

Street people find 'homes' in skyscraper office lobbies

NEW YORK (AP) — The city's homeless people have found new homes in the sculpture- and plant-filled lobbies of some of Manhattan's most luxurious midtown office skyscrapers.

The atriums, designed to be oases for office workers and passersby, have come in the last few years to shelter growing numbers of homeless, especially during the winter.

While commuters rush past "street people" who dwell in the city's subway stops, bus stations and train terminals, the presence of homeless in the glass and steel symbols of corporate America seems harder to ignore.

"People have a deep sense of discomfort when they're driven by capitalism and what gets left over is sitting right in front of them," said tax lawyer Gary Kaplan as he walked past such a scene.

The lobbies are located in private buildings but are defined as public spaces by a provision in the city's zoning laws. That means no one can be kicked out.

"The public spaces are intended to be used by all members of the

public . . . regardless of their economic status," said Tucker Ashworth, a spokesman for the Department of City Planning. "We've received few complaints about the homeless being there."

Homeless people claim metal chairs and tables in the lobby of Park Avenue Plaza, north of Grand Cen-

"Those spaces were designed for the public — that means the poor people too."

—John Croft

tral Station, from 8 a.m. till the atrium closes at 10 p.m.

John Croft, 50, became homeless two years ago when he lost his job and a fire destroyed his Staten Island apartment. He sleeps in an abandoned building and spends his days drawing in various midtown atriums. He washes and shaves in the pink-marbled bathroom in the

elegant Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue.

"Those spaces were designed for the public — that means the poor people too," he said.

The juxtaposition of wealth and poverty is striking in the lobby of Park Avenue Plaza, a 45-story building between 52nd and 53rd streets off Park Avenue whose prime tenant is First Boston, the investment banking firm.

Under a waterfall and a forest of ficus trees, professionals in pinstriped suits eat \$7.95 tortellini salad at an open-air cafe, while nearby dozens of ragged homeless men and women sleep, play cards or stare aimlessly into space.

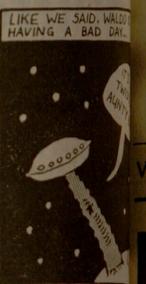
"They throw you out in some buildings, but here, if you're a reasonable person, they're reasonable with you," said a bearded man with straggly shoulder-length hair who gave his name as Ken.

But the homeless often are kicked out, said Robert Hayes, a lawyer for the Coalition for the Homeless.

"The homeless people are not living in atriums because it's a lot of fun. There's no choice," he said.

Warped

by Scott McC



Waldo

by Kevin Thor



Developers sue Sunnyvale for right to build high-density housing units

SUNNYVALE (AP) — A legal battle is brewing that could turn the Shelbys' country dream home into an urbanized nightmare.

Bill and Judy Shelby's place, just 20 minutes east of Dallas, has a sprawling lawn and a few ducks in a pond, as well as room for horses and a swimming pool. From the living room of the three-bedroom brick home, you see nothing but land, dotted by a few cattle and farmhouses.

"This is something we dreamed of," said Mrs. Shelby, 36, who moved her family here three years ago from Garland, a suburb closer to Dallas. "I just figured this was the way it was always going to be."

But for nearly two years, a Sunnyvale developer has been

drafting plans for a high-density neighborhood of at least 3,600 housing units on a 1,196-acre site in the middle of the community. Today, there are fewer than 700 homes in the town.

The development — which would include townhouses, cottage homes, larger homes and a retail center — would surround the Shelbys' 6-acre plot on three sides.

The Town Council in January turned down the request for the planned development, which would have increased the population at least fivefold in 20 years, according to the developer's estimates.

In response, the developer, Sunnyvale Properties Ltd., filed a \$15 million lawsuit against the

town, three council members and one former council member who opposed the project.

The developers claim the town is purposefully excluding minorities and lower-income people who might live in the proposed neighborhood. In addition, they charged that Sunnyvale's strict zoning policy severely limits the potential value of their land.

