

No 'sex in space' for Endeavour

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The world's first husband and wife to share a spaceship wave to each other while floating to and from work aboard Endeavour and have posed together for a few snapshots.

But that's about it for together-ness, they said Thursday.

Mark Lee works the day shift. Jan Davis has the night shift. So about the only time they see each other is during the 15-minute overlaps between their 12-hour shifts inside the shuttle laborato-

Married astronauts only have time for waves and photos, work separate shifts

ry.

"We just kind of wave as we pass in the tunnel going to work each day," Davis said.

Lee said it wasn't until Wednesday — midway through the eight-day mission — that he and Davis found time to have their pictures taken together.

"We don't see much of each other . . . but nevertheless, we're still sharing this flight and I've really enjoyed it," Davis said during

a space-to-Earth news conference.

Lee, 40, and Davis, 38, both mechanical engineers, fell in love while training for the mission. They married in January 1991, even though they knew one might be bumped from the flight.

NASA reluctantly made an exception to its policy barring married couples from flying together in space, and thus history was made Saturday when Endeavour blasted into orbit.

But that's the only kind of history for them. Lee and Davis insisted before the flight that no sex-in-space experiments were requested or planned.

The flight, due to end with a Sunday landing at Kennedy Space Center, is the first U.S. space mission devoted to Japanese research.

"We have gained quite a bit out of it," said shuttle commander Robert "Hoot" Gibson. "We get a fresh look from the Japanese and their approach to some of the experiments, and there's no doubt that certainly we've helped them a lot."

Nursing home administrator faces charges

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — The administrator in charge of a Hondo nursing home where 12 disabled children died last year under questionable circumstances has been charged with violating the state's nursing home laws.

The Texas Board of Licensure for Nursing Home Administrators filed a complaint against Barbara Doyle, former administrator of Heritage Manor Care Center of Hondo, the Austin American-Statesman reported Thursday.

The complaint, filed Wednesday, charges that Doyle was negligent or incompetent, repeatedly or willfully acted in a manner inconsistent with the health and safety of residents, and failed to comply with state health requirements.

The board could revoke or suspend Doyle's nursing home administrator's license, place her on probation or refuse to renew her license.

The Hondo nursing home, 40 miles west of San Antonio, almost lost its Medicaid funding earlier this year after state health inspectors uncovered questionable circumstances in the deaths of seven chil-

dren. Later, the Texas Attorney General's office determined that five more children had died.

Investigators found that when a disabled child developed respiratory problems, nurses became confused about whether to resuscitate the child, or couldn't find lifesaving equipment, according to state investigative documents obtained by the Austin American-Statesman.

Last month, the former head nurse at the Hondo facility was charged with five counts of violating state law in the deaths. Ethlene "Nell" Dees faces disciplinary action by the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners.

Doyle, 47, is now administrator of Hilltop Nursing Home in Kerrville.

Her attorney, Joe James Sawyer, said, "My client is accused of not meeting accepted standards, yet no one has told what those standards are and how she failed to meet it in every one of those cases."

Sawyer said Doyle "has been working in this industry and is proud of her job and the way she does her job. The only thing she is guilty of is being there when people decided to make accusations."

Dallas report reveals minorities, women receive fewer contracts

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — A city staff report shows white men get more than their fair share of Dallas contracts.

Of the \$254.7 million in contracts awarded to area businesses in 1990 and 1991, more than 85 percent were awarded to white men, according to the report presented to the Dallas City Council Wednesday.

Fourteen percent of businesses eligible for city contracts are black-owned, but those companies received only 5 percent of the

work.

By contrast, white men made up 64 percent of the eligible professional service contractors and received 83 percent of the city's business.

The report did not give reasons for the disparity in contract awards. However, women and minorities who testified before the council this year have said obstacles include racism and sexism, lack of information, and difficulty in getting a business bonded.

Most city contracts have to be competitively bid. Under state law, contracts that are exempt

from that rule include professional service contracts, such as those for legal and accounting work and contracts that are worth less than \$10,000.

When contracts are not competitively bid, the city manager can decide who receives the contracts.

Mayor Steve Bartlett said an intentional bias was not evident.

"Discrimination is a harsh word. It implies intent and gross negligence," Bartlett said. "The study shows there has been an under-utilization and that we haven't achieved the diversity we want."

Education questions plague Guerrero

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Republicans have had tough words about Railroad Commission Chairman Lena Guerrero's false claim to a college degree. But the toughest questions were raised by Guerrero herself.

A politician's opponents always hope for a lynching. Seldom does the prey provide the rope.

This story began in 1984, when Guerrero's state House campaign literature described her as not only a University of Texas graduate but an honors student.

That claim was repeated as the Democrat's star rose — in the Legislature, as political director for Gov. Ann Richards' 1990 primary campaign, when Richards put her in statewide office on the powerful Railroad Commission.

Guerrero says the confusion was an honest mistake, that she always believed she received her UT diploma.

For most people, it wouldn't matter. Embell-

ishing resumes is a too-common practice.

But Lena Guerrero wasn't seeking private jobs, she was seeking public offices. That meant a public record:

1984
A campaign biography from her first state House race:

"In 1976 she moved to Austin to attend the University of Texas, where she was named to the honorary scholastic society, Phi Beta Kappa. She received a bachelor of science degree in broadcasting in 1980."

1985
An official biography issued by her House office:

"While at the university, she was named to the honorary scholastic society, Phi Beta Kappa. Upon receiving her bachelor's degree in broadcasting in 1980, she was named executive director of the Texas Women's Political Caucus."

Dec. 3, 1990
The news release from Gov.-elect Ann

Richards, announcing Guerrero's appointment as the first Hispanic and first woman on the Railroad Commission, repeated the Phi Beta Kappa reference.

Aug. 14, 1992
Guerrero told Texas A&M University graduates at their commencement: "Now I remember well my own commencement, and I think I can guess what you're feeling about right now."

(She told the Houston Post on Wednesday she was referring to her 1976 graduation from Mission High School.)

Thursday, Sept. 10
Questioned first by Dallas Morning News reporter Christy Hoppe, Guerrero said she was a UT graduate and received a diploma.

Friday, Sept. 11
Guerrero acknowledged she wasn't a graduate, saying she had believed for 12 years that she did get a degree until checking with the school.

Houston rodeo introduces new 'jerk down rule'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Texas' largest livestock show and rodeo has dropped the traditional "jerk down" procedure in calf roping, delighting animal rights activists who considered the event cruel.

"It is something that we are very happy about," Patricia Mercer, executive director of the Houston chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said.

"Calf roping has been one of the most controversial events in rodeo," she said. "Most of the injuries sustained by animals take place in calf roping."

A new "jerk down rule" forbids the traditional method, in which the calf is lassoed around the neck, then jerked backward into the air as the cowboy brings his horse to an abrupt halt.

The change, which goes into effect with the 1993 rodeo, means that the cowboy will slow his horse to a stop, at the same time slowing the movement of the calf, until both animals are at a complete stop.

As with the traditional method, the horse will maintain tension on the rope tied to its saddle, as the rider dismounts and binds three of the calf's feet.

Dan Gattis, general manager of the Houston rodeo, pushed through the change at a board meeting of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association in Colorado Springs, Colo.

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