

Local Crime Stoppers credited with two solutions

by Jennifer Afflerbach

Battalion Reporter
After seven weeks in operation, the Brazos Valley Crime Stoppers program has helped solve two cases and provided tips on numerous others, Linda Lively, Brazos County Sheriff Department, said Tuesday.

Each Tuesday Crime Stoppers focuses on a local unsolved crime with a Crime of the Week program. The program airs on the 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. news on KBTX-TV. The Battalion and the Bryan-College Station Eagle also print an account of each week's program. Anyone with information on the crime is urged to call Crime Stoppers at 775-TIPS.

Crimes that have been featured on the program include a rape, a hit-and-run accident and several thefts. None of the featured Crimes of the Week have been solved.

However, through anonymous calls, one stolen vehicle has been recovered. In another

case, \$212,000 worth of money orders stolen from a local business was recovered.

Crime Stoppers receives an average of one call a day that can be investigated, Lively said. The calls are screened for validity. They received 34 calls in December. So far in January, they have gotten 13 calls that could be turned over to be investigated, she said.

"A lot of the calls are pertinent to the cases," Lively said. "We get a lot of legitimate tips." Lively said the callers often begin with, "This probably isn't important, but..."

"What they (callers) think is something we don't need to know is really good information," Lively said. "On the whole, the public is really working good with us."

Callers remain anonymous. A caller is given an I.D. number, which is the Sheriff's Department's only connection with him. If the tip leads to a grand jury indictment in any unsolved

Brazos County



felony, the caller is eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000. The Crime Stoppers' Board of Directors

decides the amount of the reward. Deputy Charles Owen said

the reward for the recovered stolen vehicle was about \$50 or \$100. In the money orders case, it was \$500 — although that reward has not been claimed yet.

For a featured Crime of the Week, the reward is \$1,000 if a caller provides information within a week that leads to arrest and indictment. To claim his reward, the caller meets an unidentified person who has been briefed on the case, gives his caller I.D. number and receives his money, Lively said.

There are 50 Crime Stoppers programs throughout Texas, ranging from cities such as Dallas and Houston to the town of Floydada, population 3,963. Houston has the highest success rate and receives 50 to 200 phone calls a day, Owen said.

Other states have Crime Stoppers programs as well.

Owen said he is pleased with the success of the local program so far, but that it will take about

six months to get it off the ground.

Shreveport, La., didn't solve a case for five months, he said, and it took Abilene five months to get its first call.

A similar Crime Stoppers program, which handles federal crimes such as drug trafficking, is in operation statewide. The statewide Crime Stoppers phone number is 1-800-252-TIPS.

Study skills aided by psych course

By VENITA McCELLON

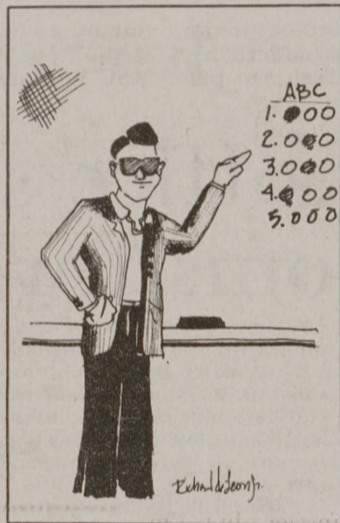
Battalion Reporter
Although most students may not be concerned about tests this early in the semester, midterm examinations already are looming on the horizon. One course, offered by the Department of Educational Psychology, may help prevent the usual pre-exam jitters.

Educational Psychology 101 is a course designed to help students improve their study skills. Dr. Michael J. Ash, associate professor of educational psychology and one of the program coordinators, said the course can provide skills that help improve the students' classroom learning.

The class, open only to freshmen in the fall semester, is available to all students in the spring. Topics such as vocabulary development, scheduling study time, notetaking and test-taking strategies are stressed. In addition, the course offers an opportunity for students to evaluate their vocational interests.