"There aren't any driving reasons to artificially limit the growth of this town," said James L. (Chip) Northrup, who owns the land — known as Mayhew Ranch — in a partnership with Charles Mayhew Sr., a former mayor of Sunnyvale, and Mayhew's son, Charles Jr.

At the center of the dispute is a 14-year-old city ordinance requir-

ing that any new home be on a plot of at least one acre. According to plans submitted to the Town Council, the Mayhew property would average more than three housing units per acre.

The one-acre ordinance was approved in 1973 to allow for the use of septic tanks, before parts of Sunnyvale were hooked up to Garland's municipal sewage system, according to city records.

Current Mayor Robert Williams denies charges of discrimination, saying the ordinance is designed only to maintain the town's character.

"I don't think that's the feeling of anyone in the community, to keep anybody out," Williams told the Dallas Morning News.

Alloy

(Continued from page 1)

the temperature of liquid nitrogen, a temperature considered unreachable for more than 75 years.

Nitrogen becomes liquid at 321 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, or 77 degrees above absolute zero on the Kelvin scale used in science. Chu's alloy lost all resistance to elec-

tricity at 98 degrees Kelvin.

Chu's work "is still moving fast," Weinstein said. "He's getting closer to superconductivity at room temperature (300 Kelvin, or about 80 degrees Fahrenheit) and, almost as important, getting to a basic understanding of how this thing works."

Students

(Continued from page 1)

agement plan. That is expected to include a permanent executive committee of 12 voting members, with the presidents of the student body and alumni association serving as non-voting members.

The NCAA on Feb. 25 abolished football at SMU in 1987 because of a booster slush fund that paid \$61,000 to 13 players after the school was placed on its sixth probation in August 1985.

Pearlman had praise for a decision to add a student on the panel with full voting and privileges. That proposal will be the student body president.

Kevin Strempe, a member of the Student Senate, says, "It's better than the way it was."

"It will be better for us to run, because we just couldn't the way we were," Strempe says.

Strempe says other student support the decision to SMU's form of management.

McDONALD'S

INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

DRIVE-THRU SERVICE
University Drive
Hwy 21
Texas and S.W. Parkway
Manor East Mall
BREAKFAST EVERY MORNING

IM GAMEPLAN

ENTRIES OPEN:

TRACK MEET: ENTRIES OPEN: Monday, March 23. **ENTRIES CLOSE:** Tuesday, March 31. **SCRATCH AND INFORMATION MEETING:** Thursday, April 2, 6:00 PM, 164 Read Building. **RUNNING EVENTS:** Preliminary and Divisionals: Corps and Fish - Thursday, April 2, 7 PM, Kyle Field. Dorm and Ind. - Saturday, April 4, 2 PM, Anderson Track. All University - Sunday, April 5, 3 PM, Anderson Track. **FIELD EVENTS:** Preliminary and Divisionals: Corps and Fish - Friday, April 3, 4 PM, Anderson Track. Dorm and Ind. - Saturday, April 4, Men - 12 Noon, Women - 1 PM. All University - Sunday, April 5, 1 PM. Order of running events available in the IM-Rec Sports Office, 159 Read Building.

PENBERTHY DOUBLE ELIMINATION SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT: Entries are still open for this tournament which will be held April 3-5. Entry fee is \$40.00. Softball turf shoes will be awarded to all Class A Champions while Class B Champions will receive batbags. T-shirts will go to champions and runnersup in all classes. All homerun hitters receive free food coupons compliments of McDonald's Restaurants. MVP of each game will receive a Penberthy Player of the Game Koozie, compliments of C.C. Creations. Thanks go to the tournament sponsors: C.C. Creations, Legends Sports Shop and McDonald's Restaurants.

