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Help spread The Word

1794 survival tactics taught

United Press International
 Survival instructor Paul Risk teaches today's adults tasks that were fundamental to life two centuries ago — and could save their lives even now.
 "If Daniel Boone came back today and found out adults are in the field learning to build fires and make shelters, he'd wonder how they survived long enough to be adults," said Risk, Pennsylvania State University associate professor of recreation and parks. "We've bred a whole generation of people who don't even know how to build a fire."
 "I'm teaching the basics of life in, say, 1784."
 Risk, a former park ranger and former member of a mountain rescue team, tries to minimize risk for people who are lost or face emergencies in the wild.
 He has been teaching college courses, including one on global wilderness survival, and holds public survival seminars. He also helped tape a simulated survival attempt by plane crash victims, for broadcast on the Pennsylvania public television program "Outdoor Pennsylvania."

His 340-page textbook, "Outdoor Safety and Survival," is in many bookstores throughout the country.
 The seminars held by Risk and his firm, Survival Technology Associates — with help from state and local authorities throughout the nation — are attended by teenagers to sexagenarians. He will leave his less lucrative university post in July.
 Some of the seminars are fundamental day-long courses on survival or outdoor safety. Some advanced two-week seminars include field trips. He also offers courses on communication techniques and urban safety, including how to deal with an attacker.
 Risk, 47, of College Park, Pa., said in an interview if people know nature and prepare for emergencies, they will not be too scared of the wild to function nor will they take its dangers too lightly.
 He estimated that several thousand people in this country per year go through a survival experience, which he defines as any delay or disorientation in the wilderness. The only difference between survival

techniques and camping is that one is voluntary and other is necessary.
 Risk stresses psychological aspects of survival — on his stationery is printed "Survival is an attitude" — and he said the wise person remains calm and knows what to do next because of preparation.
 The most basic survival tools are a whistle, matches and knife — for use, respectively, in signaling, starting fires and as an all-purpose tool, Risk said.
 Other survival items to have in car or camper, particularly when traveling in wilderness areas, include water, shovel, blanket, reflector, flare, aerosol horn, spray paint, tool kit, first-aid kit and flashlight.
 The five keys to survival are fire, shelter, signals, water and food.
 He called food least important because the average person can survive 30 to 50 days without it and rescue often comes before food is necessary. But water is needed within four days.
 Risk said it is wise to notify someone of your travel plans, and to stay put when lost, because rescuers look where you are most likely to be. And

when most people unfamiliar with the wilderness start moving, they just go around in circles.
 He recommends staying in place, establishing a camp and starting a fire — even in summer.
 He said making a fire occupies the hands and provides a psychological boost.
 Next, obtain shelter from the elements — heat, cold, rain, wind.
 "If your car has broken down, this may mean dismantling your vehicle for insulation," he said. The upholstery and filler can help keep you warm. The hood could help form a lean-to.
 It is important to establish contact, perhaps with people searching for you, by making yourself as visible as possible. You could spray paint an X — the international distress signal — on the car's roof. The spare tire could be burned as a signal fire.
 If you haven't brought water, he advises using a purifying kit on any water you find. But if you have no kit, drink the water anyway.
 "It's no choice between being sick of giardiasis or dead of dehydration," Risk said.

Oklahoma, Alaska races will be close

United Press International
 Early signs of a heated contest between former U.S. Attorney Frank Keating and Rep. Jim Jones, D-Okla., surfaced Wednesday when Jones, targeted for defeat by national Republicans, challenged his new opponent to debate.
 The national Republican campaign committee Wednesday called Jones' action "unprecedented," saying it showed Jones was scared of his opponent.
 Keating, a conservative, resigned as U.S. attorney to run in the Republican primary Tuesday and won the right to take on Jones, the House Budget Committee chairman. Jones was unopposed in the Democratic primary.
 "We expect Keating to be the next congressman of the 1st District in Oklahoma," said Steve Lotterer, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee in Washington D.C.
 "The Jones campaign has been running scared for some time, with good reason," he said. "It is unprecedented for an incumbent to sit glued to the television so he can pick up the phone and challenge his opponent to a debate."
 "How sweet it is," Keating said after his win over consultant Tom Cantrell. "Now we switch into third gear."
 Jones, who is considered vul-

nerable because of his frequent opposition to President Reagan on budget issues, challenged Keating late Tuesday to a debate but added he may "have to force Keating to stay with the issues."
 Keating has agreed to debate.
 The race highlighted primary action in Oklahoma and Alaska.
 In the Oklahoma race for the Senate, Democratic incumbent David Boren piled up 90 percent of the vote over political unknown Marshall Luse to win re-nomination for a second term.
 Republicans George Mothershed, an oilman and attorney, and management instructor Will Crozier will meet in a runoff Sept. 18 to determine Boren's opponent in November.
 In Alaska, Republican Sen. Ted Stevens ran unopposed in the primary and claimed more than two-thirds of the vote. He said his strong primary showing may help him in a bid to be Senate Republican leader.
 "It helps you a lot to have that kind of support in your home state," Stevens said.
 The Democratic winner, former Alaska Attorney General John Havelock, received about 20 percent of the vote and easily beat four other Democratic hopefuls.
 In the primary race for Alaska's one seat in the House, Rep. Don Young, who also ran unopposed on the Republican ticket, garnered about half the vote.

Movies: how they relate to politics

United Press International
 WASHINGTON — Whenever protesters greet the president at a campaign stop, you can count on hearing "Reagan, Reagan, he's no good; send him back to Hollywood."
 What they fail to understand is how deeply entwined the movie industry is with modern politics.
 Reagan, who played down his Hollywood background early in his political career, is now recalling it with gusto, exhorting U.S. olympians to "do it for the Gipper." (He had the gall to say that on the campus of the University of Southern California, the school beaten by Notre Dame in the game that was won for the Gipper.)
 With politicians belatedly recognizing what Reagan knew a long time ago, that acting skills are necessary not only for campaigning but for governing, it was no surprise that Democrat John Glenn pinned his hopes on last fall's release of the movie "The Right Stuff," invoking nostalgia for the bygone patriotism of the Kennedy presidency.
 Glenn, of course, posed as a true-life hero, in contrast to Reagan's celluloid roles, and although he and the movie failed at the box office, Hollywood found it was on the right track — chauvinism was in.
 "The Right Stuff" was followed by "Uncommon Valor" and the newly released "Red Dawn," both movies appealing to the political right.
 Two of this summer's biggest movie hits have been appropriated

by Reagan supporters. At the GOP convention, Republican youth assumed the identity of "Fritzbusters," a takeoff on "Ghostbusters," in which a quartet of brash cops, fighting City Hall and the federal government all the way, rid Manhattan of an unearthly menace.
 And a magazine columnist has gone so far as to declare Reagan no less than the 1980s incarnation of Indiana Jones. Vice President George Bush has called the site of the Democrats' convention "The Temple of Doom."
 Where does this leave poor Walter Mondale?
 Say what you will about Mondale, he just is not the dynamic man of action celebrated in so many modern movies. Except one.
 The runaway hit of late summer portrays the angst known by almost everyone in high school and college. The kids who wore unstylishly short hair, unstylishly white shirts and white socks and unstylishly studied hard, bullied all the way by jocks and bimbos.
 If ever there was a movie for the beleaguered Mondale campaign to start identifying with it is "Revenge of the Nerds."
 Laugh at the nerds of this world, if you will, but when they seek their revenge and justice triumphs, as it always does in Hollywood, it is based on the one undeniable truth of this world — there are more nerds than golden boys.

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