

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

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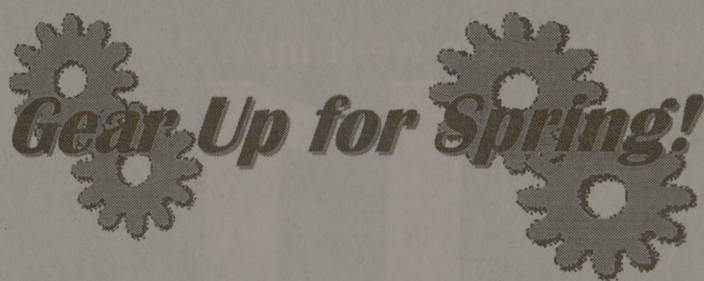
Friday, Nov. 21, 1997

6:30 - 10 p.m.

in 301 Rudder Tower

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SO, YOU THINK YOU HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS.

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ANSWER: A POPULAR GAME SHOW QUESTION: WHAT IS _____?

MSC Political Forum's take on a game show favorite— And you get a chance to compete!
 MSC Flagroom, 12:00 p.m. Friday, November 21

Interested in competing against a fellow Aggie and a faculty member for prestige and prizes? Answer the following questions and return them to the Political Forum cube in the Student Programs Office on the second floor of the MSC by 12:00 p.m. on November 20.

1. Who was Jimmy Carter's vice president?
2. What was the theme of Ross Perot's 1992 presidential campaign?
3. How many representatives are in the Texas House?
4. Who is the Secretary General of the United Nations?
5. In what year was Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated?



THE BATTALION WORLD

Tuesday • November 18, 1997

10 Tourists killed as gunmen open fire at famous Egyptian temple

LUXOR, Egypt (AP) — Gunmen opened fire on tourists outside a 3,400-year-old temple in southern Egypt today, and then battled police in a three-hour firefight. At least 70 people, including 60 foreigners, were killed in the deadliest attack on tourists in Egypt.

The assailants, who the government and police say were Islamic militants, burst into the courtyard of the Hatshepsut Temple in a desert outside Luxor and fired a hail of bullets at dozens of tourists who had just gotten off a bus, police said.

Local police said as the panic-stricken tourists ran or fell to the ground, police guarding the site returned fire. Six attackers and two policemen were killed, they said. Authorities later rounded up a large number of suspects.

The attackers tried to hijack the bus to flee, but were fired on by police. Among the dead, witnesses and police sources said, were three elderly French tourists who stayed on the bus rather than go into the temple.

The Interior Ministry, however, said one assailant was killed on the scene and five fled in the bus. Those five were chased by police

into nearby hills, and were killed, a statement said. The assailants were carrying six machine guns, two handguns and hand-made explosives, it said.

The Information Ministry put the overall death toll at 70—60 foreigners and 10 Egyptians, the latter group including the six assailants, two policemen and two civilians.

The updated casualty figures were released followed a meeting with President Hosni Mubarak, members of his Cabinet and security officials.

While the government provided no breakdown by nationality, the Interior Ministry earlier said Swiss, German and Japanese tourists were among the dead.

Swiss Foreign Ministry spokesman Franz Egle said 20 Swiss tourists were missing and presumed dead in the Luxor attack. The Swiss government set up a telephone hotline for people worried about their relatives.

The Egyptian Interior Ministry said 25 people were wounded, including 16 foreigners. Eight of the injured were in serious condition at a Cairo hospital. Four others were treated and discharged, the ministry said.

State-run Cairo TV referred to the attackers as "terrorist elements," a phrase usually reserved for Islamic militants seeking to oust Mubarak's secular government and replace it with strict Muslim rule. To that end, the militants have targeted the country's lucrative tourism industry, launching deadly attacks, mainly in southern Egypt. Some 1,100 people have been killed since the insurgency began in 1992.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for today's violence.

Militants who have staged previous attacks have sought the imposition of Islamic law, including a ban on alcohol, the veiling of women and a tax on religious minorities. The militants consider it their religious duty to fight a government that does not impose such law, called Sharia.

Local police said some assailants may have escaped and could be hiding at a graveyard near the temple, 315 miles south of Cairo. But the Interior Ministry maintained all the attackers had been killed.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said Interior Minister Hassan el-Alfy and Health Minister Ismail Sallam had rushed to Luxor,

which is famed for its pharaonic-era temples on the bank of the Nile.

A curfew was imposed in Luxor but dozens of people went into the streets to protest the attack. It was possible negative effects on tourism, the city's lifeblood.

Until now, the city has been relatively free of militant violence, which has been centered in towns of Minya or Assiut, in the north, with policemen and Christians frequently targeted.

The militant violence had continued unabated. Most recent Sept. 18, nine Germans and an Egyptian driver were killed in a gunman opened fire on a bus in front of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Two brothers were killed in the assault and were sent to death last month. They said they were defending Islam but authorities insisted they were not part of any organized group.

Prior to today's attack, the deadliest assault on foreigners in Egypt took place on April 18, 1996, when men with automatic rifles killed Greek tourists and wounded other people outside the El-Dokki Hotel near the pyramids in Giza.

Restoration of Windsor brings positive coverage to troubled royal family

WINDSOR, England (AP) — Every cloud has a silver lining, they say — perhaps even the clouds of fire and smoke that gutted parts of the castle that gave the British royal family its name.

On Monday, five years and \$63 million later, the renovation of Windsor Castle was declared complete, with the damaged rooms more glittering and gilded than ever. And more of them are being opened to the public than before the blaze.

