

News briefs

Oil price violations announced

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Nine of the nation's 15 largest oil refiners have been cited for nearly \$1.2 billion in alleged pricing violations between August 1973 and December 1978, the Energy Department announced yesterday.

This raised to \$6.4 billion the amount involved in citations against the 35 largest oil firms in the agency's continuing audit.

Mobil, accused of \$274.6 million in pricing violations, led the new list, followed by Shell with \$211.6 million.

Braniff Airlines fined by FAA

FORT WORTH, Texas (UPI) — The Federal Aviation Administration yesterday announced it had found a series of safety violations in a review of Braniff Airlines' aircraft maintenance and had recommended fines of \$1.5 million.

C.R. Melugin Jr., FAA southwest regional director, said the alleged violations involved flights of a Boeing 747 and 727 and a Douglas DC-8.

The complaints alleged the planes were not airworthy according to its regulations and that Braniff did not take the aircraft out of service. The company denied the allegations and indicated it would examine the FAA complaints before deciding what action to take.

FAA regional counsel Joe Kovarik said the violations occurred between August 1978 and October 1979. None of the alleged deficiencies resulted in deaths or injuries to passengers or crew members.

"Numerous flights were performed by aircraft not repaired or inadequately repaired after they sustained such damage as blown tires and taxing into a fuel truck," the FAA said in a statement.

"When this condition became known the aircraft was ordered (by the FAA) grounded until it was determined to be in an airworthy condition."

The FAA said the violations reflected "a basic pattern of disregard" of FAA regulations on the part of Braniff management.

Female cancer rate increases

NEW YORK (UPI) — Lung cancer, catching up with female smokers for the first time, has become the number two cancer killer of American women, the American Cancer Society reported yesterday.

The society predicted that next year 26,500 women will die from lung cancer and 32,000 will be diagnosed.

The female age-adjusted lung cancer death rate moved ahead of that for colorectal cancer — in the number two position for years, the society said in its annual publication, "Cancer Facts and Figures."

Increased lung cancer among women is linked to the fact that more women cigarette smokers now are reaching the age at which cancer strikes, said Lawrence Garfinkel, ACS vice president for epidemiology and statistics.

The society also reported that a woman's chance of developing breast cancer — the number one cancer killer of women — has increased. A newborn baby girl in the United States now faces one chance in 11 of developing breast cancer in her lifetime — compared with the previously accepted figure of 1 in 12.

Next year, 106,000 women will learn they have breast cancer and 35,500 will die of the malignancy.

Oil company taxation proposed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Alfred Kahn, who said he recently offered to resign as presidential inflation adviser, proposed yesterday to "tax the hell" out of oil companies and use the proceeds to help the poor and reduce Social Security taxes.

Kahn said he recently told President Carter he would resign because he could no longer offer hope inflation will drop below double digit levels this winter or spring.

The president asked him to stay as his chief inflation adviser, Kahn told the National Press Club.

Kahn said he is beginning to favor complete deregulation of oil prices, along with a windfall profits tax which would "tax the hell out of the companies."

Instead of using most of this money to develop new energy production, as the administration has proposed, Kahn suggested using much of it to reduce Social Security taxes.

Shah's health continues to fail

NEW YORK (UPI) — Physicians will wait at least a month before deciding whether to operate again on the deposed shah of Iran for a new gallstone, a spokeswoman for the shah said yesterday.

Doctors reported Monday they had found another gallstone in the shah's bile duct and said the problem would delay his chemotherapy treatment for cancer for another four or five weeks.

The doctors also said the tumor in the shah's neck was "enlarging" and radiation treatment to halt its growth would begin this week.

The doctors said they would try to remove the gallstone without surgery, but if they were not successful, another operation might be needed.

Spokeswoman Chris Godek said that decision would not be made for at least four weeks.

On Oct. 24, the exiled monarch underwent an operation at the hospital to remove several small gallstones that blocked his bile duct, causing jaundice. The duct carries the digestive fluid, bile, from the liver to the intestines.

The shah's gall bladder also was removed because it too contained gallstones.

Boy raised with KKK beliefs

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Sixteen-year-old Claude McBride often tagged along with his parents at Ku Klux Klan rallies. Sometimes he wore a Nazi wrist band to school.

"I believe the way the Klan believes, and I've raised my kids to believe the same — not to mix the races," said McBride's mother, Gail Caudle.

