## Couple admits to dumping baby in park

NEW YORK — A Quebec couple who claimed their 2-month-old daughter disappeared in Central Park admitted Sunday they had dumped her body in woods in Quebec more than a week ago after finding her dead in her crib.

Using a map the couple drew for detectives, Quebec police quickly found the body. The cause of death wouldn't be known before an autopsy Monday, said provincial police spokesman Tom McConnell.

The discovery ended a search involving about 75 New York City police, including scuba divers who checked ponds in Central Park, said John Hill, chief of Manhattan detectives.

The father had reported the infant missing Saturday afternoon — 18 hours after she supposedly disappeared.

The couple drove to New York with their other child, 4-year-old Priscille, who showed no signs of abuse, Hill said. The girl was sleeping

Sunday afternoon in a police station but would be turned over to city welfare officials, he said.

The parents — Joseph Bales, 33, and his wife, Helene Lemay, 31 — met with reporters at the station house late Saturday and made a tearful plea for the return of their infant girl, Muguet.

Within several hours, the parents' story unraveled. First the mother, then the father, admit-

ted what really happened, Hill said.
"These aren't hardened criminals," Hill said. "If they were hardened criminals, they wouldn't have made such stupid blunders."

Hill said that within the past two or three years, the couple had a foster child taken from them by Canadian authorities because of abuse allegations. He had no details.

The couple feared trouble, Hill said, when they found their baby dead in her crib on April 8 in their home in Saint Romain, about 20 miles north of the Vermont border in southern Quebec.

So the parents decided to get rid of the body that day. They wrapped it in three plastic bags

and dumped it in woods near the remote Quebec town of Eastman, about 75 miles from

Over the next week, the parents decided to concoct a story about the girl's disappearance. They apparently decided to tell the story in New York because it's a big city, said police Sgt. Sean O'Neill, who helped interpret for the pri-

marily French-speaking couple. The father told detectives Saturday afternoon that he had fallen asleep on a park bench the evening before and awoke to find the infant

missing.
"We were suspicious from the beginning," Hill said.

After checking with U.S. Customs and hotel officials and talking to Priscille, detectives determined that the parents hadn't brought the infant into the country, and the couple was charged with filing a false report. Then they admitted dumping the body.

**Business Hours** 

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday through Friday

## What's Up

Monday

Special Health Services: Free and anonymous HIV testing is available on campus. Call 775-

Rio Valley Hometown Club: General meeting and offi-cer elections in 155 Koldus. Call Hercilia at 847-2235.

International Studies Society: Officer elections for next year in 504 Rudder at 8:30 p.m. Call Eleanor at 693-4597

Lutheran Student Fellowship: "The Poetry of Jessie Holden Buttram: Mostly Her Going is Up" by Dr. Raymond Petrillo in All Faith's Chapel at 8 p.m. Call Rev. Manus at 846-6687.

Aggies for Life: Celeste Dixon, Pres. of Feminists for Life of Texas speaks on "Reclaiming Feminism's Pro-Life Roots" and baby shower benefitting the Brazos Valley Crisis Pregnancy Service in 502 Rudder at 7 p.m. Call Sara at 847-1299 or Susan at 847-8306.

Aggie Lutherans: Bible Study in 146 MSC from 11:30-12:30 p.m. Call Heather at 847-0631.

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Aggies: Religious discussion group in 507 Rudder at 7 p.m. Call Gayline at 847-0321.

TAMU Management Society: Representative from Kaplan to speak about GMAT and LSAT in 108 Blocker at 7:30 p.m. Call Joseph at 260-1433.

Tuesday

Outdoor Recreation Club: Officer elections in 402 Rudder at 8:30 p.m. Call Dave at 846-3647.

Aggies for George W. Bush vs. Aggies for Ann: Student gubernatorial debate followed by audience discussion at 7 p.m in 601 Rudder. Call Dollie at 776-2059. Orthodox Student Organi-

zation: Church service with Father Jim in All Faith's chapel at 5:15 p.m. Call Nicholas at 847-Ambassadors: General

meeting and officer elections in Dept. of Multicultural Services in MSC basement at 8 p.m. Call Andrew at 845 4551 drew at 845-4551. TAMU Geographical Hon-

or Society: Officer elections in 707 O&M at 7:30 p.m. Call Anne TAMU Geographical Soci-

ety: Officer elections in 707 O&M building at 7 p.m. Call Anne at 774-4981.

TAMU Flying Club: General meeting with speaker David Chapman in 302 Rudder at 7 p.m. Call Kyle at 289-4440.

Aggie Toasters: General meeting in 407 Rudder at 8:30 p.m. Call Steve at 846-1313 or Richard at 847-1122.

Ionday, Aggie Anglers: General ing in 410 Rudder from 83 p.m. Call 693-0076.

Aggie Lutherans: Tre discussion and fellowship at Lutheran church from 7-8:30 Call Heather at 847-0631.

TAMU Roadrunners: portant meeting in 504 Rudde p.m. Call Rachel at 847-1137

Youth Fun Day: Coun training and meeting in 2121 at 7 p.m.

Saddle and Sirloin ( Last meeting of year with elections in 117 Kleberg at 7

Alcoholics Anonymo Open, non-smoking meetin noon. Check monitor in MSC location or call 847-9252 or

Breakaway: Weekly non nominational Bible Study at 9 at First Baptist Church-Colleg tion. Call Gregg at 693-9869.

Student Counse Service: African American port group in Henderson Halls 5-6:30 p.m. Call Dr. William 845-4427.

Wednesday

Liberal Arts Majors: C Fair with representatives from 30 companies from 10 a.m. 4p in MSC Flagroom.

Reformed University Fel lowship: Singing, fellowship, Bible study in 501 Rudder from 8 p.m. Call Chris at 776-1185.

Women's Bonfire Comm tee: General meeting n 504 der at 7 p.m. Call Lisel at 0 0 267 or Kathryn at 847-5998.

Asian American Asso tion: Last meeting with off elections in 110 Koldus at 8 p.m. Call Rick at 260-1963.

LU

home

the R

sweep

Red F

Texas A&M Sports Co Club: National tour reofficer elections in 110 Kold Call Chris at 764-7996.

Sierra Club: Ric Jense Texas Water Resources Institut will talk about Texas Water Qui ty; also organization of "Sierra" gles" in College Station Confered Center, 1300 George Bush Driv Room 104. Call 846-5576.

Pre-Vet Society: Dr. Schm will discuss large animal medic in 402 Rudder at 8:30 p.m. Jennifer at 847-0779.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profistudent and faculty events and activities. Items should be submitted no later than the days in advance of the desired run date. Application desired lines and notices are not events and will not be run What's Up. If you have any questions, please call newsroom at 845-3313.

THE BATTALION

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Need female roommate for summer. \$150/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Call Denise 696-0198.

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Male roommate needed starting summer. 2-1, W/D, fireplace, \$237.50/mo. rent includes cable. 779-2920. Male roommate needed for summer. Fully furnished, private pool, huge private bdrm. w/d \$250/mo + 1/3 utilities. 846-8084.

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Ask for Jenny or Lisa. nale roommate wanted for the summer. Own room & sonable rent. Call 696-0534.

## For Sale

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tance, 9 station cross training including stepper, ab bench, butterfly bench & leg extensions, Pd. \$400 will take \$250/ p.b.o. 779-8107. Lifestyle 50ERS electronic read-out system 250lb resis-

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