

# Bakke decision holds 'threat'

By DIANE BLAKE  
Battalion Staff

The greatest threat to affirmative action programs posed by the Bakke decision may come from national and state legislatures and administrative agencies, a consultant in Supreme Court civil rights cases said Wednesday.

Herbert O. Reid, a special director for the NAACP, spoke to about 50 people in the Rudder Auditorium. The forum was co-sponsored by Great Issues and the Black Awareness committees of the Memorial Student Center.

The Supreme Court held last week in a 5-4 decision that Allan P. Bakke was the victim of "reverse discrimination." The court ordered that the 38-year-old engineer be admitted to the California Medical School, which had rejected Bakke to a fixed quota of minority applicants.

The court ruled that race can be a factor in university admissions provided that rigid quotas are not used.

The lawyer said that his main concern was that "we stave off legislatures which will use the Bakke decision as another guise to return to the dark days before affirmative action."

He said he feared the decision will encourage those who oppose affirmative action to resist it even

more. Several cases are pending that would undermine the goals of affirmative action, he said.

"It is not sufficient for the state to remain neutral in civil rights," Reid said. "It must act in an affirmative way to increase black and Chicano presence in society."

Affirmative action is necessary if blacks and other minorities are to ever rise from being second-class citizens, Reid said.

"Affirmative action removes the scars from old wounds brought by discrimination," he said. "It uses law as a tool for social progress."

Reid said the Bakke decision has world-wide effects.

"This case deals with more than the blacks' role in medical school," he said. "Its implications go beyond the borders of this nation."

America plays a central role as a world leader in civil rights, Reid said, adding that African blacks will never be free. American blacks are struggling for pure legal existence, which Reid defined as "an existence barren of racial discrimination."

Reid said that students at Texas A&M University participate in an affirmative action program just by attending the school.

The Morrill Act of 1865, which created land-grant institutions like Texas A&M, was amended in 1890



Battalion photo by Ed Cunniss

Shannon Keeley, left, cuts the ceremonial ribbon officially dedicating Safety City, a facility for the instruction of traffic safety. Her mother, Sue Keeley, president of Safety City and the prime motivator of the project, looks on.

to prevent racial discrimination in admissions. Discrimination could be justified if "separate but equal" facilities were provided.

"There is a place for the predominantly black institution," Reid said. Universities like Prairie View A&M should be encouraged and developed to ensure black educational opportunities, he said.

Reid said qualifications must not be used to achieve the same results as when race was the limiting factor. "We must not use measuring rods that exclude minority groups."

He said that some groups may be hurt by affirmative action programs. "But there is always some hardship in righting a wrong," the lawyer said.

# Kids to learn safety by doing New 'city' opens in CS

By STEVE LEE  
Battalion Reporter

There is a new city in College Station, complete with city hall, several businesses and even a little red schoolhouse. There are residential and park areas, major thoroughfares and railroad tracks.

And it is all enclosed within a fence situated behind the A&M Consolidated Middle School.

It is called Safety City, a miniature city constructed to serve as a permanent safety training facility for grade school children. It will become part of the curriculum of Consolidated students in grades kindergarten through eight.

The children will be bussed to and from the facility, where they will be instructed on rules for safe motoring, walking and bicycling.

The Consolidated school district dedicated the city Thursday in a ceremony which included an appearance by Texas Attorney General John Hill. Hill spoke

briefly, commending the community for its support of the project, and cited an urgent need for programs such as Safety City.

"Even with the 55 mph speed limit, we (the state) are not doing well," Hill said. "Figures on traffic accidents and violations continue to increase. We have a responsibility to teach safety to our children."

The project is, in fact, a product of community action. The Neighborhood Advisory Council Safety Committee of the A&M Consolidated Community Education staff laid the groundwork for the project. The staff serves as a liaison between the school district and the community.

Sue Keeley, vice president of the Community Educational staff, formulated an idea for a bicycle safety program a year ago. She presented her ideas before the City Safety Committee of College Station. Councilman Ann Hazen, in turn, presented the ideas to the College Station

Police Department.

Keeley was assigned to chair the Neighborhood Advisory Council Safety Committee to review ideas for a comprehensive safety program.

The A&M Consolidated Board of Trustees agreed to donate land for such a program in February and promised to provide transportation to and from the site. Trustees also agreed to build a "little red schoolhouse" on the property.

The city council voted to allocate \$15,000 for the initial development of the project, including operating utility costs, funding a part-time safety officer, and authorizing the construction of a "city hall" building in the miniature city.

The office of Traffic Safety donated \$1,778.90 for the 56 regulatory and safety signs. Also, numerous businesses and organizations in the area have donated miniature buildings simulating their establishments.

# Tammy Wynette kidnapped freed as masked man flees

United Press International

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country Singer Tammy Wynette was kidnapped Wednesday from a shopping center by a masked man who choked her with piece of panty hose and drove her to a rural area 80 miles away where he slapped her and kicked her out of her car.

