MSC Political Forum

Texas' Attorney General

Mark White

"In Defense of Texas"

April 8 12:30 p.m. 601 Rudder

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'Lipstick' murder victim described as 'very lonely'

United Press International
DALLAS — A 28-year-old woman
found strangled in her bedroom near
a lipstick-scrawled 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.

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

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."

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"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. 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

"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 brown Den. He never second."

don't know Don. He never seemed to be home very much. I think Debbie was really very lonely much of the time."

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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 informa-

Poerner has proposed a "Japanese bullet train" linking the three metro-politan 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.

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"Simply put, Poerner's proposal is a folly." Temple said Poerner did not provide information on how the rail sys-

tem 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 im-prove 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,

and purchase new high-speed equipment. He said the state and the De partment of Transportation would share in the cost if either one of the proposals is implemented.

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

"I'm willing to consider such assetem — but not one that's going to the biggest public works project 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 byphenyl, 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 bandoned 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 Adminis tration depot at Curtis Bay, just south of Baltimore in the Che-sapeake Bay, with the promise that

Santa R soon as a better site or incinents

Coast Guard spokesman Mir rapidly
Waller said federal Environment TSTA to Protection Agency officials expetts associate certify the Rollins Environment McM Services incinerator in Deer Parks tions has safe for the disposal of toxic wastest

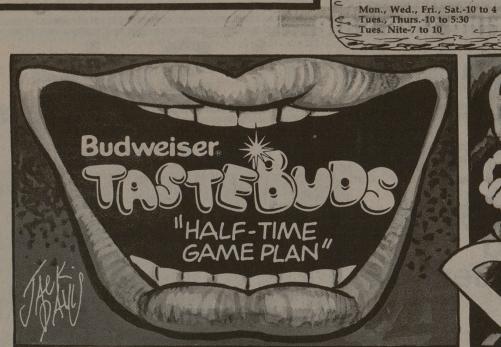
April 15.

If the firm receives the certification, the PCB will be moved to Tea within 90 days, Waller said. Rollins was the firm that m

the contaminated oil from Sharp town to Curtis Bay. Waller said the cost of transfer

from Sharptown to Curtis Bay and Texas, and the incincration will Texas and the incineration will about \$500,000.



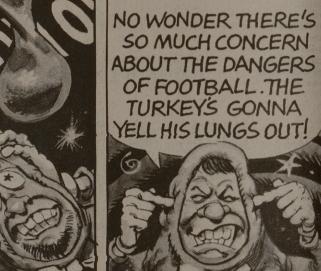


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