McBride and his stepfather, Rayford Caudle, are among 14 whites, most linked with the Klan or Nazi groups, held on charges

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'Jailbird' like so much maple syrup Vonnegut now playing with time

By MARK VANDINE Daily Collegian Staff Writer "Jailbird," by Kurt Vonnegut, Delacorte Press/Seymour Lawrence, \$9.95, 246 pages. Kurt Vonnegut once stated in an interview that he was sure he would one day come "unstuck in time." That is, like his "Slaughterhouse Five" protagonist, Billy Pilgrim, he would begin to casually drift in and out of various points of his life, following no particular rhyme or reason in sequence. Such is his conception of time.

Vonnegut's preoccupation with time permeates his latest effort, "Jailbird." Time serves as the magical binding of a prisonmate written under Vonnegut's ever recurring science fiction pseudonym, Kilgore Trout) time and its quirks become the essential element.

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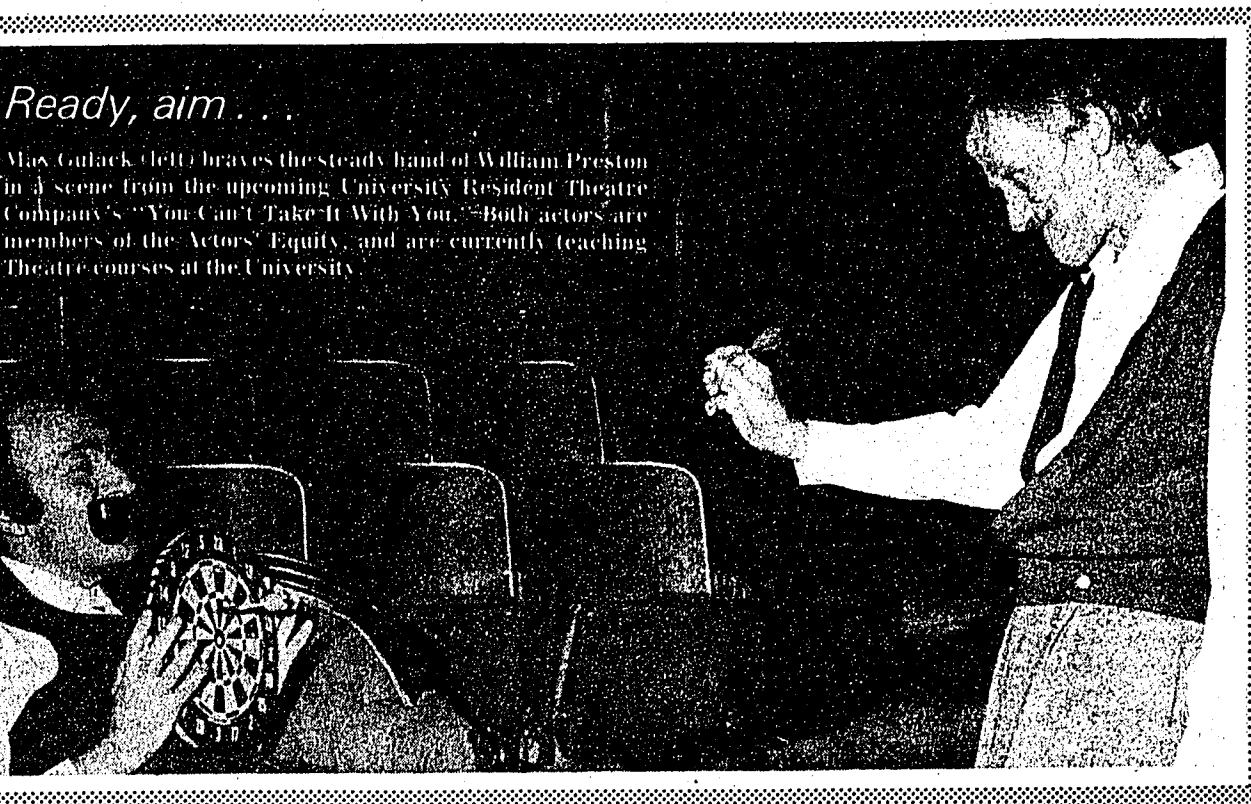
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the daily arts



Ready, aim... Alex Gunkel, left, braces the steady hand of William Preston in a scene from the upcoming University Resident Theatre Company's "You Can't Take It With You."

Humor, however, is something Vonnegut cannot afford to waste. Without it, he has precious little to write about. His entire conception of time can be summed in the cliché, "It's a small world," and Walt Disney can handle that concept better than a wit-stripped Vonnegut.

Vonnegut's writing in "Jailbird," however, shows definite trends of recuperation from the talisman that began in "Breakfast of Champions" and bottomed out in "Slaughterhouse Five."

