

State

Anti-abortion bills examined

United Press International
AUSTIN — Twelve aborted fetuses were dumped into trash bins at Odessa, and one fetus was thrown in a bag along with coffee grounds and chicken bones, anti-abortion leaders told a House subcommittee.

Bill Price of Odessa said Tuesday that he and minister James Johnson found the 12 fetuses during a three-day span last September. He said they were dumped in trash containers by staff members working for a doctor who performed the abortions.

But when the members of an Odessa anti-abortion group searched the bins, they were breaking a local ordinance that they said they were unaware of.

Price produced a gruesome color photograph for members of the

House subcommittee studying a series of anti-abortion bills.

Price said he supported legislation requiring the proper disposal of remains of an abortion.

"We do have laws on the books which govern the disposal of surgical matter and even the disposal of dead animals," he said.

But Jan Friese, executive director of the Texas Abortion Rights League, said the group does not support any of the bills. Some of the proposed legislation would prohibit doctors from performing abortions in hospitals that receive state funds.

"Abortion is a very complex issue, but abortion is a very private issue," said Friese. "All the bills are designed to prohibit a woman from having a safe abortion."

Margie McDaniel, a University of Texas student and an apprentice midwife, echoed Friese's sentiments.

"This morning I helped deliver a baby," she said. "It was a very beautiful thing. Having a baby is a very beautiful thing, but it's not if you don't want to be pregnant."

McDaniel said the imposition of rigid regulations on abortion procedures was a move to "nationalize" the free choice of woman.

"Where is the humanity, I ask that," McDaniel said.

Kathleen Garza, administrator for three anti-abortion organiza-

tions in Texas, said she objected to the exemption from the abortion bills of women who are raped or involved in incest.

"An act of violence against a woman is not undone by another act of violence," she said. "Rape and incest are used as a smokescreen by pro-abortionists."

Although some of the bills are not designed to abolish abortions, the president of the Texas Doctors for Life said that was the intent of the organization.

"Our goal is to shut it down (in Texas)," Dr. Stephen Hotz said.

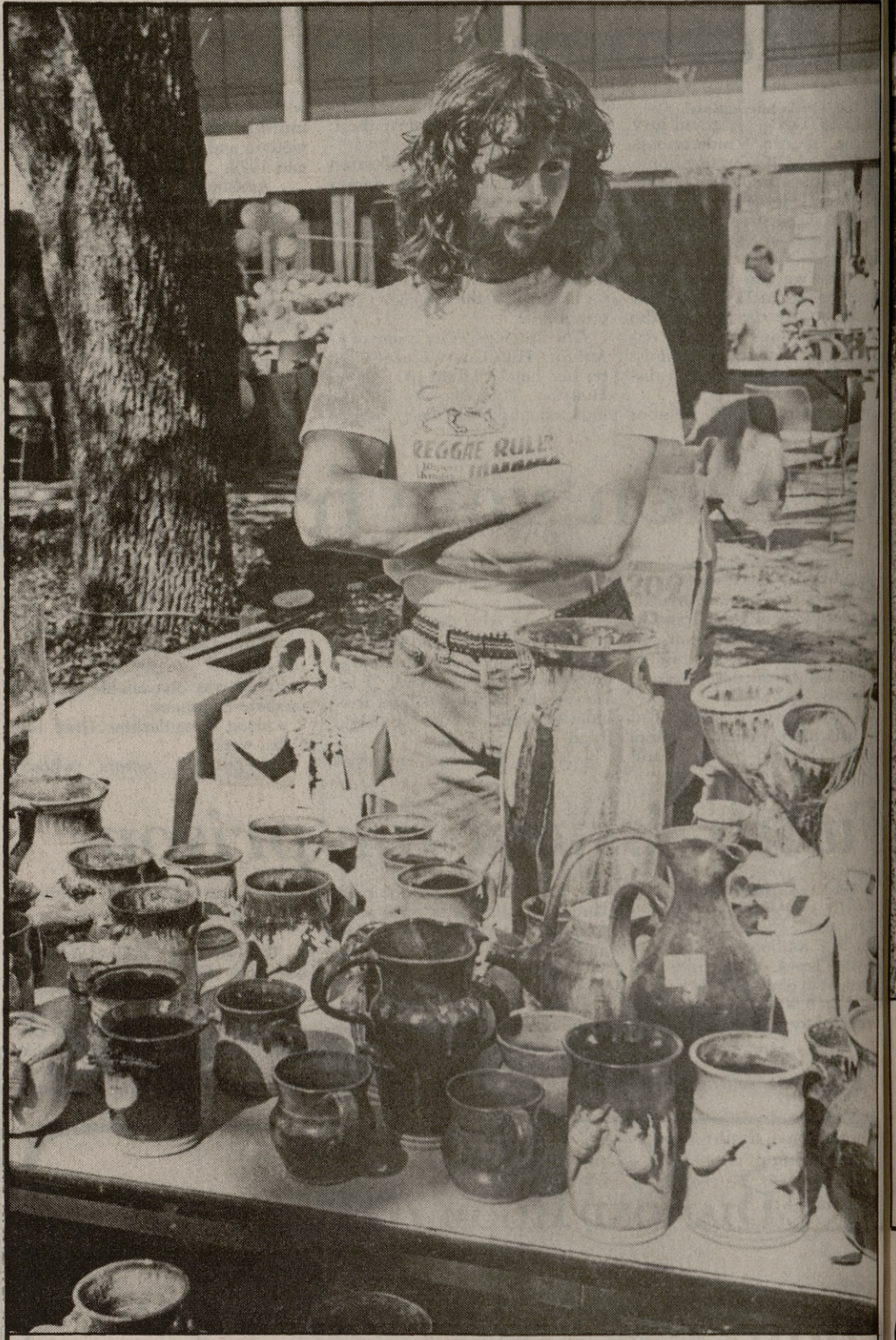
Clements apologizes for Arkansas slip-up

