# Engineer testifes in shuttle disaster

Says NASA budget for safety diverted into 'slush fund'

By JIM ROWLEY ssociated Press Write

'WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — One of the Morton Thiokol engineers who tried to stop the fatal launch of the space shuttle Challenger claims the was used instead as a slush fund for Thiokol." July 1985 of possibly catastrophic failure of seals joined on the shuttle booster rockets was immediately

classified as "company private" by Thiokol and

The Challenger exploded on Jan. 28, 1986 after 73 stemming from Boisjoly's charges. seconds of flight, killing the crew of seven. The The engineer's charges were contained in a Rogers Commission that investigated the disaster found it was caused by a leak of hot gases streaming from the ship's right booster rocket.

quality control and safety people but "the money Thiokol — the sole manufacturer of booster rock criminal investigation of the company. ets for the space shuttle — of fraud by falsely Engineer Roger Boisjoly said also, in a paper certifying the safety of the rubberlike O-ring seals\*

> for comment were not immediately successful. means to redress any damage to its reputation" agents in Salt Lake City on Jan. 17.

paper that had been held under seal by U.S. District Judge Harold Greene since it was filed on April 2. The government had requested the docu-Boisjoly is suing the company on his own behalf ment be withheld from the public so that Morton company received money from NASA to hire 18 and on behalf of the taxpayers. He accuses Morton Thiokol would not know that the FBI had begun a During a conference between the government

and Greene on March 11, also under seal until filed with U.S. District Court, that his warning in at places where rocket booster segments are Thursday, Justice Department lawyer David W. Long said employees of Thiokol had gone to the Efforts to reach company officials by telephone FBI with "substantial allegations of fraud." The FBI began a criminal investigation of Morwithheld from the National Aeronautics and Space The firm said also that it "will explore all legal ton Thiokol after the allegations were made to

> FCC tightens obscenity laws

Federal Communications Commission yesterday asked the Justice Department to consider prosecuting a California radio station for broadcasting an allegedly obscene program and issued warnings to two other stations — including one airing controversial morning-show personality Howard Stern. The actions put radio stations

across the country on notice that the FCC will be imposing a stricter standard for adherence to laws prohibitng the broadcast of indecent or obscene material over the airwaves. The FCC vote took aim at areas of proadcasting formerly considered safe harbor by radio programmers programs aired after 10 p.m. and material that merely avoids repeated use of obscene words.

The five-member commission agreed that material broadcast by Pacifica Foundation Inc.'s KPFK-FM. Los Angeles, containing graphic depictions of sex acts was indecent 'and may have crossed the line" to obscenity. The commission voted to refer that case to the Justice Department for possible prosecution.

Inquirer cops three Pulitzers for 1987

ized reporting.

investigative reporting award.

of the Inquirer for their series

scandals in the Philadelphia court

The Pulitzer Prize for feature

writing was awarded to Steve

Twomey of The Philadelphia In-

and state investigations.

described as "a skillful and sensi-NEW YORK - The Philadel- tive report of a powerful newspaphia Inquirer won three 1987 Pulit-zer Prizes yesterday, including led to the sale of a famed media two for investigative reporting, empire." The Binghams' owned and The New York Times and the The Louisville Courier-Journal Los Angeles Times also captured and The Louisville Times.

two of the prestigious awards. The Times' other Pulitzer was The Pittsburgh Press won the for national reporting and went to public service award for its reve- its staff for its coverage of the lation of the inadequacy of the aftermath of the explosion of the Federal Aviation Administration's space shuttle Challenger, includmedical screening of airline pilots. ing "stories that identified serious The work by Matthew Brelis and flaws in the shuttle's design and in Andrew Schneider led to signifi- the administration of America's cant reforms. Schneider also space program." shared the 1986 award for special-

