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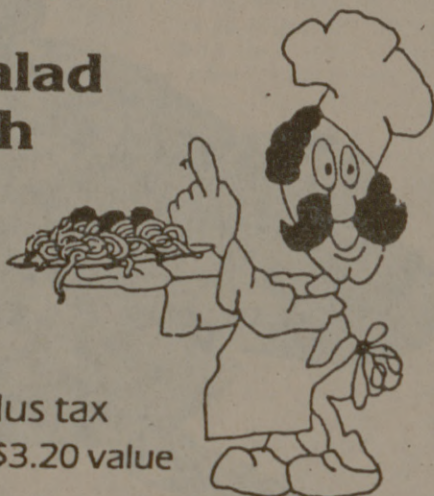
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WW II pilot recalls crash of Delta jet

Associated Press

IRVING — Paul Coke is a pilot himself, so something thumping and bumping a little on an approach to a landing was nothing new.

But the second bump jerked him from his relaxed musings.

"It was rigid," Coke, 63, recalled Tuesday during his testimony before the National Transportation Safety Board. "There is usually a little give, but this one had absolutely none."

Seconds later on that stormy Friday night in August, Delta Air Lines Flight 191 was engulfed in flames as it smashed into water tanks at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. The crash killed 137 people.

"A solid sheet of flame came down the aisle," Coke recalled in a pausing, quaking voice. "I don't know where it got in. I threw myself to the right behind the seat. The flames got there, and the last thing I consciously remember is heat."

Coke, of Sun City West, Ariz., was sitting in seat 29-C, but he doesn't remember the plane stopping or how he got out of the wreckage.

Coke, a World War II B-17 pilot, only vaguely recalls being put into an ambulance and feverishly pleading with rescue workers to call his wife.

"There was nothing until that second rigid thump that made me feel any concern," he told NTSB officers on their first day of hearings this week.

"I was completely relaxed until then."

Coke was returning from Miami Beach, Fla., and was to change planes at D-FW.

SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



'Sense of place' aids writer in developing 'novel' ideas

By MEG CADIGAN

Staff Writer

Award-winning author Dr. Rolando Hinojosa said Tuesday at Texas A&M that he needs a "sense of place" in order to write.

But having a "sense of place" is not necessary for all writers, he said.

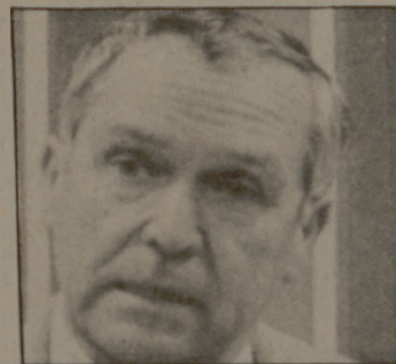
"What I'm saying is that I needed a sense of place," he said. Hinojosa's place is Mercedes, a small town in the Texas Rio Grande Valley where he grew up. And he uses this town as a basis for the place he writes about in his works.

A resident of Austin, Hinojosa makes frequent visits to Mercedes, but he doesn't live there now.

"I couldn't live there now," he said. "I'd be too close to ignore the romanticism and sentimentalism he has for the place."

Hinojosa said this can get in the way of truth and clear thinking.

Presently an English professor at the University of Texas at Austin, Hinojosa has written eight novels, numerous poems, short stories and



Rolando Hinojosa

critical lectures. Many of these have been published in both Spanish and English.

He has also won the National Award for Chicano literature for his novel, "Estampas Del Valle," and the international award for the best Spanish-American novel for his "Generaciones y Semblanza."

Hinojosa's discussed the Rio Grande Valley where the "roots" of his writing are.

He said he had a difficult time covering what he wanted to write about. Learning where to start his worst writing problem, he said.

"I wanted to write," he said. "I wanted to burn to write. And all these things you say to garden clubs whatever I attempted to write, it just fell out frail."

He said he finally decided to write about the area of Texas he had the best, the Valley.

"I wasn't learning the culture of the valley (in order to write about it)," he said. "I was living it."

He said he uses the people, folklore, language and history of the Valley to write his novels, the most recent being "Partners in Crime." Hinojosa said a sense of place is also essential to writing.

"A sense of history is important in developing a sense of place," he said. "Whether it be in a worldwide area or a small corner like mine."

Describing his life in Mercedes, Hinojosa said, "We were born living in a unified culture."

Aggie Cowboys sponsoring fifth annual Bourbon Street Bash

By TRACEY BABER

Reporter

The Aggie Cowboys will sponsor the fifth annual Bourbon Street Bash Friday from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Brazos County Pavilion.

This is the largest all-college party ever at Texas A&M, says Bryan Moreno, financial adviser to Beta Theta Pi, the Aggie Cowboys.

