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'Falling Star' to star

College Station rock group "Falling Star" performed before a small studio audience Monday night at the KAMU television station. The taped concert will be broadcast April 15. Members are (left to

right) lead guitarist Mark Davenport, drummer Rick Richards, bass player Frances Martin and rhythm guitarist Mike Reeves.

Battalion photo by David Keashey

Officers bust 27 county residents on drug charges

By GARY WELCH
Battalion Staff

Only two of the 29 Brazos County residents named last week in 67 sealed indictments on felony drug charges had not been arrested as of Monday afternoon.

Ray Nutt, a Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) narcotics officer, said 21 persons were arrested Wednesday for possession and sale of controlled substances, including cocaine, methamphetamines and marijuana. Two suspects were apprehended Thursday and four more over the weekend, he said.

The 27 suspects who have been apprehended will be given an opportunity to plead to the charges today in 85th Judicial District Court. Those pleading not guilty may request a jury trial, and attorneys will be appointed for those unable to afford one.

The arrests resulted from a DPS investigation that began in December, said District Attorney Roland Searcy. The entire investigation was handled by DPS undercover officers "assisted at times by other agencies," he said.

Ronald Green, a narcotics officer at the DPS Region 6 headquarters in Austin, said the investigation and indictments came as

a response to increased drug traffic in the Bryan-College Station area.

"All arrests were results of buys of either cocaine, methamphetamines or marijuana," Green said.

During the investigation, undercover narcotics agents frequented local business establishments in attempts to buy the illicit drugs. Searcy said some surveillance of suspects' homes was included in the investigation.

Green said that all law enforcement agencies in the Bryan-College Station area helped in the undercover operation "in their own way."

Searcy's office also took the cases before the Brazos County Grand Jury to obtain the indictments.

Those arrested, including several Texas A&M University students, were booked at the Bryan Police Department and then taken to the county jail. Most are being held under bonds ranging from \$10,000 to \$65,000, though one man charged with two counts of delivery of methamphetamines and two counts of possession of methamphetamines is being held under \$80,000 bond.

Arrest warrants were also served in Brazoria, Burleson, Robertson and Travis counties. Twelve warrants were served in these four counties, and only one of the twelve persons is still at large.

Searcy said that staging the arrests during Texas A&M's spring break was an oversight. The date was set about a month ago, he said, but he and the DPS officials were unaware of spring break until it was too late to change it. Nevertheless, most of the suspects have been apprehended, he added.

Arresting officers had only arrest warrants, Searcy said, not search warrants, so the officers could not search anyone's home. However, some of those arrested were holding narcotics at the time of arrest, he said.

Officers of the Alcoholic Beverage Commission "operated in some of the establishments" and assisted in some undercover work, said James Bundren, district supervisor for the TABC. Mostly, though, they assisted in the arrests.

Four die in pilgrimage crash, 'laughing' survivors say deaths were expected

United Press International

ALTAMONT, Tenn.—One state trooper said, "It's hard to know what to believe," about an apparently hard-drinking religious group whose members seem to disagree on where they were going or where they had been when their rented truck tumbled off a mountain, killing four of them.

The other 18 members of the six-family group were injured in varying degrees when the truck careened off a treacherous road on Burgess Mountain north of Chattanooga Sunday night. The driver of the truck, Irwin C. Schmidt, 51, of Alamogordo, N.M., was charged with murder by reason of drunk driving Sunday night.

Witnesses said the less seriously injured members of the band laughed and joked with each other while the dead and badly hurt were hauled up the mountainside by stretchers dangling from ropes.

Their leader, Peter Thomas, 25, told authorities he had foreseen the accident in a dream, and death was nothing to be alarmed over. Thomas told police he thought the wreck in the dream involved an airplane crash, but those killed in the dream were those killed in the truck crash.

Officials of the Grundy County Sheriff's office said a handwritten journal of the group's trip which Thomas kept — mainly about chores and supplies — contained an entry about the dream.