The Inquirer's John Woesten- Frankel, executive editor of The diek won a Pulitzer for his prison New York Times. "We're excited, reporting, including an account we're exuberant, we're proud as proving the innocence of a man can be." convicted of murder. Woesten- The other national reporting diek, who had been one of three prize went to the Miami Herald finalists in the general news re- staff for its coverage of the Iran-

for the last half hour," said Max

porting category, was given the Contra scandal. The explanatory journalism A second investigative award award went to Jeff Lyon and Peter went to Daniel R. Biddle, H.G. Gorner of the Chicago Tribune for Bissinger and Fredrick N. Tulsky

The prize for general news re-"Disorder in the Court," involving porting was awarded to the Akron Beacon Journal staff for its coversystem. The stories led to federal age of the attempted takeover of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. by

The international award went to Michael Parks of the Los Angeles quirer for a profile of life aboard Times for his coverage of South The Inquirer newsroom burst

into cheers and applause as the "South Africa is one of the more official announcements came. difficult countries to cover, given Sam McKeel, publisher of the In- the present restriction on the quirer, called it "a great day, a press," said Alvin Shuster, foreign great year and the continuation of editor of the Times. "Parks is a true professional and has provided The specialized reporting prize our readers with unique insight to Alex S. Jones of The New York into that society," Shuster said.

enjoy the action



Illinois zoologist Robert James fondly hugs his pet python as school children hold up thier end. James, with his nobile petting zoo is on a 100-school lecture tour through New England.

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Sat. 11:30 vs Cornell"a" 1:00 vs Bucknell 3:30 vs Mechanicsburg 4:45 vs Slippery Rock II

11:00 AM Daily Sun, 12:00 vs Cornell "b"

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your habits." Read all about it. Read all about it in Centennial Magazine.

warm; Don't fail to sneeze and cough into

your handkerchief; Don't be irregular in

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# state news briefs

Dwyer' widow seeks House seat

HARRISBURG (AP) — The widow of state Treasurer R. Budd Dwver will return to western Pennsylvania and run for a state House seat, according to a report published yesterday. The Philadelphia Daily News reported that Joanne Dwyer, 47, of Hershey, would move home to Meadville, Crawford County, and seek the seat held by Connie G. Maine, a first-term Democrat. Reached at home yesterday afternoon, Dwyer declined to discuss the report. "I have no comment right now," she said, adding she didn't have time to answer questions.

Man charged in daughter's death

ERIE, Pa. (AP) - Police in Erie filed criminal charges yesterday against a 33-year-old city man who allegedly left his infant daughter locked in their second-floor apartment, where she died in Magistrate Kay Pohl arraigned William King on charges of

involuntary manslaughter, reckless endangerment and endangering the welfare of a child. She ordered King jailed in lieu of \$25,000 A complaint filed by Erie police Det. David Bradley says King

left his daughter, Marietha King, 6 months, and Taywan Beason, 3, April 7 in the apartment they shared with the children's mother. The fire killed the girl. The boy was rescued by passers-by. King was found in a tavern, and the only exit from the apartment was locked, police said.

#### Program simulates acid rain cycle

STATE COLLEGE (AP) — A new computer simulation program developed for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency could allow scientists to track acid rain from smokestack to lake and give policy-makers more information for setting emission-control standards, project researchers say.

The Acid Deposition Modeling Project is a \$5 million research effort, which began in June 1983, by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., and Penn State Universi-

Federal environmental researchers are already working with a prototype of the project, and should begin full testing on a more comprehensive model later this year, said Julius Chang, director of the EPA-funded project at the private research center in Colorado.

# nation news briefs

Hinckley denied leave from hospital WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Presidential assailant John W.

