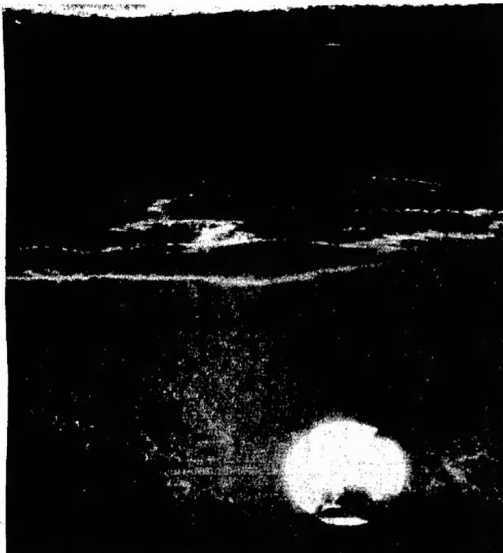


12-A THE ABILENE REPORTER-NEWS Abilene, Texas, Mon. Nov. 28, 1977



Texas sunset

This autumn sunset was captured on film as a photographer traveled through the rural areas of North Central Texas. (AP Wire-photo)

'Hairy Creature' Leaves Trail of Gore in Merkel

By ROGER DOWNING Staff Writer
MERKEL — Reported sightings of a hairy creature that left behind carcasses of several mutilated domestic animals prompted a wash of telephone calls to the Taylor County Sheriff Office Saturday.

Deputies reported that the dog and chicken had been killed "by another animal" but no tracks could be found in the hard ground to leave a clue as to the identity of the creature that perpetrated the attacks.

Miss Teen Abilene Had Fun

Even though Margaret Massey's Abilene counterpart won the title of Miss Teenage America at last week's contest in Dallas, she said Sunday after returning from Dallas.



MASSEY

representative of Miss Teenage America she will act as local chairman of the cycle of today who are going to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Volunteer Fire Unit Saves Hamby Store

HAMBY — Quick action by the local volunteer fire department was credited by Bertha Linnabach in the saving of her store in a Sunday morning fire here.

Smith to Begin Talks With Blacks

SALISBURY, Rhodesia (AP) — Prime Minister Ian Smith and moderate black politicians are expected to start talks this week about an internal settlement despite the opposition of guerrilla leaders and skepticism abroad.

Smith called the invitation Smith's offer a "positive move." Chief Chirwa also called it and called on all guerrillas to lay down their arms and come home.

Smith's offer won cautious approval from Britain and France. But Andrew Young, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said the plan could only intensify the five-year guerrilla war.

Young and black African radicals involved in the Rhodesian issue have said the war will continue unless the black nationalist guerrilla leaders are included in a negotiated settlement.

Farmer of Canyon Wins Farm Bureau Discussion

By J. T. SMITH Farm Editor
HOUSTON — A Canyon farmer was the winner of the annual discussion meeting Sunday night during the 46th annual convention of the Texas Farm Bureau.

Rickie Rape of Pittsburg; Patty McCasland; Goldwater; Brian Russell; Bartram; Cindy Tomp; Buffalo; Ted Brant; Wilmar; Wilford; Matthew; Youkum; and Gary; Frances; Shiraz.

Ads Lost, But New Friends Found

The fellows had to get back to work. Jack could turn the cog loose again, so he took him to his car, parked behind the newspaper plant, cracked a window, put him inside to wait the hour or so until they went home.

Resting vocal cords

Having finished rehearsing for their Tuesday night performance with the Abilene Philharmonic, soprano Shigorn and tenor William Harness take a load off their feet and vocal chords as they answer questions about their careers.

Singers Take Unique Paths to Opera Stage

Neither William Harness or Shigorn Matsumoto, the featured tenor and soprano in the Abilene Philharmonic concert Tuesday night, arrived on the stage of opera by the usual route.

Harness, who has only been in the profession since 1973, was formerly employed with a national cash register company. However, after being persuaded by his vocal teacher to enter the San Francisco Spring Festival in 1973, he has appeared regularly with operas in San Francisco, Seattle, Houston, Boston and New York City.

Dead Girl's Father Won't Accept Verdict

HURST (AP) — The silver-haired man sits quietly, looking about his daughter, the little girl whose death triggered the longest murder trial in Texas history.

man, refuses to accept the verdict. He refers to the trial as a "circus" bought and paid for by "Dallas money."