CONTINUE FROM PAGE 8

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F-Roommate needed beginning-Summer. Townhouse 2-min to/campus W/D, bus-route 260/mo call 764-8703 Female, 1-room available in 4bdrm/2bth, furnished, \$345/mo., May-July, Sterling. 696-5240.

M-Roommate needed 2bd/2bth, University Commons, own room/bath, W/D, shuttle route, \$382/mo.+1/2bills 409-693-9198.

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53 Type of truck

55 Stamp on a

57 Finished with

the USAF

47 Tightly

44 Betting setting

Hoisting brooms and mops, thousands of low-income workers are walking picket lines and gearing up for demonstrations

Janitors protests

low income

across the country to demand higher wages, better job security and "justice for janitors." and powerful in the country. The pressure started building last week when hundreds of janitors went on strike in Los Ange-

les, leaving the companies that clean 70 percent of the county's commercial office space scrambling to find replacements. And the janitors' union says that was just the beginning. On Sunday, a small group of janitors staged a noisy demonstration in San Diego, shouting

"Mucho trabajo, poco dinero" "Lots of work, little money." This week, the campaign spreads to New York City, where doormen, porters and maintenance workers plan to march up Park Avenue to promote their demands for contract talks with owners of 3,000 residential buildings. Their

strike deadline is April 20. "It's been the combined disrespect at the workplace and the bargaining table that led us to do this," said Mary Grillo, executive director of Service Employees International Union Local 2028 in San Diego.

Over the next few months, maintenance workers, maids and other SEIU members plan demonstrations in Chicago, Cleveland, Seattle and other major cities where contracts expire this year.

The timing is no coincidence. The SEIU set out five years ago to negotiate contracts around the country that would expire within months of each other to combine the clout of

That kind of thinking, combined with some of the most aggressive bargaining and recruiting tactics in organized labor, has made the 1.3 million-member union one of the fastest-growing

In 1985, the then-struggling union started a program called "Justice for Janitors" under the leadership of John Sweeney, who later became president of the AFL-CIO. Organizing efforts were aimed at the fringes of the work force. It spent more money than most unions on organizing, absorbed independent unions, and staged demonstrations to draw public attention and rally union loyalists.

"Their organizing tends to be among marginalized workers," said Gary Chaison, a professor of industrial relations at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. "They also tend to emphasize justice, dignity and respect. Instead of saying, 'We're going to get you tremendous wage increases,' they say, 'We're going to get you bargaining agreements that will give you your fair share of economic prosperity.

That message has attracted thousands of workers.

In the cities where it has locals, the union says it represents up to 90 percent of all service workers. In Washington, D.C., union membership went from 40 percent to 77 percent over the past five years. Over an 18-month period in 1988, the union targeted the Denver suburbs and went from no presence to representing more than 75 percent of the area's service workers, according to

Building a home



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Anthony Jaime, a new Habitat for Humanity home recipient works to raise the walls of his home on June Street in Bryan Saturday morning. The house is the fifteenth home built by Habitat on June Street and the walls were raised as part of a ceremony.

Judge reprimands marine captain Arana convicted in reservist's heat-related death

convicted of charges stemming from the heat-related death of a reservist received a reprimand Sunday and was ordered to forfeit \$3,600 in future pay.

Lt. Col. Ralph Kohlmann, a military judge, found Capt. Victor Arana guilty of dereliction of duty and failure to obey an order. He could have given Arana up to nine months in prison and dismissed him from the Marines but instead ordered a reprimand and fine.

Arana's attorney had argued that Arana's career as a Marine officer was effectively over and that he shouldn't be dismissed from the service as well.

"His promotion has been taken away. He has a federal conviction that will follow him the rest of his life," attorney Mark Stevens said. "A dismissal in this case would be grossly disproportionate to the actions he's been convicted of.'

Arana, 28, of Chicago, was charged in the death of Lance Cpl. Giuseppe "Joey" Leto. Leto, 21, of New Milford, Conn., died following a July 7 night march in 80-degree heat. The death certificate says it was "heat-related."