"They tried to kill me. I don't know why, but they tried to kill me," Miss Wynette told authorities after her abductor kicked her out of her canary-yellow Cadillac near Pulaski.

Miss Wynette, 36, four-time winner of the Country Music Association's top female vocalist award with such songs as "Stand By Your Man" and "D-I-V-O-R-C-E," was admitted to Giles County Hospital at Pulaski for treatment of cuts and bruises. Her husband, songwriter-producer George Richey, was at her bedside.

Neither the number of persons involved in the kidnapping nor the motive was immediately known. "We're keeping a lid on it," a Giles County Sheriff's Department dispatcher said early Thursday. "At the

moment there are no suspects."

Mildred Lee, Miss Wynette's mother, said the singer had gone to the Green Hills shopping center in Nashville to pick up a birthday present for her 8-year-old daughter, Georgette.

When the singer returned to her unlocked car, she apparently was surprised by a man hidden inside. The man shoved her to the floor, tied the pantyhose around her neck, drove south on Interstate 65, and got off at the U.S. 31A exit about 15 miles xvthe Alabama border.

Mrs. Lee said her daughter never got a good look at her abductor.

Miss Wynette told the family who found her and administered first aid that the man stopped the car near the Brick Church community just northeast of Pulaski, slapped her in the face, kicked her out of the Cadillac, and drove away in a station wagon that was headed south.

Tennessee Highway Patrol officials said they were searching for two white males possibly driving a late-model black and blue station wagon.

# 2 medical researchers photograph human genes

United Press International

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Two University of Michigan medical researchers report they have isolated and photographed single human genes, a major step in the study of the causes of birth defects.

The two pediatricians, using recently developed recombinant DNA methodology, said they directly observed single genes as part of a project into the causes of the birth defect mongolism, now commonly known as Down's Syndrome.

Drs. Roy Schmickel and Golder Wilson, both of the University of Michigan Medical Center's department of pediatrics and Holden Perinatal Unit, were scheduled to discuss their work today at the annual meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The isolated human genes were viewed through an electron microscope, then photographed by David A. Jackson, a University of Michigan professor of microbiology and member of the Stanford University research team that first developed a biochemical method for joining genes in a test tube.

Schmickel and Wilson used recombinant DNA methodology to isolate genes from the chromosome — a strand of DNA containing thousands of genes — that causes mongolism.

The researchers said the ability to view genes singly "means that we

can finally begin to study variation, to learn to spot the subtle differences in genes that indicate a child will be normal or have a birth defect."

Recombinant DNA methodology actually is a variety of new and often controversial biochemical and enzymatic procedures enabling scientists to join genes of one species of organism to those of another species. These linked, or "recombined," genes are then introduced into living bacterial cells. As the bacteria reproduce, the genes within also multiply.

The researchers said they had produced about 6,000 "recombinants" in the laboratory. Then, applying a radioactive binding technique, they were able to select 11 recombinants containing the gene of interest.

The researchers said such direct observations "would be vastly difficult, if not impossible, without recombinant DNA."

The University of Michigan project was funded by the March of Dimes and the National Institutes of Health.

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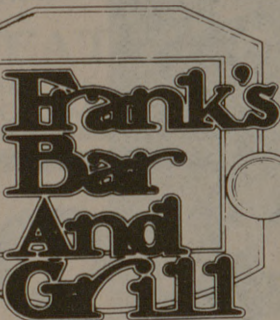
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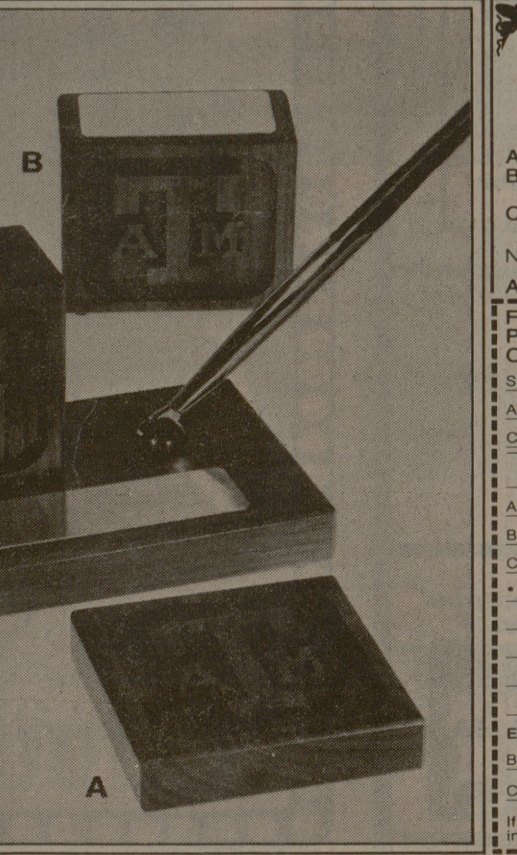
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