

World and Nation

Official says exact spot destroyed

Part of shuttle's suspect joint found

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Searchers have retrieved part of Challenger's right booster containing some of its suspect joint, but the precise spot where the explosion was triggered was undoubtedly destroyed in the disaster, the chief of the salvage effort said Tuesday.

Air Force Col. Edward A. O'Connor, however, expressed confidence that more surrounding pieces will be found and will help pinpoint the exact cause of the accident.

He said a section of the suspected joint retrieved several weeks ago from the ocean floor has been posi-

tively identified as part of the right booster rocket segment containing the joint that caused the disaster that killed seven astronauts.

But he told a news conference the section is on the opposite side of the area where a plume of flame shot from the joint 15 seconds before the shuttle blew up. Even so, it can be valuable to the investigation, he said.

O'Connor recently told the presidential commission investigating the explosion that the 500-pound segment was believed to be from the right booster, but engineers were not certain at that time.

Meanwhile, the USS Preserver, which has been retrieving crew cabin debris and astronaut remains, was heading into port Tuesday with several small chunks of wreckage.

It had planned to come in two hours earlier, but radioed, "We're making real good progress, conditions are very conducive to diving, and we'd like to stay out until sunset."

Monday was the first good diving day after 10 days of high winds and waves and poor visibility on the ocean bottom.

Navy Capt. Charles Bartholomew, supervisor of salvage operations, said three debris fields have been located that contain booster parts and the search is concentrating in these areas.

On the section of joint from the opposite side of the segment, O'Connor said, "It shows us a lack of burning in its immediate vicinity as far as any heat source that would take it to a melting point because of case failure. So that's going to help the engineers to understand the problem of that whole failure."

Jackson tour suit allowed

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge has allowed a promoter to go ahead with a \$20 million suit against the Jackson brothers' "Victory Tour," but dismissed the promoter's claim he had a binding oral contract with Michael Jackson.

U.S. District Judge Irving Hill on Monday continued the case until April 21 after ruling that promoter Frank J. Russo of Rhode Island could proceed with his suit, which alleges he is owed money for advance work on the 1984 concert tour.

Russo had contended that a binding oral agreement was reached at a March 29, 1984, meeting for him to promote the tour.

But the judge said even if the terms had been written down, they would have been virtually impossible to enforce because Russo never made proposals about how and when the Jacksons should be paid.

Auditor: Marcos took \$4.7 million

MANILA, Philippines — Claiming he needed money to fight rebels, Ferdinand E. Marcos took \$4.7 million from a ministry during his last days in power and left no trace of the money, the chief government auditor said Tuesday.

Teofisto Guingona said this brought to at least \$8.5 million the amount of money found missing in the past month.

"We are in the process of uncovering more" irregularities, he said.

In other developments Tuesday:

• A government commission said it has seized 34 companies belonging to two industrialists close to Marcos.

• The Foreign Ministry announced that Thailand has notified the Philippines it will reject any request for refuge by Marcos, who fled to Hawaii after a revolt Feb. 26.

Officials of the Aquino government said Marcos and his associates may have stashed from \$5 billion to

\$10 billion overseas in plundered wealth.

Heeding a public clamor for officials of the new government to declare their assets, Foreign Minister Salvador H. Laurel Laurel, who is also vice president and prime minister, and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile released financial statements Tuesday.

Laurel declared a net worth of about \$970,000 and Enrile \$1.2 million.

Park rangers nab weed-eater in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — The Man Who Ate Manhattan was nabbed mid-bite.

In a not-ready-for-Miami Vice caper, two park rangers used marked bills, a surveillance camera and walkie-talkie to get the goods on a bespectacled botanist who calls himself "Wildman."

Sure enough, they caught "Wildman," a.k.a. Steve Brill, 37, in the act. He was handcuffed, hustled into a police van and taken to the precinct. Book him, they said, after searching his backpack.

The charge? Eating the weeds in Central Park.

Brill confessed in a telephone interview Tuesday, "We picked dandelions and a few other common weeds."

For the past five years, Brill has been conducting four-hour, \$15 walking tours of New York City parks, showing urban dwellers which plants are edible.

The Parks and Recreation Department says it warned Brill several times to spit it — er, cut it — out. When he refused, the law moved in.

Brill was taking a college ecology group on an edible tour Saturday afternoon, paying little heed to the couple who "acted a little strange."

The couple turned out to be undercover rangers, and at the end of the tour Brill was arrested on misdemeanor charges of criminal mischief.

"They searched me for weapons," he said. "What am I going to have, as a botanist? Some insect repellent to spray them with?"

"I'm just trying to get people into Nature, to show them they can touch things, and smell things and taste them," he said.

Touching and smelling is OK, said Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner Henry Stern, but the tasting part is a no-no.

CONTACT LENSES

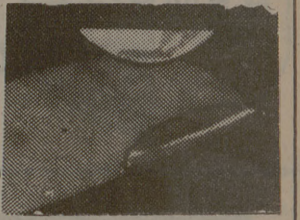
\$79⁰⁰ pr.* - daily wear soft lenses

\$99⁰⁰ pr.* - extended wear soft lenses

\$99⁰⁰ pr.* - tinted soft lenses

CALL 696-3754 FOR APPOINTMENT

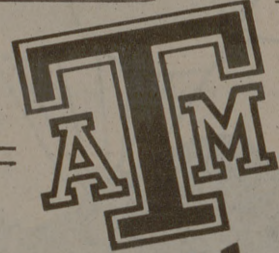
* EYE EXAM AND CARE KIT NOT INCLUDED



OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY

CHARLES C. SCHROEPEL, O.D., P.C.
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY
707 SOUTH TEXAS AVE-SUITE 101D
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77840

1 block South of Texas & University Dr.



Ask About our Student Membership!



Official Tanning Center of the Miss Texas A&M Pageant

The Original Perfect Tan
Post Oak Square, Harvey Road
764-2771

Call Battalion Classified 845-2611

The BEST Value Around

Elsewhere

At AggieCon

9 Movies in Big Auditorium

Mad Max	\$4.50
The Road Warrior	\$4.50
Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome	\$4.50
The Black Cauldron	\$4.50
Wizards	\$4.50
Fantastic Animation Festival	\$2.50
E.T.	\$4.50
Ladyhawke	\$4.50
Cocoon	\$4.50

6 Old Films

6 X \$1.50 = \$9.00

Party Room with pizza, punch and more

4 days X \$3.00 = \$12

Masquerade Show and a play

\$5.00

An SCA dancing lesson

\$2.00

Two nights of dancing

2 X \$3 = \$6

Speeches by respected writers and artists

\$3

Misc. entertainment charges

\$7

Three nights of parties

3 X \$2.50 for grub so you don't arrive emptyhanded = \$7.50

Grand Total \$90.00 Only \$8.50 for students

BUT YOU DON'T \$13 for non-students

HAVE TO PAY \$4.50 per day for students

\$90 \$5.50 per day for nonstudents

90% OFF SALE



AGGIECON 17

Don't Miss It!!! ✨ APRIL 3-6

MSC Cepheid Variable