HANDBALL DOUBLES: ENTRIES OPEN: Mon., March 23. **ENTRIES CLOSE:** Tues., March 31. **PLAY BEGINS:** Tues., April 17. **EQUIPMENT:** Each participant must supply a new can of balls. The winners keep the unopened can, the losers keep the used cans. **ELIGIBILITY:** All TAMU students, faculty, staff, and their spouses may play. **CLASSES:** A, B, C, AND D. **SCHEDULES:** Will be posted on the Intramural Bulletin Board after 3 PM on Thurs., April 2. **RULES:** USHA Rules will apply. Entry forms are available in the IM-Rec Sports Office, RM 159 Read Building.

SUPERSTARS: ENTRIES OPEN: Mon., March 23. **ENTRIES CLOSE:** Thurs., April 2. Entries will be taken at the participant's meeting on an availability basis only. **DIVISIONS:** Individual - Men and Women Team - Men, Women and CoRec. **ELIGIBILITY:** Superstars competition is open to all TAMU students, Faculty and their spouses. **COMPETITION:** Participants must choose 10 of the 12 events. Everyone must participate in the obstacle course. **MEETING:** There will be a meeting for all participants at 11:00 AM Sat., April 4 in 164 Read to discuss rules for the competition. This meeting is mandatory.

PICKLEBALL DOUBLES: ENTRIES OPEN: Mon., March 23. **ENTRIES CLOSE:** Tues., March 31. **PRACTICE TIMES:** Watch the IM Bulletin Board for practice/instructional sessions. **ELIGIBILITY:** All TAMU students, Faculty and Staff may enter if they meet the requirements in the Intramural calendar. **CLASSES:** A, B, C, and D. **PLAY BEGINS:** Tuesday, April 7. Schedules will be posted after 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 2. Check the Bulletin Board outside the Intramural Office to see when you play. Equipment will be furnished.

TAMU OUTDOOR DOORS

The following outdoor trips have been planned. For more information contact Patsy Greiner, 845-7826.

CLIMB A ROCK! Intermediate Rock Climbing/Rappelling Trip, April 3-5, Enchanted Rock State Natural Area.

BACKPACKING! at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, April 3-5, for beginning and intermediate backpackers.

MOUNTAIN BIKERS! Trip to Lake Somerville State Park, 13 mile day trip, Saturday, April 11.

Be a superstar! Enter the Superstar Competition which opens TODAY!

AGGIELAND SOCCER CLASSIC

The Men's TAMU Soccer Club will be hosting a 19 and under Aggieldand Soccer Classic on Saturday and Sunday, March 28-29. Teams are expected from Austin, Houston, Dallas, and Louisiana. The tournament is open to teams in which all members of the team are under 19 years of age. For more information about the tournament, contact John Baldwin at 696-9219.

WRESTLING ALL-UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the winners of the Intramural Wrestling Tournament

Class A	Class B
134 lbs Ricky Ward	134 lbs Jerry Marshall
142 lbs Greg Burns	142 lbs Wesley Garrod
150 lbs Douglas Stahler	150 lbs John Byrne
158 lbs Wesley Garrod	158 lbs David Schmidt
167 lbs John Byrne	167 lbs Stanley Wright
177 lbs David Schmidt	177 lbs Jeffrey Walter
190 lbs Jeffrey Walter	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

McDonald's Intramural Highlights is sponsored in the Battalion by your local McDonald's Restaurants at University Drive, Manor East Mall on Hwy 21 and on Texas Avenue. Stories are written by Genni Miller, graphics are by Mike Cantrell and photos are by Mark Figart and Brian Crosby.

SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

Softball playoffs will be posted after 3 PM on April 2 on the bulletin board outside racquetball courts 3 and 4. Play begins on April 6.

FOOTNOTES

- Volleyball Triples and Innertube Water Polo regular season play tonight, March 23. Team Captains who did not attend the Team Captains Meeting may pick up their schedules in Room 159, Read Building.

- Wallyball Finals are scheduled for Thursday, March 26 beginning 5:45 PM in DeWare.