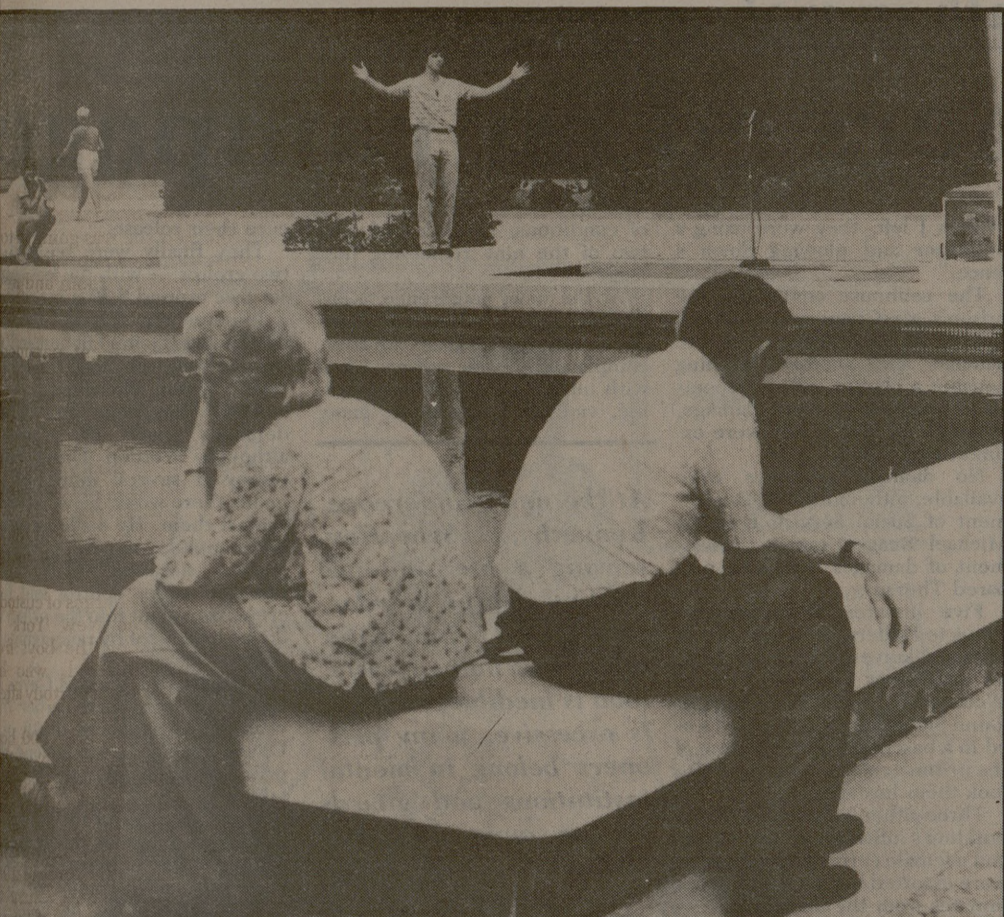


State



Stumping for Christ

Staff photo by Becky Swanson

Ron Tewson speaks out for Christ at the Rudder fountain to a rather unattentive audience earlier this week. Tewson and several other members of the Organization for the Advancement of Spiritual Involvement among Students will be speaking at

the same location until 2 p.m. today. The off-campus adviser to OASIS said the non-denominational Christian organization has taken a firm stand against the teachings of the "Moonies."

Ancient monastery discovered

United Press International  
WACO — Baylor University archaeologists working in Israel have unearthed a monastery dating back to 420 A.D. which may add insight into the beginnings of Christianity.

Dr. Bruce Cresson said the monastery contains a "beautiful little chapel" with evidence the ancient monks were familiar with the Biblical story of the apostle Peter and his denial of Christ.

Researchers believe the monastery was built within a century of the legalization of Christianity in the Roman Empire during the early Fourth Century.

Cresson, professor of religion and director of Baylor's Institute of Archaeology, said the monastery was found at Tel Ira in the Negev Valley near Beersheba.

The discovery "is going to add to our knowledge of the establishment of Christianity in this area in very early centuries," he said.

He said the monastery chapel is only about 15 to 20 feet wide and about 25 to 30 feet deep. The limestone base of a stone altar near the curved end of the chapel was found intact.

Embedded on the floor in front and on each end of the altar were two mosaic crosses which "obviously had been lovingly hand-laid in place piece-by-piece centuries ago," Cresson said.

