

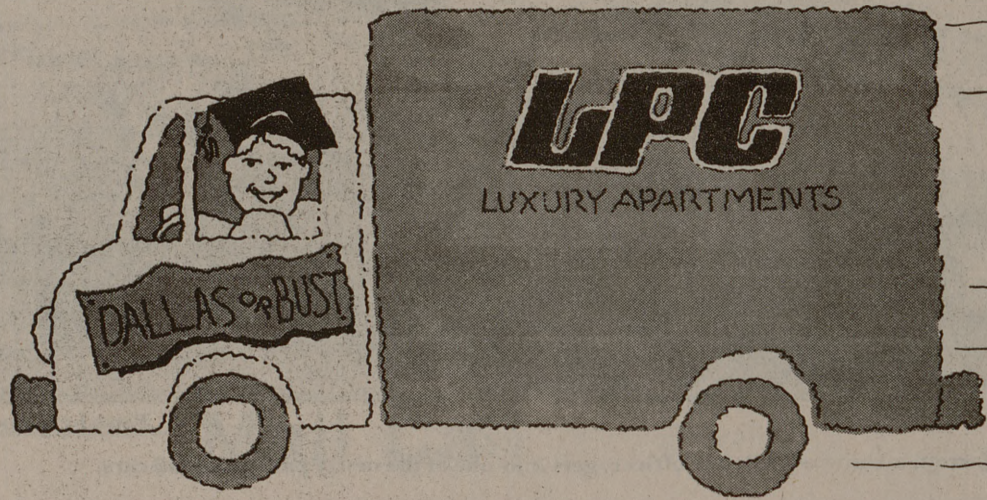
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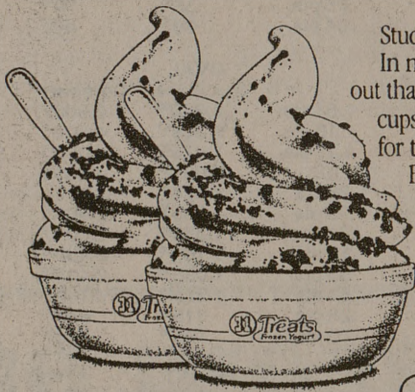
*Plus we'll give you a \$300 rebate on your 1st full month's rent. Offer expires July 1, 1988. Offer good only at participating LPC communities.

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601 University Drive, College Station
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Wacky Wednesday one day coupon.

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601 University Drive, College Station, Hours: 10 a.m. til midnight.

Dallas business won't insure cigarette users

DALLAS (AP) — Smokers are finding that puffing doesn't pay, especially when it comes to one employer's benefits programs.

Executives of a mobile home manufacturer based in Dallas, with 11 plants nationwide, has told employees they will lose company-paid health insurance benefits next April 1 if they don't quit smoking — at home and on the job.

Palm Harbor Homes, with 1,400 employees nationally, instituted the policy in response to health insurance costs, which rise dramatically if an employee smokes.

"If a company is going to be paying the lion's share of insurance coverage, then we choose not to pay claims that are generated by the smoking habit," Michael Herman, vice president of finance for Palm Harbor's Dallas-based parent company, said Monday.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. spokesman Charles Sahnner, whose company is Palm Harbor's insurance carrier, said he knew of no other firm that has started such an anti-smoking policy.

Herman said Palm Harbor will refuse to pay for health insurance for any employee who smokes on or off the job. He said workers may choose to continue smoking, but the company will not pay for their health insurance.

Workers who claim to be non-smokers will be required "to sign a statement saying they do not smoke at all," said Lenny Diaz, personnel director at Palm Harbor's 200-employee plant in Austin. Palm Harbor also has a Lancaster plant.

Diaz, who is a smoker, said some employees have complained but were going along with the plan.

"I don't mind because I've been trying to quit for some time and they have given us enough time to react," Diaz said.

But the American Civil Liberties Union believes the policy is an invasion of privacy because "it regulates the behavior of employees off duty," Joe Cook, president of the ACLU Dallas chapter, said.

"Where does it stop?" he asked. "I understand employers would want a healthy work force, but smoking is only one problem. What if one employee is a sky diver; should he be dropped from the health plan?"

What's Up

Wednesday

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES: will have an Aggie Supper at 6 p.m. at All Presbyterian Church.
AGGIE GOP/COLLEGE REPUBLICANS: will meet at 7 p.m. in 510 Rudder.
EUROPE CLUB: will meet at 10 p.m. at the Flying Tomato.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: will have a support group meeting at 8:30 p.m. Call the center for the room number at 845-0280.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will have a support group meeting at noon. Call the center for the room number.
ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: will have a support group meeting at 7 p.m. in 145 MSC.