"We hope to raise \$5,000," Moreno says.

The money raised will be donated to the Village of Hope, an organization that aids needy children in Colombia, South America. The Aggie Cowboys already sponsor 15 children through the Village, and with the money the group expects to raise

Friday, will be able to sponsor about 10 more. The money provides for the children until they are 18 years old.

"We receive letters and pictures from our sponsor children," Moreno says.

The Aggie Cowboys have donated the proceeds from the Bash to the Village of Hope for the past three years.

"Beta Theta Pi donates more money to the Village of Hope than any other organization at A&M," Moreno says.

A check will be presented to a Village of Hope representative at a banquet the week following the Bash.

Music at the Bash will be provided

by the Dealers, from Memphis, Tenn. The Dealers have played at the Bash for the past three years.

"The Dealers will be coming off of their tour with New Addition just to play at the Bash," Moreno says. The Dealers also have played backup for Kool and the Gang and the Pointer Sisters.

"The Dealers like A&M because they say it has the best audience," Moreno says.

He says this will be the largest stage, sound and light show at a college party.

About 5,000 people attended the Bash last year, and 6,000 people are expected this year, he says.

"Last year we had to turn people

away at the door," Moreno says. "Tickets were sold out by the last year."

Free beer and soft drinks will be available, and barbecue will be served.

"A taxi service will be available to take the individual's expense to their home those people who have too much to drink," Moreno says. "We are trying to promote this concert instead of a beer bust."

Tickets are \$8 before the Bash and \$9 at the door. Tickets are purchased from any Aggie Cowboy or at the Memorial Student Center, the Blocker Building, the Center for the Quadrangle and off campus at Balfour House or Kool's Bookstore.

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REPAIRS - THE "OUCHLESS" WAY

Are getting repairs done around your apartment just as painful to you as pulling teeth? Because problems occasionally arise in all types of property, the tenant must be aware of the correct procedures for getting repairs made. There are a few guidelines for insuring that the job is done in a reasonable amount of time the desired results.

- 1) Before you begin, read your lease. The lease will define who is responsible for maintenance and repairs. Although always the case. Therefore, be sure to read this section of your lease in order to determine how to initiate the repair process.
- 2) As stated in most leases, repairs are handled by submitting a written request for repairs to your manager or owner. This request must be written by the tenant and signed, dated, and accepted by the manager. Work orders will not substitute for a repair request. In addition, be sure to make a duplicate copy which can be kept for your own files once the manager has signed it.
- 3) If for some reason the manager refuses to sign the repair request, you can send it by certified mail. The cost is approximately \$2.00, and it insures that the manager receives the notice. Keep the returned receipt in case future verification is needed.
- 4) After making certain the manager has received the notice, you must allow a reasonable amount of time for the repair to be made. The allotted time will depend on the severity of the problem. For example, a faulty door lock would necessitate repair sooner than a leaky faucet. Also, repairs requested during move-in times and holidays will require a longer amount of time. In most instances a period of five to seven working days is sufficient for maintenance personnel to do the job.
- 5) If the manager receives the request but no apparent effort has been made to remedy the problem, a second written notice should be sent. Again have the manager sign and date both copies, and keep one for yourself.
- 6) If the situation progresses to this stage and no repairs have been made, arrange an appointment with the Students' Legal Advisor. Because you cannot force the management to make repairs, your only alternative is to move. Before moving out, you will want to become aware of your legal rights and responsibilities. You cannot withhold rent in an effort to force repairs. Texas law states that a tenant loses all rights if rent is withheld.

Now that you are familiar with the procedure for requesting repairs, we hope that the process will be an "ouchless" one. Sample "repair request" forms are available in the Off Campus Center. We encourage you to come by our office any time you have a question. The OCC is located in Puryear Hall across from the YMCA Building. Stop by or give us a call at 845-1741.

GOTCHA COVERED

If a fire breaks out in your apartment complex and your belongings are damaged or destroyed, the apartment owner is not responsible unless the owner is negligent. If your rental property is burglarized, the owner is not obligated to replace anything that was lost. Your belongings as a tenant are not protected from theft, fire, or water damage under the owner's insurance. Each year numerous A&M students lose personal possessions because the items were not insured.

Because your belongings are not protected from theft or fire under the owner's insurance, it is wise

LOOKING FOR ROOMMATES

...for the upcoming spring semester? The Off Campus Center operates the Roommate Referral Service which can help students find compatible roommates. The service is helpful if you have housing and need a roommate or if you need both housing and roommates. The Off Campus Center is now taking roommate listings for the spring semester. For more information or to list yourself in the service, contact the Off Campus Center in Puryear Hall or call 845-1741.

