

Conflict sparks races for RR Commission

By LAURA CORTEZ
City Staff

The Railroad Commission race has become one of the hottest races in Texas this election year.

The three-member commission, originally created to regulate railroads, is responsible for regulating oil and gas production, pipelines and distribution of natural gas. It also continues to regulate the transportation industry including railroads, trucking and bus lines.

Texas voters will elect two commissioners this year — one to fill a full six-year term and one to serve the remaining two years of an unexpired term.

The big rivalries lie in the Democratic race, in which Railroad Commission Chairman John Poerner is being challenged by Rep. Buddy Temple of Diboll for the full term.

Incumbent James E. "Jim" Nugent, appointed by Gov. Dolph Briscoe in 1977 to serve out Jon Newton's unexpired term, is running against former Texas Observer editor Jim Hightower for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Poerner said he plans to continue with his duties as a "sound conservative state administrator, and as an advocate of a strong Texas economy."

He has said at various press conferences around the state that he feels Texas needs to make more aggressive efforts in developing all forms of energy, including gasohol, synthetic fuel, lignite, coal, and solar and nuclear energy.

Poerner has ordered a study of high speed "bullet trains" to connect Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio. He said the Japanese have had success with this system, which moves passengers at a rate of 130 miles per hour, for the past 15 years.

Bullet trains will help eliminate traffic congestion and will save on high fuel costs, he said.

But his opponent has lashed out against the bullet train idea, calling it a "folly."

Temple said Poerner has failed to provide much information about how the electric-powered, 750-mile rail system would be financed, and added that there is no reason for the commissioner to make the proposal unless he plans to propose some type of government funding for it.

Temple also said Poerner claims it will cost \$6 million for the bullet trains, and added that this figure is "way too low."

One of the more controversial

issues in the Nugent-Hightower race is campaign funding.

Hightower has claimed that 90 percent of Nugent's funds come from people involved in the business he regulates as a railroad commissioner, while Nugent has claimed that a large portion of Hightower's funding comes from out of state.

A spokesman for Nugent defended the commissioner in a telephone interview Tuesday: "His (Nugent's) position is that he will accept from whoever wants to take part in the political process, without asking who they are or what they are."

He also said 70 percent of the contributions to Nugent's campaign have been for \$100 or less.

A spokesman for Hightower said there have been fund raisers in New York and Washington, but they have been given mostly by "Texas expatriates." He added that only about 17 percent of Hightower's funding has come from out of state.

The Republicans whose names will appear on the ballot in the May 3 primary are, for the full term, John Thomas Henderson, Austin, Henry C. Grover, Houston, and E.E. "Billy" Kidd, Weatherford. Running for the unexpired term is H.J. "Doc" Blanchard, Austin.

Dope smugglers convicted

United Press International
CALVESTON — Four men have been convicted by a federal court jury of various roles in the smuggling of 100,000 pounds of marijuana into a Surfside marina.

Barry Phinous Stockton, 52, of Pearl, Miss.; Danny Sherman, 22, of Richland, Miss.; Edward Becton, 31, of St. Louis, and Jeffrey Saragosey, 30, of New York, were con-

victed Monday. Stockton was convicted of a conspiracy to smuggle charge. Becton, Saragosey and Sherman were convicted of possession and of conspiracy. Officers seized the marijuana-laden boat, five tractor-trailer trucks and a motorized conveyor belt being used by smugglers in the raid in which 35 persons were arrested.

BATTERIES FOR IMPORTED CARS

ONLY **33⁵⁰** and up
with exchange

PASSPORT AUTO SUPPLY

"The Store with the Cat!"

1403 Harvey Rd. 693-9411
On Hwy. 30 One Block West of East Bypass

Alcoholism program scheduled for Friday

By NANCY ANDERSEN
City Staff

The Brazos Valley Development Council will sponsor an all-day program titled, "Alcoholism: What Can Communities Do?" at the Brazos Center Friday.

In its fourth year, the program will feature guest speakers from across Texas in six one-hour workshops on setting up community alcohol institutes. Registration is from 8-8:30 a.m. The public is invited.

The 8:45 a.m. keynote address, "Councils on Alcoholism," will be given by Fain Williams, former executive director of the East Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Her address on outlines for setting up a council will be further detailed in a workshop at 10 a.m.