Thursday

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: will have a support group meeting at 7 p.m. in 145 MSC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: will have a support group meeting at 8:30 p.m. Call the center at 845-0280 for the room number.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will have a support group meeting at 12:15 p.m. Call the center for the room number.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed Moore, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We only use the name and phone number of the contact if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3315.

Commissioner says S&Ls need mortgages

AUSTIN (AP) — The newly sworn Texas savings and loan commissioner says the state's thrifts must return to the mortgage-backed lending they dominated before deregulation carried them into other investments in the 1980s.

James Pledger, in a short swearing-in ceremony Monday, said the state's savings and loan agencies face "a big job" as Texas thrifts battle mounting losses.

"The thing I am most interested in is that for the kind of investments savings and loans undertake, they have the proper underwriting ability," Pledger said of the 218 state-chartered thrifts.

The 38-year-old lawyer was most recently a state supervisory agent in Houston. In this office, he was responsible for both of the S&Ls that account for combined assets of \$800 million.

He took over the office from predecessor, L. Linton Bowman, who resigned Nov. 16.

"The byword of this agency is going to be safety and soundness and strong professional supervision from the state of Texas," Pledger said.

His appointment came as the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. has promised to begin an awaited Southwest Plan within a month.

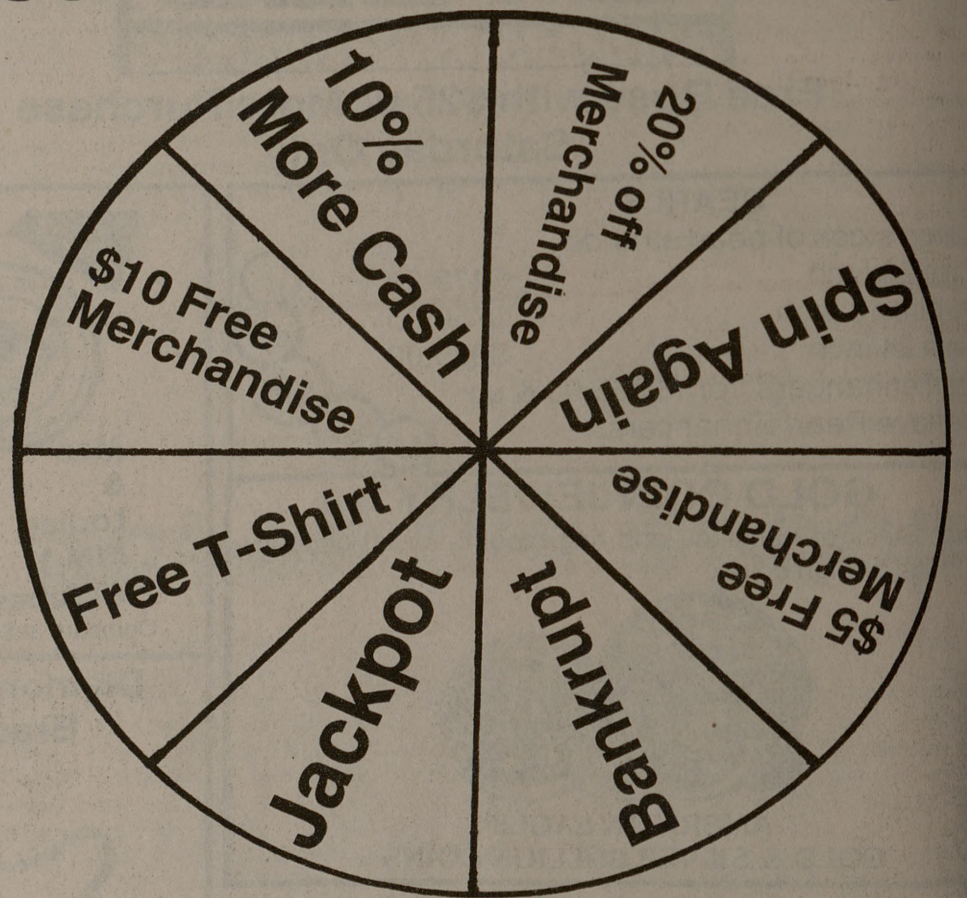
Intended to return the industry's fiscal health through consolidation of about one-third of the S&Ls operating in the state, the plan's objective is to recapitalize surviving the industry.

"There is no doubt that the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. and the bank board are playing a pre-eminent role in the recovery of the savings and loan industry," Pledger said.

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