Another entry, officers said, read "Everyone must know that this is war and that this is not just another joy ride down the road... Remember we are going to be attacked and there is going to be a separation."

Thomas, who received minor cuts on his clean-shaven head, told police the group was traveling to Florida to search for property in which to establish a church where they could worship according to their doc-

trine.

Other members said they were going to Florida, but some said they were returning from Florida and headed for Mobile, Ala.

"Thomas told us a lot of strange things, like he saw a flying saucer and that he had dreamed the wreck would happen," state trooper J.E. Northcutt said. "It's hard to know what to believe."

The truck, modified for passengers, was rented in New Orleans, authorities said, and was to be turned in at Mobile last Thursday.

Thomas told authorities the truck was headed toward Pelham, Tenn., after leaving Beersheba Springs when it rounded a sharp curve, hit the soft dirt of the shoulder and crashed down the cliff into a small creek. He did not explain why the group was going to Pelham.

Sgt. J.W. Sons of the Grundy County

Sheriff's Department said he saw the group at a campsite earlier Sunday, and "They were drinking and raising all kinds of hell."

"The whole thing was strange," said Terry Denny, a Coffee County ambulance driver who helped transport the wreck victims to area hospitals.

"When we got there, the only people

that were upset were the spectators.

"The people who had managed to get out of the wreck were standing around talking and laughing," said Terry. "It was unbelievable."

Killed in the crash Sunday night were Mary Schmidt, 50, of Alamogordo, N.M.; Ryan Kollhoff, 1, of Tucson, Ariz.; Jansen Baker, 19, of Luluz, N.M.; and Rose Mary Baker, 54, of Luluz.

Ten of 11 sons are Aggies

A&M: a Kubeka tradition

O.R. Kubeka promised his sons — all 11 of them — two things when they graduated from high school: a new vehicle and a college education.

Both promises have brought the Kubekas quite a bit of statewide attention. Having 10 sons attend Texas A&M University and owning a fleet of Fords might have something to do with it.

Currently the Matagorda County family has five boys at Texas A&M. All are majoring in agricultural economics. During the past 18 years, five of the six older brothers attended Texas A&M.

Those here now are Gerald, 24; twins Gene and Dean, 22; Erwin, 20; and James, 19. They knew long ago that they were headed for Texas A&M. Their older brother, Dickie, was the first to come when he attended in 1960.

"Dickie came first on a football scholarship," said Dean. "That was when we first got interested in going to A&M. We have all sort of followed Dickie since then."

As for transportation, the Kubekas have gained notoriety by standing in front of the family's 25 trucks in a Ford Motor Co. television commercial.

The boys' mother is about as avid a fan of Texas A&M as anyone. She was twice elected president of the Matagorda County A&M Mothers' Club, an organization for students' parents, and attends most campus activities.

"Mother is a big part of our going to A&M," Dean said. "She became involved when Dickie first went to A&M and she just stayed with it. Both Mom and Dad come to all the Corps activities and football games, anything they can get up here for."

"All through high school, Daddy said if we stayed and worked on the homeplace he would send us to college and get us something to drive," he added. "Mother and Dad said we could go anywhere we wanted to go, but we're a conservative family and I for one like what A&M stood for. It represented more our way of life."

None of the boys are away from home very long. All hands are usually needed to keep the 10,000 acres of family farms under production in Matagorda and Jackson counties.

"We all go home on the weekends and in the summer to help out," said Gerald. "That's how we are able to go to A&M. We work."

"In the future we plan to return to the farm," he continued. "It's a good way of life. I don't mean we'll all head back immediately after graduation, but sometime later. It's a good place to raise a family."

Gerald, Gene and Dean are seniors scheduled to graduate in May. Gene, Dean and James are also members of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets.



Five the 11 Kubeka sons pose in front of — you guessed it — one of the family's Fords. All are currently agricultural economics students at Texas A&M University. Seated are Erwin, and Gerald, and standing (left to right) are Corps members Gene, Dean and James.

