothpicks "with the frills on the end. If you just use a plain tooth-pick, it could just get lost in the sandwich He also advocates using brightly colored plastic toothpicks in hors d'oeuvres. "It's no problem as long

as people are aware that they're there," he said. The Consumer Products Safety Commission study estimates that

them to emergency rooms Budnick said. Children under run the greatest risk of severe with the highest number of ir in children five to 14 years old. Budnick stressed that too should not be considered high items, and pointed out that too picks have been used since 3,3 B.C.

"You just want parents to be awar of problems in the home with en innocuous, relatively benign ut sils," Budnick said. "They show 8,176 people suffer toothpick-re-sils," Budnick said. "They she lated injuries severe enough to send know just to keep an extraeyeou"

Computer

pictures

Goats used in research about muscle diseases

United Press International

ATLANTA - Scientists are studying the strange behavior of a breed of goats in central Tennessee in hopes of gaining new information about human muscle disease.

The goats have an hereditary condition known as myotonia. If they are surprised or frightened their muscles contract and freeze. They may fall over or assume a rigid, statuesque posture.

"Sometimes they look just like statues," said Dr. James B. Atkinson, a pathologist at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville,

pick one up and carry it around just mal muscular conditions. like a piece of wood.

Atkinson and another Vanderbilt pathologist, Dr. Larry L. Swift, are searching for clues to human muscle diseases, particularly muscular dystrophy. By studying myotonic goats, investigators have discovered some therapies that help aleviate the symptoms of some human muscular disorders.

order was myotonia and noted simi- search, to learn more.

who is studying the goats. "You can larities between the human and ani-

Among questions scientists are still seeking answers to are how the condition is inherited and what is effective in controlling or preventing the attacks, which last 10 to 40 seconds. During an attack, the goats continue to breathe, their hearts continue to beat at a steady rate and

they remain conscious. "Most of what we know about human myotonia, from the severity of the condition to the effect of drugs Vanderbilt researchers first began their studies of the goats in the 1920s when they discovered the dis-said. "We hope, with continued re-

galaxies **United Press International** PASADENA, Calif. - The later electronic light sensing equipme has made the Palomar Observator 37-year-old telescope, a sky-watcher

with an illustrious past, the ms powerful on Earth.

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The new computer-controlled de vice known as the "4Shooter" er ables Palomar astronomers to v objects 200 million times faint than can be seen with the nakeder 'It's as if they built another 2

inch telescope," said Don Schneide an astronomer at the Californials stitute of Technology, who runs the observatory.

Schneider said the 4Shooter's twice as efficient as its predecess dynamic and can cover three times as mut two dynamics as mut sky as an earlier detector employe at Palomar.

The new 4Shooter, developed by Princeton University astronom James Gunn, uses four separatetek vision cameras to create pictu captured by the telescope in a nighttime sky over Palomar, loca. on a mountain 65 miles northeast San Diego

The light of distant stars is in split by a pyramid-shaped mirror the center of the new 1.5-ton device

A quarter of the image is then by each camera, which, turn, focuses the light onto an e tronic sensing component allel charge-coupled device, or CCD. this component that converts image into data that can be stored

Back at Caltech, scientists can us the data to create images of distant galaxies, employing the latest or puter enhancement techniques I get a finished picture. Because of the limitations of nighttime viewing, it sometimes to

years for an astronomer to complete a specific project.

'That's why making the devices efficient is important," said Mida Carr, the Caltech engineer who do so much in a night.

Married working mothers have good health reports

United Press International

The caricature of the working married mother as a sickly soul suffering from short circuited nerves, blown fuses and burnout doesn't fit with the facts, ma'am.

Speaking of the jugglers of spouse, children, job, home and maybe a dog or cat, Dr. Lois M. Verbrugge, expert on women, work and health at the University of Michigan, said: "The best health is found among

employed married mothers, though employed married women without children are very close to them.

"The worst health is among women with 'no roles' --- unmarried women with no job or children."

Verbrugge, research associate at the U-M Institute for Social Research, Ann Arbor, spoke at a sym-posium on "Health Prospects for American Women" during the an-nual meeting of the American As-sociation for the Advancement of Science

The link of multiple roles — job and family responsibilities - with majority of women, namely, white good health comes mainly from the middle class women, but not for less positive effect of each component advantaged ones. role, the social scientist said.

"Employment is associated with good health," she said.

"Marriage also is a healthful status, compared to nonmarriage; and even parenthood is weakly asso-ciated with good health. So people with multiple roles reflect the health benefits of each role. The same is true of men.

The health plus to parenthood for the women with multiple roles, however, is influenced somewhat by the ages and number of children, Verbrugge said.

"Having preschoolers or numerous children can pose problems and stresses for working women and ul-timately jeopardize their health," she said.

"The scientific evidence on this is not consistent, but it points in that direction — more health problems and curative behaviors among women with preschool-age children than older ones, and among women with three or more children rather than one or two.

The link between busy lives and good health could be true for the

low education women have jobs by necessity, gain few social and financial benefits from their work, and have more domestic responsibilities

because of more dependents and less help from spouses "All of this would make multiple roles tough for them, entailing

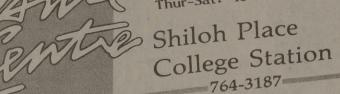
more stresses and fewer satisfac tions; so the effect on health could be negative or, at best, less positive than for white middle class women.

However, married, single, parent or not, women with a paid job are notably healthier than unemployed women and women outside the labor force, Verbrugge said.

