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Nov. 12 8p.m.
Rudder Aud.
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Peso devaluation worries businesses

Associated Press
HIDALGO — Dramatic drops in the value of the Mexican peso have businessmen along the U.S.-Mexico border worried again, especially in this South Texas community where 95 percent of the retail business is dependent on Mexican shoppers. "Business is really dead," Joe Vera III, executive vice president of the Hidalgo Chamber of Commerce, said Wednesday. "People are no longer coming across. We can't blame them. They just can't afford it now."
In the past month, the peso has dropped from 350 pesos to \$1 to between 475 and 490 pesos to \$1 in the Rio Grande Valley on Wednesday. The peso was fluctuating between 490-495 to \$1 from Laredo to El Paso.
"I think we all expected it to drop in value after the earthquake," said Yolanda Walker, a vice president in the international division at Brownsville National Bank. "(Mexico) already has problems and they're going to have more. But (the peso) held for a long time and improved after the earthquake, so it was kind of confusing."
Border towns are dependent on each other for, among other things, retail trade. But several shop owners said business is dead.

"I'm taking the peso at 399," said Aurora Mijangos of Wise Fashions in Hidalgo. "We were taking it yesterday at 470. We didn't have any business at all and we started out at 399 this morning and we still don't have any business." Business is bad," she added. "As soon as you tell them its 470, 490 it's too much for them."
Vera said Hidalgo is smaller than most border towns.
"About 95 percent of our retail business comes from Mexico," he said. "Business is really bad. It's been gradually going down, but overall, from talking to merchants, it's been declining, but now it's just about halted."
He said cities like Brownsville, Laredo, Del Rio and El Paso can balance out their retail trade with their own shoppers, but that Hidalgo is very dependent on shoppers from its sister city, Reynosa, Mexico.
Last summer, the peso dropped from about 240 to 260 in less than a week and slowly declined. Three weeks ago along the border, the peso was about 340. Last week, it went over 420 pesos to \$1.
"I think people are panicking a little bit," Walker said. "People need the dollars to buy certain things and they have to go to the market and get dollars."

Rockwell pleads guilty to defense overcharges

Associated Press
DALLAS — Rockwell International Corp., the nation's second-largest defense contractor, pleaded guilty Wednesday to federal charges that six of its employees filed falsified time cards leading to overcharges on an Air Force contract.
Investigations by the company and the Justice Department failed to find any evidence that company managers participated in the offenses or knew about them, Rockwell spokesman Jim Vallela said.
In addition to a possible maximum fine of \$200,000, Rockwell agreed to pay \$1 million in a settlement for double the amount of mischarges and the government's investigation costs.
The guilty plea was entered to a federal information filed in U.S. District Court in Dallas.

No individuals were named in the charges.
The government charged that the employees falsified 20 time cards from April to June, 1982.
The bogus work was charged to a \$1.3 million, fixed-price contract by Rockwell's former Collins Communications Systems Division plant in Dallas, Vallela said.
After completing its investigation a year ago, Rockwell disciplined the workers and lowered the price of the contract by \$290,839, the estimated amount of the overcharges, he said.
According to the information, Rockwell also agreed that any employee involved in the overcharges will be barred from working on projects involving federal contracts.
The government agreed not to pursue any further charges against Rockwell that might arise from the case, according to the criminal information.

ALL STUDENTS Can have their pictures taken for the '86 Aggieland thru November 11

All students can have their pictures taken thru Nov. 11 at the studio above Campus Photo Center at Northgate.
Office hours are 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30.

No pictures will be taken at the Pavilion this year.

Police beat

The following incidents reported to University Police through Monday:

MISDEMEANOR THEFT:
• Seven bicycles were stolen from various locations on campus.
• A spare tire and rim were stolen from a Chevrolet parked in Parking Annex 24.
• A moped was stolen in PA 22.
• A moped was stolen from the Briggs Hall bicycle racks.

FELONY THEFT:
• A Honda Twin Star was stolen from the Schuhmacher bicycle racks.

BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE:
• A Fultron equalizer and black Q-Beam spotlight were stolen from a Ford Bronco in PA 24.
• A Sony XR-50 stereo was stolen from a Ford pickup in PA 24.

HARASSMENT BY PHONE:
• There were four incidents of harassment by phone reports from various women's dorm campus.

UNAUTHORIZED SQUATTING:
• An officer of the University Police reported seeing a person which advertised free reading courses to be given at Aggieland Hotel, attached windshields of vehicles parked in PA 30, PA 24, and PA 40. The officer attempted to contact personnel at the hotel but was unsuccessful. Investigation continues.

ABUSE TOWARD STUDENT MEMBER:
• After being issued a ticket by University Police in PA 60, a student began using profanity and guage toward an officer. The student then exited the parking area in his car using excessive acceleration and leaving black tire marks on the street. He was then picked over by University Police. give more citations.

TERRORIST THREAT:
• University Police received call from a man saying two men would go off in the Langford Architecture Center. The building was evacuated, but no bomb was found.

Call Battalion Classified 845-2611