

“KEEPING PACE” - #30

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IMPRINTS:



WHO WAS DRIVING?

The photograph above shows the sole of a cowboy boot next to a brake pedal, taken after this vehicle struck a tree. The imprint of the brake pedal, including the large circle, may be seen on the boot. The question in this case was whether the man or the woman was driving at the time of this accident. An eye witness reported seeing the woman driving five minutes before the accident occurred. The man's mother had saved his cowboy boots for two months before I arrived, because she thought the glass from the windshield had been embedded in their top surfaces. No one, including the police or the prosecutor, had noticed the brake pedal pattern on his boot before I arrived. It should also be noted that the man's right ankle was the only bone in his body broken at the time of the accident. That is generally another good clue as to whose foot was on the brake pedal.

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WAS SHE COOKING?



The above photograph shows the bottom of a skillet next to a burner whose control I found in the “HIGH” position when I disassembled it. The lady denied cooking numerous times. Normal cooking procedures do not form a pattern such as this. Significant cooking fires always involve cooking oil or grease. It is never the meat or vegetables which ignite to cause a significant fire, but rather cooking oil or grease. One measure of safety is to use an electric fryer, because its thermostat will keep the fat from overheating. There are also automatic fire-extinguishing systems for sale which are designed to be installed above ranges.