All of this comes just in time for the 50th wedding anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, who have invited royalty from all over Europe to a golden jubilee dinner Thursday night in the renovated St. George's Hall at Windsor, the queen's favorite weekend home.

"The queen ... said it was marvelous, and that she was absolutely delighted," said Michael Peat, keeper of the Privy Purse, recounting a party the queen threw Friday for 1,500 people involved in the restoration project.

The fire in 1992 — which was started by a curtain resting on a high-intensity spotlight — capped what the queen called her "annus horribilis," a year that also saw the collapse of the marriages of her sons, Prince Charles and Prince Andrew.

But the renovations were completed ahead of schedule and about \$5 million under budget — in part by driving hard bargains with contractors.

"Everyone wanted to be involved in the restoration of Windsor," said John Tiltman, director of property services for the royal family. "I'd be flabbergasted if anyone involved made a profit."

Moreover, the royal handlers raised 70 percent of the money from fees paid by the public to visit the monarch's downtown home at Buckingham Palace. The remaining 30 percent came from government coffers, said Dickie Arbiter, spokesman for the

Royal Collection Trust, which manages the family's art collection.

The doors of Windsor Castle's refurbished Upper Ward will be opened to the public Dec. 27, about six months earlier than originally planned.

Other portions of the sprawling white stone castle, which sits atop a hill above the River Thames 20 miles west of London, were re-opened to tourists shortly after the Nov. 20, 1992, fire.

Renovators took advantage of the work to shift the location of the private chapel, where the fire started, and to redesign the 180-foot-long St. George's Hall. They used freshly cut English oak to heighten the pitch of the 19th-century ceiling and create the illusion of a gothic banquet hall, in the spirit of the 1,000-year-old royal home.

"The restored rooms are the jewel in the crown," said Adam Nicolson, author of "Restoration: the Rebuilding of Windsor Castle."

Of the 115 rooms damaged in the fire, the nine main rooms that were worst hit retain their original furniture and art. Most of it had been removed to rewire that section of the palace when the fire broke out, and workers managed to move much of the rest to safety as flames swept through the ancient roof timbers.

The rooms gleam with gold gilt, sparkling chandeliers and silk damask wall coverings.

Archaeologists picking through the rubble made several discoveries — the most spectacular being a deep well that appears to date to shortly after William the Conqueror built a primitive castle on the site after he led the Norman invasion of England in 1066.

The British media, which has often been critical of the royal family, gushed over the restoration of the castle, with British TV networks beaming live coverage of Monday's preview tour for journalists.

Difficulties continue to plague Mir

MOSCOW (AP) — A computer breakdown and a power outage on the Mir space station again have tested the stamina of its Russian-U.S. crew, but they are expected to overcome both problems, space officials said today.

Mir's motion control computer shut down Friday during a test, causing a power shortage, a recurring problem earlier this year. When a computer goes down, so does the gyroscope system that keeps the station's solar panels pointing at the best angle to soak up energy from the sun.

As in previous instances, the resulting power shortage forced the crew to switch off most systems and begin restarting the gyroscopes, a process that usually takes two days.

Russians Anatoly Solovoyov and Pavel Vinogradov, who have become experts in dealing with the problem, quickly restarted the computer and had the gyroscopes back on by today, said Mission Control spokesman Valery Lyndin. They are accompanied on the Mir by U.S. astronaut David Wolf.

Lyndin wouldn't comment on the reason for the latest computer failure, but deputy Mission Control chief Viktor Blagov told the ITAR-TASS news agency that human error was to blame.

Blagov said the shutdown occurred during a test of one of Mir's solar panels, which require turning an adjacent panel away from the sun.

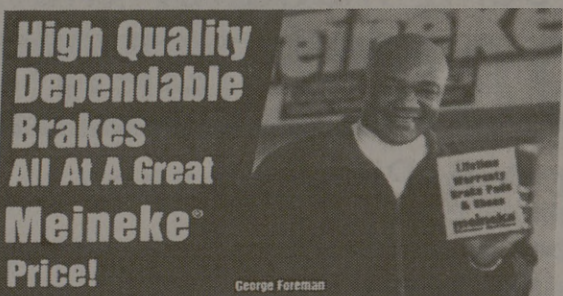
Ground controllers failed to notice a sudden drop in the power supply, which led to the computer shutdown.

As recently as September, the Mir's worst computer was failing almost on a weekly basis until a U.S. space shuttle delivered a new unit. The replacement has operated faultlessly, Blagov said.

Another familiar Mir problem returned last week, when the temperature inside the station rose to 86 degrees for several days.

Lyndin blamed a combination of the station's position in orbit and a minor flaw in the thermal control system. At the same time, the cooling system clogged — a routine problem that took two days to fix, Lyndin said.

Since Solovoyov and Vinogradov arrived in August, conditions on the 11-year-old station have proved steady. Earlier this month they made spacewalks unfolding a new solar panel, which brought Mir's power supply almost to what it was before a cargo ship rammed the station in June.



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We will be holding an informal session Wednesday night, November 19, from 5:30 to 6:45 PM. Refreshments will be served. Interviews will be held all day on November 20. Please sign up at the career center on campus for the interviews and while there find out more information about our informal session this coming Wednesday. We look forward to seeing you there.

At Baker Petrolite we offer a strong future for your career. We have competitive salaries with an excellent benefits package. We promote a smoke-free/drug-free workplace and we are an equal opportunity employer.

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