Over the years, Vonnegut has gradually stripped away his association with the by-laws of standard story telling, swelling instead into a freer style of narrative. His new style works, drawing the reader on page after page, but not without cost.

The free-form mode gives Vonnegut the maximum use of an adroit and insightful wit, but it is a wit that numbs. Like the feeling one gets from reading a Woody Allen book cover-to-cover, the saturation attack of Vonnegut's humor

This book is not a masterpiece and will probably not endure the rigors of time. It is, however, the latest Vonnegut, and so rates importance with some people in the same way that the latest issue of "Superman" comics rates with others. Wait for the paperback.

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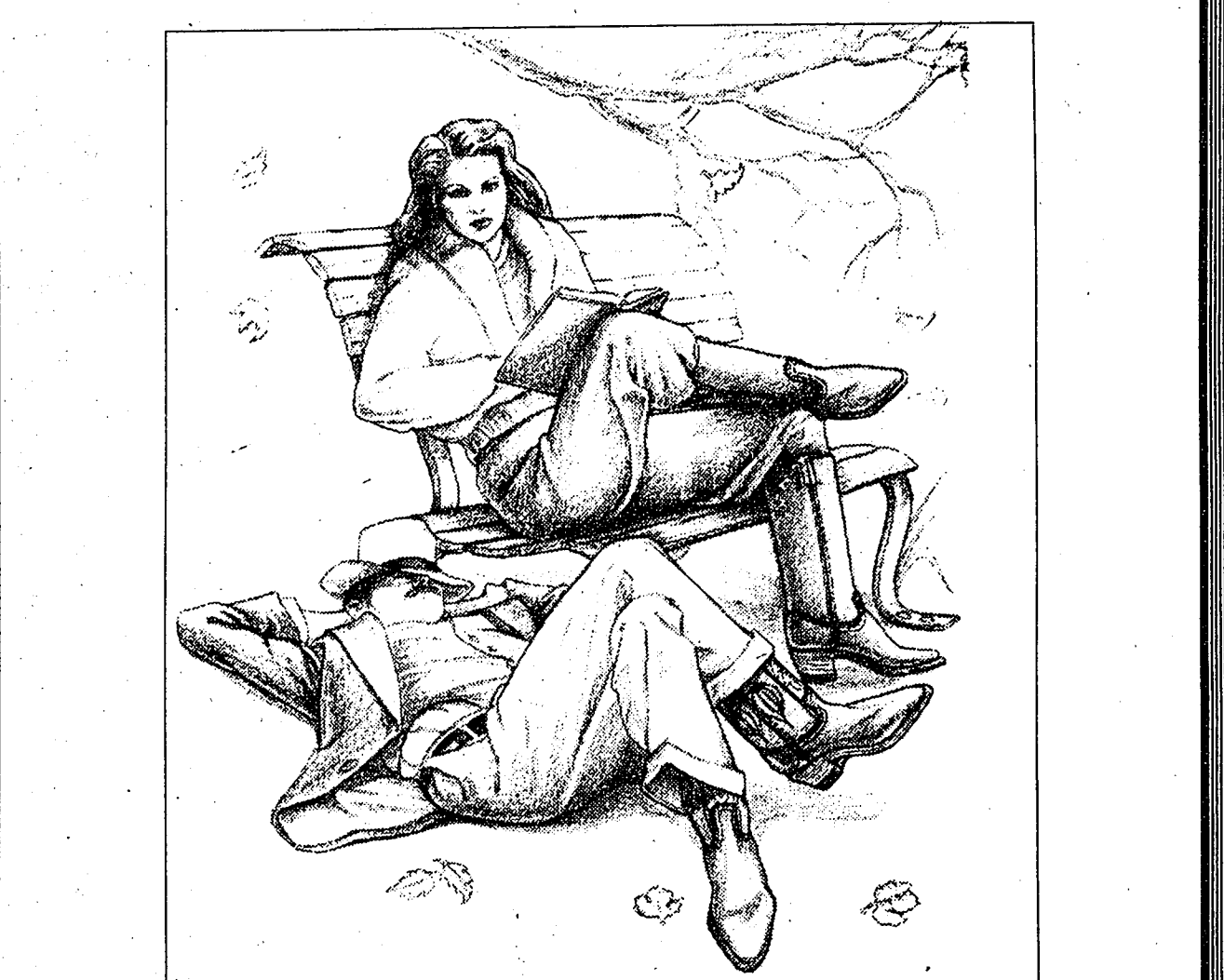


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