The crosses, encircled by a mosaic medallion background, provide more evidence that the symbol of Christ was used more than 1,500 years ago, he said.

Cresson said his team also found a seven or eight-line Greek inscription on the mosaic floor of the foyer indicating the monastic chapel was dedicated to St. Peter. Located next to the inscription was a mosaic medallion depicting two roosters, or cocks, reminiscent of the Biblical account of Peter denying he knew Christ.

According to the Bible, Peter fulfilled Jesus' prediction he would deny Christ three times before the cocks crowed at sunrise the day Christ was crucified.

Cresson said the Israeli government had agreed to remove and restore the mosaic designs.

Attorneys for Hughes' cousins rest their case

United Press International  
HOUSTON — Lawyers representing about 400 distant cousins of Howard Hughes have rested their probate court effort to substitute themselves for five closer relatives claiming the reclusive tycoon's fortune.

Five of the group of 400, who must defeat the closer claimants to inherit anything, testified for Probate Judge Pat Gregory and a six-member jury Wednesday before attorney George Parnham rested his case.

The distant claimants contend Hughes' uncle Rupert was sterile and could not have fathered a daughter named Elspeth, whose three daughters, step-sister and the estate of a step-brother claim through her.

They contend Elspeth Hughes Lapp, who was born in 1897 and died in 1945, was fathered by one of nine men named adulterers with Rupert's first wife, Agnes, in a 1902 divorce.

Gregory has ruled Houston-born Hughes left no will, wives, children, brothers, sisters or living parents and awarded the maternal share of the estate estimated at \$163 million to \$1.2 billion to 14 living heirs of his mother.

Gregory's court now is considering who should inherit the paternal share of the estate. Hughes died in 1976 aboard a medical flight from Acapulco to Houston.

In addition to the 400 distant claimants who contend Rupert

was sterile and Elspeth was not a Hughes by blood, another group of 160 distant claimants argue Rupert had a real daughter but she died young and Elspeth is an impostor.

Five of the group of 400 testified Wednesday. Two said they personally heard Rupert say he could not or did not have natural children.

Warren Hornsby, 69, of New Orleans, testified Rupert was a cousin of his mother. When Rupert once visited Hornsby's family, Hornsby heard Rupert say he could not have children. Hornsby was 6 or 7 at the time.

Hornsby said his family had told him the mumps and German measles sterilized Rupert when he was 15 or 16.

Charles Ireland, 68, a retired

barber from St. Louis, testified Rupert once "patted me on the head and told my mother, 'I wish I could have had children.'" Ireland said he was 13 at the time.

Ireland earlier told a reporter he never met Hughes, but explained the contradiction as a desire not to reveal his side's strategy before he testified.

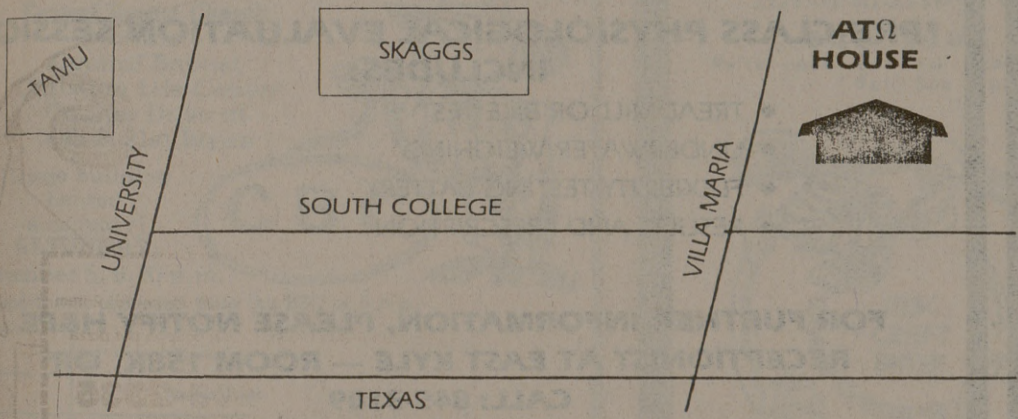
Lawyers for Elspeth's daughters, Elspeth DePould, Agnes Roberts and Barbara Cameron; Elspeth's step-sister, Avis Hughes McIntyre, and the estate of the late Rush Hughes, have introduced birth certificates and other evidence.

Attorney Wayne Fisher argues the evidence is overwhelming that Elspeth was Rupert's natural daughter under the law.

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