United Press International
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Texas Gov. Bill Clements called and apologized for remarking recently in Washington that he had talked to Arkansas officials about a water-sharing plan and found no great opposition, Gov. Frank White told a civic club.

"Gov. Clements called me and said, 'I shouldn't have said that, should I?' I said, 'Where'd you get that?' He said, 'I don't know. I was just popping off at a press conference,'" White said Tuesday.

Clements was widely quoted in Arkansas as telling reporters at the National Governors Association that he had talked to White and former Gov. Bill Clinton about a federal plan to divert excess water from Arkansas to Texas. Clements reportedly said he found "no great opposition" to the idea, which would not be carried out for decades.

White said he'd agreed to the plan and had not talked to Clements. "Someday I might be willing to swap 'em water for oil, barrel for barrel," White said.



Pottery anyone? Staff photo by Chuck Chapman
The MSC Craft Show is taking place between the Memorial Student Center and Rudder Tower. Brian Dougan, a senior architecture student, displays some of his handmade pottery that he is selling. Dougan is one of about 40 merchants in the show.

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Study called 'unscientific' and scientist files libel suit

United Press International
HOUSTON — A scientist who found chromosome damage among residents near New York's Love Canal chemical dump site has filed a damage suit charging he was libeled in a magazine article that called his study unscientific.

Dr. Dante Picciano said in his state court suit filed Tuesday the article "Love Canal: False Alarm Caused by Botched Study" in the June 13 issue of Science Magazine "contains false, libelous and defamatory information."

He charged the information was published "with the malicious intent" to damage Picciano's reputation.

Picciano's lawyer, Phillip A. Pfeiffer, said Picciano had suffered humiliation and lost earnings as a result of the publication.

Pfeiffer said Picciano openly admitted the Environmental Protection Agency, which commissioned the study, had given him no clearly affected control group for comparison purposes, but he said his data nevertheless justified further study.

Picciano said he found chromosome abnormalities in 11 of 36 Love Canal residents tested. EPA release of that information stirred angry concern among residents of the dump site area and the White House subsequently ordered the removal of 710 families from the area.

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