Eleven sons working on a farm are bound to draw attention.

Recently the Kubekas entered the world of commercial television when they did a Ford spot representing a backup to the generation series of commercials currently seen throughout Texas.

"The company told us they wanted common, everyday people," said Dean. "They had been trying to get us to do it for years, but in the past it was more trouble than it was worth."

"We farm a 60-mile radius, so it took a full day just get all 25 of the relatively new Ford trucks to one place, washed and ready to go," added Erwin. "It's an honest commercial, anyway. They were all our trucks."

The whole family is featured in the commercial, including the six older brothers who work on or near the home farm. Dickie, 35, farms; Don, 34, and Dan, 33, operate a crop dusting service; Doug, 32, farms; Billy, 29, is a veterinarian; and Ronnie, 26, farms with his dad.

As for the money, each of the brothers received a flat sum for doing the commercial. If it is shown nationally, then some additional money will be coming.

"The cash is more or less spending money, because when we divided it 13 ways there wasn't all that much left," James said. "What's left over will probably be going into savings."

"The commercial has given us a lot of publicity, but it really hasn't affected us that much," he said.

Consolidated School Board approves site for 'Safety City'

By MICHELLE BURROWES

Safety City, a mini-city designed to teach children traffic safety, moved a step closer to reality Monday when the A&M Consolidated School Board approved a site

Republicans block Carter's \$1.5 billion education aid bill

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The House voted 235-156 Monday against President Carter's \$1.5 billion aid to education bill, which was brought up under procedures that would not have allowed amendments.

The vote was a sound rejection of a strategy requested by the White House — and agreed to by the House leadership — to attempt to push the bill through the House without a vote on amendments.

To be considered again, the bill must be cleared for House floor action by the Rules Committee. That committee is expected to allow votes on amendments for tax credits for college, vocational school and private school tuition.

Republicans successfully blocked debate on the bill on a vote on a parliamentary motion.

Republicans called the procedure a blatant political maneuver "which stemmed from 'Carter-Califano chicanery.'" They predicted they have the votes to block the move and then to bring up the bill under procedures that would allow amendments.

Carter and HEW Secretary Joseph Califano prefer to expand current education aid programs rather than allow tax credits for school tuition.

House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill said he scheduled the bill under the non-amendment bill after receiving a call from the White House Friday.

O'Neill acknowledged that the maneuver was designed to block a vote on the tuition tax credit amendment being offered by Rep. Bill Frenzel, R-Minn., but promised that the House would have a chance to vote later on tuition tax credits.

Local man charged with wife's murder

By ANDREA VALLS

A College Station man, Michael Loren Reynolds, was charged Monday with the murder of his wife, a Texas A&M University student.

Reynolds, 24, of 309 Ash St. was charged before Justice of the Peace B.H. Dewey, Jr. after a six-day investigation.

The woman's body was discovered Wednesday, March 15, about 10 miles east of Bryan near FM 1179.

District Attorney Roland Searcy said the charges were filed as a result of an investigation conducted by the Brazos County Sheriff's Office and Texas Ranger Bob Connell.

Dr. J.C. Lee, pathologist at Bryan and St. Joseph Hospitals, said yesterday that Mrs. Reynolds had died from massive hemorrhaging from head lacerations inflicted by a sharp edged instrument such as a hatchet or axe.

The College Station Police Department received a missing person complaint from Reynolds on Wednesday morning, March 15 for Pamela Sue Reynolds. Police said Reynolds told them that his wife had gone to Fed Mart on University Drive Tuesday evening. When she did not return, the report said, Reynolds drove to the store where he found his wife's truck parked. He told police he thought she had gone somewhere with a friend, but that he became concerned when she did not return home by morning.

Michael Reynolds is a senior at Texas A&M University and Mrs. Reynolds was a senior physical education major at the University.