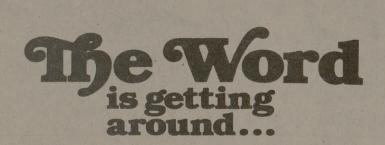
Given the fact that employment seems to be a "healthy status," Ver-

"As larger percents of women be-come employed and are exposed to employment for more years of their lives, the health of American women should improve. "Although work environments

and tasks do pose some risks that nonemployed women avoid, research evidence suggests that these



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A weekly meeting designed to help Christians learn how to experience a more abundant Christian life and learn how to communicate their faith to others effectively.

> MEETS Friday, 7 p.m. Rudder Tower - Room 701

Help spread The Word

"The reasoning is that black

are more than offset by social and psychological benefits of jobs. The same is true of men.

Fathers active in raising children

United Press International

Fathers are no longer just bystanders in child-raising — their new role often starts in the delivery - their room and sometimes winds up in

breed of fathers taking a more active role in their children's lives. Some do role in their children's lives. Some do so by choice, determined not to be as distant from their offspring as they opment at Boston's Children's Hosdistant from their offspring as they were from their own fathers. Others have been thrown into a more active role in child-rearing by divorce or room, compared to only 27 percent because their wives are spending more time at work outside the home.

Men have come a long way in parenting from the days of the country's thers are incompetent with infants. founding fathers, according to Kyle Pruett, associate professor of psy-

were not allowed to go near their ba- ers watching their wives until the over the crook of their arm looking of it."

bies. In Puritan cultures, women were the only beings charged by God to be near infants. People believed there were noxious and evil things which happened between fathers and children. Fathers couldn't go full-time parenting. and children. Fathers couldn't go near their children until they were 6 near their children until they were 6 years old and in breeches.'

> pital, said that today nearly all hospitals allow fathers in the delivery as recently as 12 years ago

For the past decade, Yogman has worked to dispel the notion that fa-

When he started his research, "fathers would not be involved with chiatry at Yale Unversity. "For centuries," Pruett said, "men young babies," Yogman said in a re-cent interview. "They were bystand-"football position," slinging them and communicate, and they fede

baby began to talk or throw a ball." "People have described dance

type behavior - cooing, smiling, vocalizing — between mothers and in-fants," he said. "When we asked men to play with their (infants), we found the identical sensitivity to the baby's timing and rhythms.

Yale's Pruett has done a pilot study of families in which fathers were the primary care-givers and determined that there are advantages to father being the dominant parent.

He found infants who were primarily taken care of by their fathers were more outgoing and displayed ers, but they are dissatisted were more persistence in problem solving their roles as fathers." than other babies.

outward, rather than "nestled their mother's breasts.

'(Fathers) tend to hold the babic so they are looking out at the work as they do," Purett said.

Ron Levant, professor of coun ling psychology and director of a fatherhood project at Boston U versity, encourages fathers to stay volved with their children boy infancy. His workshops teach fath how to discipline, talk to and pla with their children.

He said the fathers in his progra "are generally good at being pro

They talk with sadness about Pruett explained the differences distance they felt from their own in part by citing the fathers' ten- thers. They feel inept and marve

Book details ups and downs of Harvard

United Press International

NEW YORK — Fran Worden Henry's first year at Harvard Busi-ness School left her so tense her teeth died, so obsessive she could not may be the school's case method of students in each class would fail. concentrate on her sister's wedding, and so frazzled she once tried to wash her dirty laundry in the clothes descriptions of a company's product dryer.

through it.

What my MBA's given me is that foot in the door," she said. "It's like a stamp of approval. It did give me technical training and I do use that training, but more importantly, it gives me a chance to prove myself." Henry's recent book about her

time at Harvard includes stories of having to account for the impact of male executives, from a bank loan our decision." officer in New Bedford to a British oil executive in Bankgkok, who sud- to 40-page cases a night, fearful they

denly became interested in her opinions when they learned where she was going to school. If there is a villain in the book, it

teaching, in which business problems are presented through complex or finances. Once a class was fin-Now, two years after graduation, ished, she wrote, the teacher never Henry said she's glad she struggled referred again to the case under consideration

> "How could we learn to see problems in a long-range perspective when we dealt with 800 problems for 3 hours each?" she wrote. "The case method encouraged short-range thinking because it set us up to analyze and solve a problem without

Students waded through three 20-

would be asked to "present" the next day and be caught unprepared. Behind much of the terror lay a system of grading that guaranteed some and the book dwells at length what it was like to be female in

"Toughing it out at Harvard," published by McGraw-Hill, begins on the day Henry mistook a clothes dryer for a washer. "My hot, sticky clothes circled slowly in front of me, reminding me I was losing control," she said.

She suffered from vivid dreams of violence and retribution, and a sud-den spate of toothaches. "Stress can kill a tooth," her dentist consoled her

Preoccupied with business cases, Henry could not focus in on her non-Harvard friends or family. Greeting her parents after a long ab-sence, she absent-mindedly asked: "Did you have a profitable trip?"

About a quarter of the 78 dents in Henry's class were wo what it was like to be female in power-oriented, competitive am sphere of HBS' graduate program

She worried about "the habit many women had of raising the hands and starting out their ments with the phrase 'I just want to say.

But in retrospect, Henry said think Harvard is no different any other big university, re There are no women to speak faculty who are tenured. I de think that's going to change it near future.

"It's got lot of inertia to overco From that perspective I appreciate the strides Harvard made," she so