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Friday, January 22

state

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January 19, 1982

Rental discrimination proposal fails to receive voter approval in Austin

United Press International
Austin — The Austin resident who led the successful campaign against a proposed city housing code change that would have allowed property owners to refuse to rent or to sell to homosexuals said he knew after the first hour of voting Saturday the proposal would be defeated. This was one of many election issues decided Saturday.

He attributed the Citizens for Decency loss to its negative campaign and its having overestimated its popular support. "I think they ran a much more negative, shrill campaign than we did because they found themselves in the position of supporting discrimination," Southerland said. "You can't run a negative campaign in Austin, Texas, and win."

Opponents of the measure had argued successfully that passage of the amendment would have opened the door to discrimination against other minority groups and campaigned heavily in black and Mexican-American neighborhoods.

"I'm just real, real proud of the city of Austin," Southerland said. "The people here have made it clear that this is an open-minded, fair city. People realized the abuses the ordinance could have caused, and they also realized it was a human rights issue and not a gay issue."

Elsewhere in the state, in Fort Worth elected city councilman Bob B. Mayor. The city saw a high turnout, with only 18,000 of 177,000 registered voters voting.

DIETING?

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QUALITY FIRST

North Texas banks facing new 'Bonnie and Clyde'

United Press International
FORT WORTH — A heavily-armed, middle-aged Bonnie and Clyde duo has caused fear in seven banks dotting the prairies north of Fort Worth, causing one bank to lose employees as well as money.

At the First National Bank of Rhome, northwest of Fort Worth, two bank officers and a teller have quit after the bank was robbed twice in four years. The couple most recently hit the Rhome bank in June 1981.

Two weeks before each robbery, they go to a used-car lot and steal a car with the keys in the ignition. They steal license plates for the car and abandon it less than 10 miles from the bank.

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High court ducks 1979 Texas law

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court today refused to tackle a controversy over a Texas law that attempts to ban a wide range of sexually oriented films, books, magazines and devices as being patently offensive.

The appellate panel ruled that it would be inappropriate to rule on the merits of the case before a state court has an opportunity for narrowing and clarifying the law.

The justices let stand a decision that found that federal judges must allow state courts a first look at a new obscenity law before U.S. courts can consider its validity.

Among other things, the statute states that material may be declared obscene if it depicts "the male or female genitalia in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal, covered male genitalia in a state of sexual stimulation or arousal, or a state of sexual stimulation or arousal designed and marketed primarily for stimulation of the human genital organs."

Get Exposure For your photographs in The Battalion

The Battalion is taking applications for photographers for the spring semester. If you have some spare time, camera equipment and knowledge of darkroom procedures, apply in person in Room 216 Reed McDonald. Ask for Angela Copeland.

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