Arana asked for forgiveness Sunday from Leto's family and his fellow Marines. Facing the Leto family, he read a prepared statement expressing deep remorse for the reservist's death.

"Not a day goes by that I don't think about him,"

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THE BATTALION

Arana said, as Leto's relatives sobbed. "I would do or he will carry the rest of his life. His pregnant wife, Betty, give anything to be able to bring him back. Many nights

"Not a day goes by that I don't think about him. I would do or give anything to be able to bring him back. Many nights I have lain awake haunted by the memories of my own inactions during the march on July 7."

- Capt. Victor Arana

I have lain awake haunted by the memories of my own inactions during the march on July 7.'

Bunny

is coming!

Arana said Leto's death and his conviction are burdens

sat behind him, when the sentence was read.

"On July 7, my inactions failed both my students and my staff. For that, I am sorry," Arana said. "I never intended for anyone to get hurt. It is my hope that the Leto family will someday be able to forgive me."

Prosecutors said Arana violated standard operating procedures for conditioning hikes and showed a careless disregard for his men. Maj. Chris Hamilton had asked the judge for Arana's dismissal.

Defense attorneys argued that Arana was a rookie company commander in charge of the unit for only 16 days and that he did not receive proper instructions from his superiors and had delegated authority to his non-commissioned officers as allowed in standard operating procedures.

"There was a general failure ... there was a failure at the school of infantry, there was a failure by his staff, and he stands alone at this court martial to pay the ultimate price," Stevens said.

Before Arana read his statement, the defense called two sergeants who had served with Arana when he was a platoon commander and lieutenant. Both said they never saw Arana mistreat his troops. "I believe he's an excellent leader ...," said Sgt. Eric

Cline. "I would serve with him in any capacity, in com-

News in Brief

UT wins Rube Goldberg contest

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) -Imagine building a contraption that loads 18 different items into a container, and then seals it. The action must take place in 20 different steps, and humans are penalized for butting in.

Hard to do?

Maybe, but a team from the University of Texas managed to do it, and won Purdue University's annual Rube Goldberg competition on Saturday for their trouble.

The annual contest named for a cartoonist fond of drawing elaborate machines is held in two parts, one for Purdue students in February and one for students from other schools.

The assignment in Saturday's contest was for teams to build a contraption — to serve as a time capsule — and fill it with at least seven items representing the greatest inventions of the 20th Century.

The winning Texas team went further by filling their capsule with 18 different things that represent the best entertainment of the 20th Century, including stuff representing spectator sports, popular toys, cartoons and film characters.

But the hard part, said one

team member, was getting the elaborate contraption to West Lafayette from its city of origination - Austin, Texas, "The base is made of four

pieces so we could take it apart for the 1,200-mile trip to Purdue, said Chad Bruns, a member of the winning team. "We arrived with about three hours to spare and were able to get it running pretty quickly," he said.

Jury finds man guilty of raping wife

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - A jury has convicted a Euless man of raping his wife, an offense that has been a crime in Texas and most other states for about 10 years.

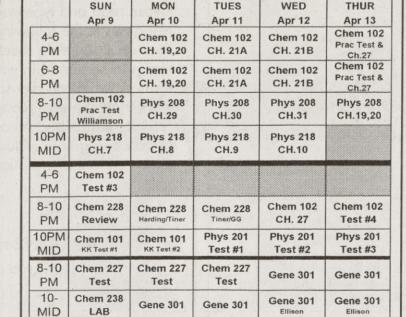
John Paul Simpson, 25, was accused of sexually assaulting his wife four times over their three-year marriage. An eightwoman, four-man jury found him guilty and sentenced him Friday to 10 years in prison on each of the four counts.

While marital rape has been a crime for about a decade, this is the first such case to go to trial in Tarrant County, prosecutors said. Assistant District Attorney Alana Minton said her office rarely gets such cases, most likely because women rarely report it.

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