

State / National



Kyle Field letters dedicated

Staff photo by Brian Tate

Mary Alice and Bob Frymire, Class of '45, were present Saturday for the dedication of the illuminated letters on Kyle Field for which they gave \$50,000. A plaque was placed by the stadium's west entrance in appreciation of

their generosity. Frymire's contributions to the University include Presidents' Endowed Scholarships and a permanently endowed athletic scholarship. He is an Association of Former Students and Diamond Century Club member.

Attorney wants public told about herbicides

United Press International
WHARTON — Clearing weeds along 71,500 miles of Texas highways is a big job, but roadway maintenance workers have an equal responsibility to keep the public informed about the herbicides used to kill brush, an attorney says.

John Gilmartin, a lawyer with the Texas A&M University Agriculture Extension Service, recently told a conference of Gulf Coast county officials their best recourse was to be open with the public about weed and brush control programs.

"People are suspicious of what they do not understand," Gilmartin said. "If you know what you're doing, I think they will be supportive of your program."

"We keep our landowners and the news media informed about when and where we are going to spray," added Wharton County Commissioner John Drozd. "This is particularly important in the spring when dewberries are ready to pick. The more the public

knows about our program, the better they will accept it."

Control of unsightly and potentially dangerous roadside brush is an especially important task along the Gulf Coast, where the warm, moist climate permits plants to grow in profusion.

Not only are the weeds unattractive and prone to catch blowing trash, they also can interfere with road safety, said Craig Steffens of the Texas Department of Highways and Transportation.

The department's continuing program employs both herbicides and mowing to protect paved surfaces, Steffens said, although at a cost of some \$35 million a year to the state, alternatives to mowing are in demand.

Studies conducted by the extension service have shown use of chemicals offers a potential savings of \$100 to \$150 per mile of

roadway over the cost of mowing. In 11 Gulf Coast counties with 7,000 miles of brush-infested roadways, the extension service estimated annual costs could be cut more than \$1 million.

Jack Bowmer of the Texas Department of Agriculture pointed out that the state's herbicide and pesticide laws strictly control what chemicals may be used, allowing none to get on the market without extensive research, testing, and certification by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Noting the TDA last year handled almost 900 complaints regarding pesticide damage, Bowmer challenged county officials to do their utmost to reduce public concerns.

"If we take care of our business on a moral basis, then the legal issues will take care of themselves," he said.

BUY, SELL, TRADE OR RENT THROUGH THE
CLASSIFIED ADS

Gas dealers fight surcharge

United Press International
HOUSTON — Texaco service station dealers protested Monday the company's proposal to charge dealers a 3 percent service charge on credit card sales, which the dealers say they must pass on to all consumers.

The salesmen, in large advertisements in Houston newspapers, called the surcharge "nothing more than a con game to pass their (Texaco) costs of processing credit cards to the small independent dealers."

Glenn Nilsson, executive director of the Lone Star Service Station Association, said all retail service station dealers are concerned about Texaco's proposal "because it won't be long until the others start doing it, too, if Texaco succeeds."

Nilsson said if the company must have processing fees, they should be passed on to the credit card consumers by billing them directly for the services.

"By charging the dealer the 3 percent, we've got to charge all

customers — even the cash customer — because we can't put service charges on the credit card receipt," Nilsson said.

Texaco has agreed to meet later this week with representatives of the Texaco Dealers Association. The proposed surcharge is scheduled to begin Nov. 1.

In its ad, the Lone Star Service Station Association blasted Texaco's proposal:

"It seems Texaco does not have the integrity or courage to pass their \$100 million plus credit card costs directly to their millions of credit card holders who enjoy the convenience of using the card. Instead, Texaco has decided to disguise its surcharge as an added cost of the dealer who sells your gasoline."

Last year, Texaco first announced it was going to charge

dealers for credit card purchases, but a Department of Energy guideline which prohibited changes in normal business practices stopped any charges.

That guideline is no longer in existence, Nilsson said, whose organization represents 600 stations surrounding Houston.

"There's just moral law now," he said.

"I'm sure Texaco has a lot of bad credit that it can't absorb," he said. "But the credit agreement was between the company and the consumer only. The dealer should not be made to pay for that agreement."

Retarded person seeking election

United Press International
BOULDER, Colo. — A 31-year-old man seeking election to the City Council is the first retarded person to run for political office in the nation.

Charlie Dieterle, who has attended numerous city council meetings and was an observer at the 1980 Democratic National Convention, says he hopes his candidacy and possible election will prove that handicapped people are real people.

"I don't know who my real folks are and where I came from, but somewhere I got this ambition," said Dieterle, who is an orphan. "I feel politics means a lot to me."

Dieterle admits he has trouble reading, but says he can still be an active member of the Council. "I can participate in a meeting," he said. "I can listen and I can talk."

Max Addison, head of program services for the Association of Retarded Citizens Research and Demonstration Institute in Arlington, said he believed Dieterle's candidacy was the first for a mentally handicapped person.

"To my knowledge, no identified mentally retarded person has ever run for office," he said.

Dieterle, who has spent most of his life in institutions for the mentally retarded, has lived alone in an efficiency apartment for the

past year. He said he fought hard to get out of institutions.

On the campaign trail, Dieterle said he has begun visiting street-improvement sites, with construction maps in hand, to talk to workmen about what they are doing.

Dieterle, one of 14 announced candidates for five at-large council seats in the Nov. 3 city election, said one of his pet projects has been trying to get an access ramp for the physically disabled installed at the post office.

He is the Colorado president of "People First," a group advocating equal rights for the handicapped.

Dieterle also said he keeps up with the national and local news by listening to the radio several times a day.

"I listen to the news very strongly," Dieterle said. "Once I sink in it, I know what's going on."



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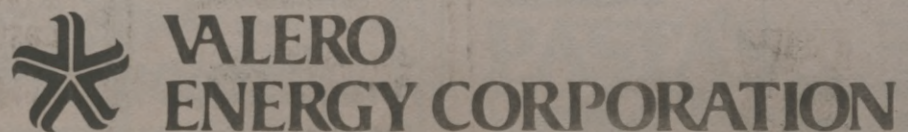
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The "New" LSAT will be discussed