

# Animal lovers say they spiked candy bars with poison

United Press International

LONDON — Shopkeepers across Britain began checking as many as 10 million Mars chocolate bars Sunday because militant animal lovers said they spiked samples of the nation's best-selling candy with rat poison to protest medical experiments on monkeys.

Scotland Yard said at least seven bars containing warning notes had been found in stores in six cities across the nation from Leeds in the north to Plymouth in the south. It said a "full-scale investigation" involving police forces throughout Britain has begun.

The wrapper of each suspect bar was marked with a cross in ball-point ink, and each contained a warning message that said, "Read carefully: This is not a joke. This confectionary has been adulterated."

At least three people, including a 4-year-old girl, ate suspect Mars bars Saturday but none suffered any ill effects, Scotland Yard said. A spokesman said arrangements were being made "immediately ... to remove and check all Mars bars on display."

"These people are lunatics," said an angry Michael Phippen, who discovered a note in his candy bar only after his wife and 14-year-old daughter Chantelle had eaten theirs Saturday.

A Mars bar spokesman said every candy bar would be removed from display and checked for tampering — an estimated 10 million in all.

The National Poison Center said one Mars bar spiked with rat poison available over the counter would not kill, "but it could make someone unwell."

A group called the Animal Liberation Front, said they spiked the candy bars to protest medical experiments on monkeys which the Mars company helped to finance.

The ALF sent Mars bars with warning notes to the British Broadcasting Corp. and the Sunday Mirror newspaper to back up its claim. It told the Mirror it had poisoned Mars bars in London, Coventry, Southampton, York and Leeds.

A British government minister said the militant animal lovers were prepared to "sacrifice children on the altar of their own fanaticism."

"These extremists can no longer be dismissed as loonies who are best ignored," said David Mellor, a Home Office minister responsible for animal experiments. "They are dangerous and must be stopped before someone is severely injured or even killed."

A Dorset county police spokesman denied press reports that three people in the southern county became ill after eating poisoned Mars bars.

# What's up

Monday

**BAPTIST STUDENT UNION:** will be collecting donations for the World Hunger Project from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Commons, Sbis and the MSC.

**MSC POLITICAL FORUM:** former KGB agent Dr. Vladimir Sakharov will speak about internal Soviet policy at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

**MSC NOVA:** is meeting at 6:30 p.m. in 137 MSC. Pictures for the Aggeland will be taken at 7 p.m.

**LA TERTULIA:** is meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder to discuss projects and the Christmas party.

**ISSUES AND GRIEVANCES COMMITTEE:** an open forum for student complaints will be held at 7:30 p.m. in 604 Rudder. The Senate resolution on women in the band will be discussed.

**MCKINNEY HOMETOWN CLUB:** is meeting at 9 p.m. in 271 Briarwood Apartments to discuss party plans and Aggeland pictures.

**MSC BASEMENT:** is sponsoring a concert by Channel 3 at 8 p.m. in Rumors.

**PI SIGMA EPSILON:** is meeting for the last time this semester at 7 p.m. in 158 Blocker. Attendance is crucial.

**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS:** a speaker from Gulf States Utilities will be at the meeting at 7 p.m. in 342 Zachry. There will be a pizza party afterwards.

**PSI CHI/PSYCHOLOGY CLUB:** is meeting at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder. William Thrash will speak on non-traditional therapies.

**STUDENT MEDIATION SERVICE:** applications are available for volunteer student mediators in 108 YMCA.

**TAU KAPPA:** is selling Zipbusters Hunting Licenses in the YMCA.

**MSC OUTDOOR RECREATION:** sign up for the Keystone cross-country skiing trip from Dec. 29 - Jan. 6 at the secretaries island in 216 MSC.

*Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to desired publication date.*

# Mary Lou Retton to come to Bryan for show

By MELISSA ADAIR  
Staff Writer

Olympic Gold Medalist Mary Lou Retton will be at Aerofit Club and Activity Center with her coach Bela Karolyi on Sunday, Nov. 25 for a clinic and exhibition.

Ramiro Galindo, president of Aerofit, said it was actually a fluke that he got Retton to come to Bryan.

Galindo said he was at a fundraiser for President Reagan in Houston where Retton gave the pledge of allegiance. He got to talk to her for a short time, but then her body guards took her away.

Through a long chain of contacts,

starting with the group that sponsored the fund-raiser, Galindo finally got in touch with Karolyi.

"At first they told me there was no hope to get her (Retton)," he said. "She is booked for over a year."

But, Galindo said, Karolyi decided to find time to come to Bryan anyway.

The gymnastics clinic will start at 1 p.m. and will be open to all children ages five and older. There are no requirements for the clinic regarding skill or experience.

After the clinic, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Retton and Karolyi will give speeches on how they got involved in

gymnastics.

From 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Retton and five other world-class gymnasts will give an exhibition in floor exercise, balance beam, uneven parallel bars and vault — all four Olympic gymnastic events.

After the exhibition, Bryan Mayor Ron Blatchley and College Station Mayor Gary Halter will present the keys to the cities to Retton.

Retton won the gold medal in the 1984 Summer Olympics for best all-around female gymnast, as well as several other medals in individual events.

Karolyi was coach of the Romanian gymnastics team that won at the

1976 Olympics in Montreal and the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. Nadia Comaneci, from Romania, was his best-known student — before Retton.

Tickets for the clinic and exhibition are on sale at Aerofit at 1900 Villa Maria; Champ's at the Post Oak Mall; Cycles Etc.; and Western Bank on Villa Maria.

Tickets for the clinic, talks and exhibition are \$45 for the first child and \$30 for each additional child. Tickets for the talks and exhibition are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call Aerofit at 823-0971.

# Taquito

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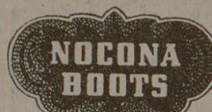
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