

After a few beers, student gets stuck in chimney

campus

United Press International
FULTON, Mo. — A student at Westminster College spent about three hours wedged inside a chimney at his fraternity house last weekend before construction workers tore it apart to free him.

Randy Howland, 19, a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity, said he climbed up the living room chimney "after a couple of beers" at a fraternity party early Sunday. He got stuck about 3 feet of the way up.

Howland was stuck so securely, local fire officials could not pull him out of the chimney with a rope. So two local masons were summoned to disassemble the chimney, brick by brick.

Howland, who said he had climbed up the chimney for no particular reason, was not injured.

Lists 'tell all' about B-CS folks

By DEBBIE NELSON
Battalion Reporter

Royce Watson's business isn't boring. A man threatened to shoot its previous owner.

Watson, 36, is an Aggie who owns Business Research and Services at 29th Place in Bryan.

The shooting threat came when a man's court case was recorded in Business Digest and Court Review, one of two newsletters Watson's office publishes. Published weekly for several hundred subscribers, the digest lists all transactions at major county offices from births to vehicle registrations, from mortgages to court cases.

Once in a while someone would rather not have his name in the newsletter. Watson gets occasional irate phone callers.

But threats are useless, Watson says. He leaves no names off the lists. He could be sued for omissions.

"I've lost friends because of it," he said, "but leaving names off

would not be giving the customers what they paid for, and wouldn't be fair to the people whose names are on the list."

Watson has published the newsletter for three years. He said he just happened to be around when the former owner was selling it, and he thought it would be interesting. Business Digest and Court Review pays for itself by subscriptions, which cost \$10 a month or \$100 a year.

The newsletter is sent to three states to former townspeople who want to stay informed, Watson said. Uses of the publication are varied. Employers check it before hiring employees. Businesses need the hot check list. Insurance salesmen use the birth and marriage records to find prospective buyers. Some people read it just because it is interesting.

Every week, Watson and his three assistants, all Texas A&M University students, make the rounds of the county offices and courts to gather information. The newsletter is similar to other publications in most cities, Watson said.

Watson said he likes going to the county offices every week. Even though his research assistants now do most of the compilation of data, Watson still gets to see "what's really happening in government."

Besides the factual information in the "Business Digest and Court Review," the first page is an editorial. That is written by Watson, "unless I can find someone else to do it."

Recent issues featured problems with jury duty selection and banks

in the city. People often call Watson's office looking for information that was printed in old newsletters. Though Watson said Business Research and Services tries to provide all the information it can, there are some things it cannot do.

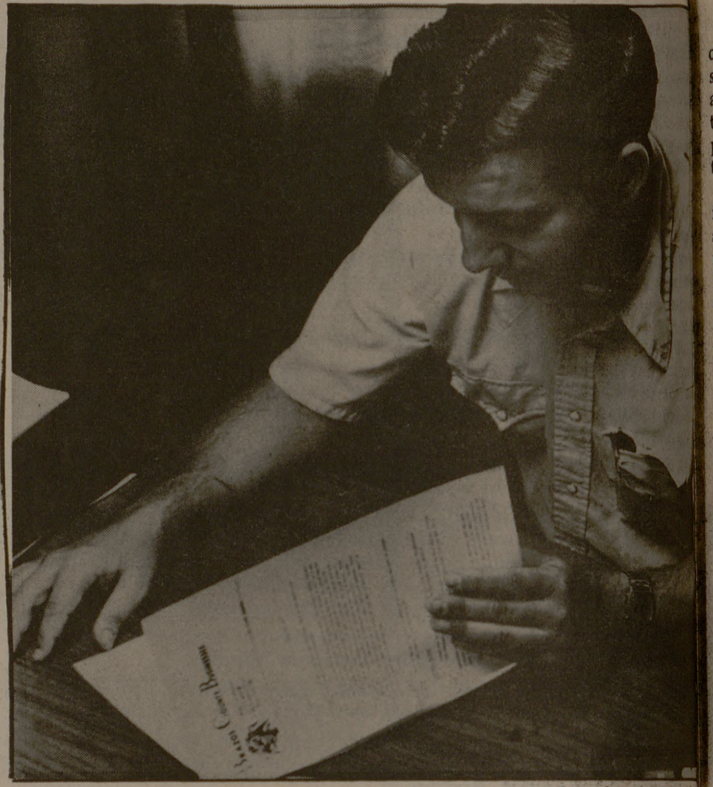
Watson has no real estate license, so he can't help in land sales. Because of civil rights laws, he can't give an inquirer information on a specific person. He must give out all the information he has on everyone, or give out none at all.

Since Jan. 1, Watson also has published the "Brazos County Businesses," a newsletter of opinions, ads, and rumors about businesses. The biweekly issue features businesses that have just opened or changed hands.

A profile of the business includes the owner, nature of the business, and a general description of the establishment. Watson said this is free advertising that reaches almost 100 subscribers, but some businesses are reluctant to take it.

For example, one business that recently transferred to Bryan would not let Watson's publication feature it, Watson said. "He said he had all the business he could handle and he didn't want any more." Watson said several businesses have flatly refused this free service.

Watson also prepares government forms and alcohol license applications for businesses. In addition, he prepares immigration and naturalization papers and does some tax work. Working from 45-60 hours a week, Royce Watson has plenty to keep himself busy.



Battalion photo by Lynn E.

Royce Watson looks at a copy of Brazos County Businesses, one of two informational digests he publishes. His other publication, Business Digest and Court Review, lists all transactions at major county offices, which often makes it necessary for Watson to deal with irate local citizens.

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Study center opens branches

The Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University has opened a new field office in San Antonio, said Dr. Alvin B. Wooten, director.

"The growth of the state's metropolitan areas requires the Research Center to decentralize its staff in order to be more responsive to the needs and desires of the real estate industry and the general public," Wooten said.

"Our San Antonio office will reach out to assist persons in areas near San Antonio, such as Kerrville, Bandera, Pleasanton, San Marcos, New Braunfels, Seguin and Hondo. All will be within the reach of the service available through the San Antonio office."

The office, located in the Hemisphere Plaza, will be staffed by Harold Jambers, coordinator of the Studies of Advanced Real Estate Subjects program offered by the TRERC.


Jambers will work with local real estate groups, community leaders

and the general public to disseminate real estate information to the public. He will also act as liaison between the Center and civic and business groups and develop programs of interest attuned to the specific needs of Bexar County and surrounding communities.

The San Antonio field office is the second to be established by TRERC. The first, in Dallas, was established in September of 1975.



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