Hinckley Jr. lost his chance to leave a mental hospital unescorted to spend Easter Sunday with his parents following an uproar over revelations that he corresponded last year with triple-murderer Theodore Bundy. St. Elizabeths Hospital withdrew its request for a 12-hour pass for

Hinckley, who was committed to the mental hospital after his 1981 attempt to assassinate President Reagan. The hospital said it wanted to take a detailed look at documents taken from Hinckley's room "to assess the clinical significance of writings and other materials belonging to Mr. Hinckley which were

Cancer ranking scale developed

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Scientists have developed a scale for ranking the potential hazard to humans of natural and manmade chemicals that cause cancer in animals, a measure they say takes into account real-life exposure to the substances. Researchers at the University of California, in Berkeley, said yesterday that their system — which, for example, rates a daily glass of beer as a greater cancer hazard than some pesticide pollution — is designed to help people assess the dangers of the

many carcinogens they hear about. Ames, with Renae MaGaw and Lois Swirsky Gold of the university's Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, said their scale rates possible cancer hazards to people based upon the known potency of a substance in animals and the likely human exposure over a

FCC votes to up phone line charges WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The Federal Communications Commission voted yesterday to increase the monthly line charge

paid by residential telephone subscribers by \$1.50 over the next two years, beginning with a 60-cent boost in July. The increase — which sets the charge at \$3.50 by April 1989 — won unanimous support of the five-member commission as a way to further reduce long-distance rates and discourage large business users from leaving the public phone network to build their own

# world news briefs

Tutu defies speech restrition

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) - Archbishop Desmond Tutu and 46 fellow Anglican clergymen today defied new restrictions on anti-apartheid actions and appealed to President P.W. Botha to free detainees or bring them to trial.

Meanwhile, a judge today set an April 28 hearing on a challenge to some of the restrictions. Emergency regulations imposed by police last weekend prohibit

organized appeals or campaigns to release detainees. "With respect sir, we believe the valid response that law-abiding citizens should make to these regulations is openly to disobey them as we are doing now," the clergymen said in an open letter to Botha. "We do so deliberately and consciously, out of Christian conscience."

# S. African court overules police ban

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — A court overturned a police ban on an anti-apartheid meeting shortly before it was scheduled to start, and the Rev. Allan Boesak went ahead with a speech denouncing tightened restrictions on dissent.

"This government is a danger to this country," Boesak said. "We do not let dangerous people run around the streets. . . . Why do we let criminals into Parliament to do what they want?" The meeting Wednesday night was sponsored by the United Democratic Front and attended by about 650 people at Cape Town's

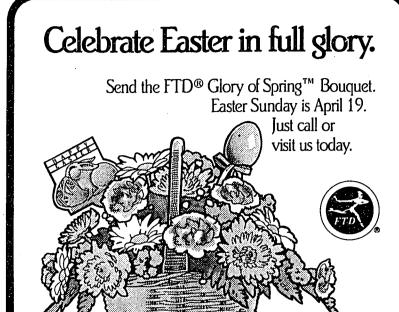
It had been banned by the regional police commissioner as a potential threat to public safety. The ban was overturned by a three-judge panel of the Cape Town Supreme Court following an appeal by the United Democratic Front, the country's largest anti-

# Rev. Moon assaulted in S. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A close confident of Unification Church leader the Rev. Sun Myung Moon was pelted with stones and eggs at a university yesterday by students who called him a "pro-American flunky," witnesses said. The witnesses, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Park Bo-hi was unhurt but at least one of his bodyguards was injured. A young man took off his jacket and put it over Park's head, and Park

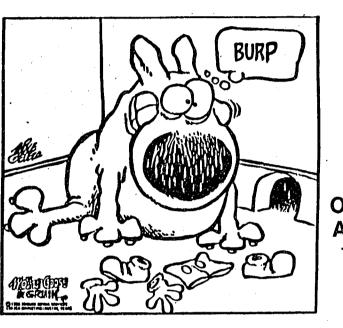
was escorted out an hour later. Park, a retired army lieutenant colonel, was to have spoken at the privately run Korea University on "Korean Unification." "We don't like the Unification Church because it is close to the government," one student said.

The Daily Collegian Friday, April 17, 1987-7



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