"Studying study skills in a vacuum can be a little tedious," Ash said. Because of this, Ash and Dr. Ernest Goetz, coordinator of the program, assign course assignments to specific classes in the student's schedule. For example, after the introduction of flash cards as a learning tool in educational psychology, the student might be required to produce cards designed for one of their other courses.

Ash stressed that the course is neither a speed reading course nor a course designed to improve study skills. "We really feel this is a course for any student who feels he can profit



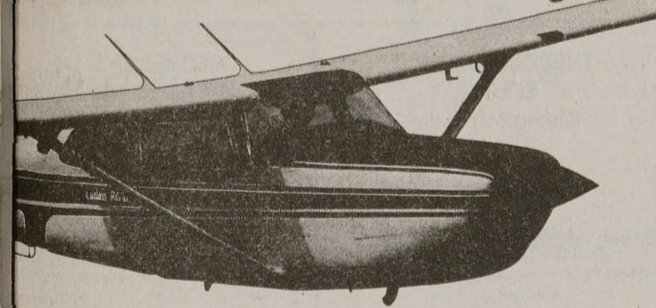
from an improvement of study skills," he said.

The two-hour credit class is offered in 10 sections during the spring. Each section usually has about 15 students. The class is taught by eight doctoral students who are training in the field of psychological counseling.

The course also is offered to all students during the summer. However, Ash said the course is being changed to help provisional students — those freshmen admitted during the summer sessions on a probationary approval period.

Ash said most of the class evaluations and feedback on the course is positive. "I think the majority of students who take the course find it useful," he said.

Now Is The Time To Learn To Fly



A PILOT'S LICENSE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE. DO IT NOW!

Learning to fly is a fascinating combination of classroom study and actual flying practice at the controls of an airplane. And after you get a pilot's license, there's a lifetime of learning ahead as you sharpen your flying skills and acquire new knowledge. Learning to fly will give you new challenge. Just like it has for millions of other people.

Cessna Pilot Center Courses are programmed for productivity. When you learn to fly the CPC way, you'll find that your time, money and efforts are used with maximum efficiency.

Try it yourself with a special Discovery Flight which includes a pre-flying briefing, a supervised flying experience with you at the controls, and a post flight review - all for only \$20.00. Call or come out to...

BRAZOS AVIATION, Inc.
Easterwood Airport
(713) 696-8767



SALE

ALBUMS, ALBUMS & MORE ALBUMS NOW ON SALE

SAVE \$3⁰⁰ Off The Mfg. List Price
On The Entire Warner, Elektra & Atlantic Catalogue.

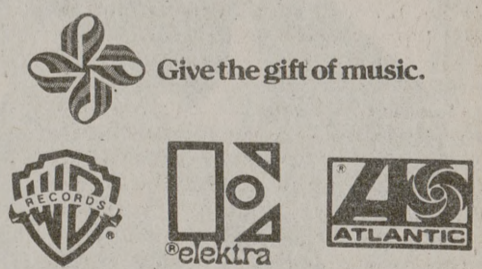
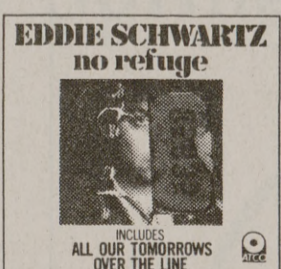
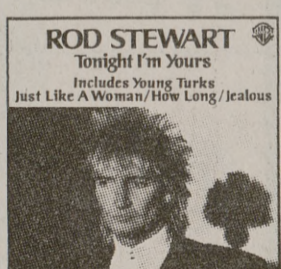
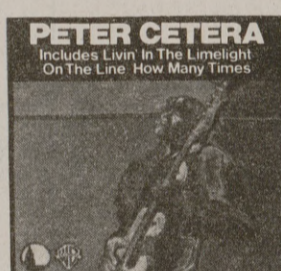
Hurry on down... for the best prices in town!

3 BIG DAYS

Thurs., Jan. 21

Fri., Jan 22

Sat., Jan. 23



MUSIC EXPRESS

725-B UNIVERSITY DRIVE

OPEN 10-10

"Behind Skaggs & McDonalds"

846-1741