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MSC  
Political  
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Texas'  
Attorney  
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Mark  
White

"In Defense of Texas"

April 8  
12:30 p.m.  
601 Rudder

Free

## 'Lipstick' murder victim described as 'very lonely'

United Press International  
DALLAS — A 28-year-old woman found strangled in her bedroom near a lipstick-scratched message to her husband was a quiet, "very lonely" person, a neighbor said.

Police Wednesday questioned neighbors of Debra Martinson, looking for motives for the slaying of the woman. Her attorney husband, Don, found her sprawled nude — her hair still in curlers — in their \$200,000 split-level home Monday when he arrived home from jury duty.

The words "Now we are even Don" were written in pink lipstick on a full-length mirror in the bedroom and Mrs. Martinson's clothes were found arranged in a neat path leading into the room. An autopsy indicated she had been dead five to seven hours when her body was found.

A police officer said investigators had questioned "anyone who could tell us anything about it."

"We've got several leads that we're checking out and checking a lot of different angles," he said.

Sgt. Gus Rose said the purpose of the mysterious message still had not been determined.

"We can't discount it since it was there," he said. "It was there for some purpose but we don't know if it was for a diversion or not."

Neighbors described the Martinsons as almost reclusive but indicated Mrs. Martinson seemed lonely.

"I saw her enough times to count on one hand and I saw him even less," said Marty Dale. "I think she was probably very lonely. She was left alone so much."

Another neighbor, who asked not to be identified, said, "We really don't know Don. He never seemed to be home very much. I think Debbie was really very lonely much of the time."

state

## Idea for Texas rail system called 'folly'

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Rep. Buddy Temple, D-Diboll, Wednesday accused Railroad Commissioner John Poerner — the man he is challenging in the Democratic primary — of proposing a rail system connecting Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio without providing accurate information.

Poerner has proposed a "Japanese bullet train" linking the three metropolitan areas. He said the system would cost \$6 billion but would net a profit of \$1.5 billion a year.

But Temple disputed those figures at a Capitol news conference.

He said the 750-mile rail system and the supertrains would cost a total of \$20 billion. Temple said the \$1.5 billion profit figure is also erroneous.

"To have a gross income — not profit — of \$1.5 billion a year would require 45 million passengers a year," he said. "To have a \$1.5 billion profit, assuming 10 percent profit on sales volume, would require at least 450 million passengers a year — 30 times the population of Texas."

"Simply put, Poerner's proposal is a folly."

Temple said Poerner did not provide information on how the rail system would be financed.

"It is a boondoggle," he said.

Temple also said there are two proposals under consideration to improve Amtrak rail transportation in Texas. He said one proposal calls for the spending of \$200 million to improve road bed, tracks and operating equipment to allow speeds of up to 79 mph.

The other proposal calls for the spending of \$1.2 billion to acquire new right-of-way in some areas,

build new track, rebuild old track and purchase new high-speed equipment. He said the state and the Department of Transportation would share in the cost if either one of the proposals is implemented.

Temple said he realized that a passenger transportation system could not be profitable because of the huge capital outlay and present competition, but said a backup system needed to be implemented.

"I'm willing to consider such a system — but not one that's going to be the biggest public works project in our nation's history," he said.

## Cancerous waste to burn in Texas

United Press International  
LINTHICUM, Md. — The Coast Guard said Wednesday it will move 25,000 gallons of toxic wastes containing polychlorinated biphenyl, PCB, from a federal depot to Texas for burning by the middle of July.

The waste oil laced with PCB, a cancer-causing agent, was found last summer stored in rusting tanks at an abandoned storage facility along the Nanticoke River in Sharptown on the Eastern Shore.

The Coast Guard said the tanks were unsafe and could rupture so the PCB was transported in February to a federal General Services Administration depot at Curtis Bay, just south of Baltimore in the Chesapeake Bay, with the promise that

the toxic waste would be moved as soon as a better site or incinerator was found.

Coast Guard spokesman Mike Waller said federal Environmental Protection Agency officials expect to certify the Rollins Environmental Services incinerator in Deer Park safe for the disposal of toxic wastes April 15.

If the firm receives the certification, the PCB will be moved to Texas within 90 days, Waller said.

Rollins was the firm that moved the contaminated oil from Sharptown to Curtis Bay.

Waller said the cost of transferring from Sharptown to Curtis Bay and Texas and the incineration will be about \$500,000.

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