The other 10 a.m. workshop, "And Now A Word From Our Sponsors," will allow the co-sponsors of the event to discuss their alcohol treatment programs. These are Contemporary Health Management, Inc. of Austin, Starlite Village Hospital of Center Point, Texas Commission on Alcoholism of Austin and Villa De-Tejas Treatment Center of San Antonio.

Workshops on the health planning process and the metabolism of alcohol are scheduled for 1 p.m. Dr. Donald Sweeney of Texas A&M Uni-

versity will discuss the process of putting together a health program, and Dr. George Bates of the Texas A&M biochemistry department will discuss how the body metabolizes alcohol — what it does and how long it takes to work itself out of the body.

Other workshops, "Employee

Assistance Programs" and "Intervention: Hope for the Suffering Family," will be held at 4 p.m., by Robbie Scott of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Pat and John O'Neil of Shoal Creek Hospital.

The workshop will charge a \$5 registration fee.

TRY US OUT FOR ALL YOUR

SOFTBALL NEEDS!

Dudley's Softballs • Rawlings Gloves

Shoes by Pony • Puma • Nike

Custom T-shirts • Other accessories

The Locker Room
"SPORTSHOES UNLIMITED"

ACROSS FROM MANOR EAST MALL
800 VILLA MARIA RD.

USED GOLD WANTED!

Cash paid or will swap for Aggie Ring Diamonds.

diamond brokers international, inc.

693-1647

SWENSEN'S

Take Home Special

Buy a 1/2 Gallon (2 3/4 lb.) of any flavor and get a dozen FREE Cones (Cake or Sugar).
FRIDAYS ONLY

Culpepper Plaza • College Station
Open: 11:30 Mon.-Sat. • Noon Sundays



JOIN WEIGHT WATCHERS NOW FOR \$7⁰⁰

includes registration and first meeting fee through May 17, 1980

Of all the weight-loss programs in the world, none have been more successful than the Weight Watchers program. We've helped more people lose more pounds than any other plan.

If you're serious about losing weight, join Weight Watchers now. Because with many other programs, all you lose in the long run is time.

COLLEGE STATION LUTHERAN STUDENTS CENTER

315 N. College Main
Thurs. 5:15 p.m.

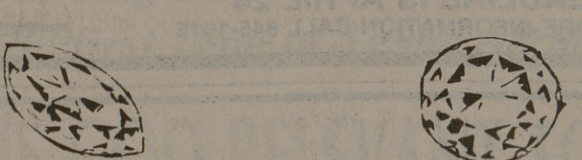
822-7303

Weight Watchers
The Authority

Losing weight never tasted so good

The most successful weight loss program in the world. Offer good only in area #37.

AN ENGAGEMENT DIAMOND IS FOREVER...



AT DIAMOND BROKERS INTERNATIONAL YOU WILL FIND AN UNBELIEVABLE SELECTION OF LOOSE STONES IN ALL SIZES, CUTS AND QUALITIES. OUR SETTING COLLECTION INCLUDES SWISS CUT STYLES AND TRADITIONAL BANDS, ALL IN SOLID 14 KT. GOLD. OUR PRICES ARE COMPETITIVE WITH ANYONE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS. SO SHOP AND COMPARE, THEN YOU WILL KNOW WHY HUNDREDS OF AGGIES HAVE ALREADY PURCHASED AN ENGAGEMENT STONE FROM DIAMOND BROKERS INTERNATIONAL.

diamond brokers international, inc.

PRECIOUS STONE IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALERS
209 EAST UNIVERSITY DRIVE

693-1647

ASK ABOUT OUR 90-DAY INTEREST - FREE LAYAWAY!

AFTER COLLEGE: AIR FORCE EXPERIENCE.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING MAJORS. Put your knowledge to use where it counts — in the Air Force. Work beside respected professionals. Get more responsibility faster. Work important projects sooner than most of your classmates. Move up with AIR FORCE EXPERIENCE. Do it for your country and yourself. Talk with an Air Force Recruiter. Call toll free 800-523-5000 (in PA: 800-362-5696), or send in the coupon. It can be your ticket to...
A GREAT WAY OF LIFE.



AIR FORCE

Air Force Opportunities, P.O. Box 1776, Valley Forge, PA 19881. Please send me information on engineering opportunities and becoming an Air Force Officer.

Name _____ (Please Print) Sex (M) (F)

Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Engineering Discipline _____

College Attending _____ Date of Graduation _____ Degree _____