

## Crisis Hotline handles Brazos distress callers

by Lisa Thompson  
Battalion Reporter

A frantic wife on the hotline cries that her drunken husband had just beaten her and walked out on her. She has little money and three children to care for.

What can she do? Who can help her?

The calm voice at the other end soon manages to soothe her by assuring her she's not alone. She relaxes a bit. The tension eases. Then the voice advises her on practical steps to take and gives her the number of a referral service specializing in her problem.

The Brazos Valley Crisis Hotline receives 150 to 300 such calls each month, ranging from

people with tragic problems to people asking where to get food stamps.

The hotline's number is 779-2000. The service is sponsored by the Brazos Valley Community Action Agency.

Manned by a trained staff of volunteers, the hotline is open from 3 p.m. until midnight daily. Plagued by high turnover, the hotline is unable to keep enough volunteers to stay open 24 hours a day.

The volunteers must undergo training sessions before they can work alone. The training sessions involve step by step instructions on careful listening and handling emergency situations.

"People volunteer thinking it's all the glamour they see on TV," said Holly Lumtkin, the hotline's advisory board chairman, "and then they find out it's a lot of hard work. In the first training session we try to let them know how it is. There are some nights when you may get one call, and it's a prank."

Volunteers also must answer imitation calls as part of the training before they work. They each work three hour shifts once or twice a week.

Suicide calls are rare for the hotline, but workers are trained to determine how serious the caller is and how to help him change his mind.

## Caperton: drinking age may be raised to 21

by Debbie Schard  
Battalion Reporter

A move probably will be made to raise the state drinking age from 19 to 21 during the next session of the Legislature, Sen. Kent Caperton said during an alcohol awareness workshop held here Thursday.

Representatives from universities and organizations across the state, together with concerned citizens and students gathered for the workshop, which was sponsored by the Department of Student Affairs.

Caperton was the guest speaker at a luncheon held for those attending the workshop.

In his speech, Caperton said the drinking age was raised to 19 in September to deal with the tremendous abuse of alcohol in

the high schools. However, Caperton said he knows of no statistics as to whether the new drinking age has curbed this abuse.

Caperton said persons found guilty of driving while intoxicated should be made to learn about alcohol abuse through an alcohol awareness program. However, on the second offense there should be "a mandatory suspension of the driver's license, no questions asked," he said.

"Alcohol (abuse) is an abuse that is real," Caperton said, and legislators must be informed about the problem so they can do something about it.

Dr. Gerardo Gonzalez, another workshop speaker, was director of the Campus Alcohol

Information Center at the University of Florida, and president of BACCHUS, Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students.

Workshop participants agreed that students need to become aware of the problems and effects of alcohol abuse, and, if they are going to use alcohol, to use it wisely: "Students drink for years, but don't really understand it (alcohol)," William Pierrot, a University representative, said.

Solutions to the problem of student alcohol abuse suggested at the workshop included alcohol information centers, alcohol awareness days and the establishment of a mandatory pass-fail course on drinking with intelligence.

## Science should be open to thought, prof says

by Sheila Frazier  
Battalion Reporter

Science should not look for absolute philosophical truths and unchanging scientific methods, a distinguished visiting professor from Maryland said Thursday to about 50 people in 510 Rudder.

"When a proposition is supposed to be a necessary truth, that is when we should be suspicious," Dr. Dudley Shapere said. "Science cannot be restrained by any limits on its thought."

Shapere, who currently teaches at the University of Maryland, has written two books and numerous articles on the

subject of philosophical science. He has lectured at more than 100 universities across the country.

Since science and philosophy have started formulating theories and principles, no scientific idea has been immune to revision or rejection, Shapere said.

"Nothing in science is sacrosanct, not even the very definition of science itself," he said.

"It is more to the credit of man if he can understand and understand how to understand. He should avoid the arrogance of assuming he knows what the world is."

Shapere received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in philosophy from Harvard University. He has taught at Ohio State University, the University of Illinois and the University of Chicago — where he was awarded the Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

He has served as a consultant for a national philosophical science program and received other awards for teaching.

This spring and summer, Shapere will lecture at the University of Madrid in Spain and will tour Peru at that country's invitation.

## Pill-popper takes hostages, collapses in Beaumont store

United Press International

BEAUMONT — An armed man who burst into a drugstore, took eight people hostage and gobbled barbiturates until he collapsed was apparently after narcotics, police said Thursday.

Armed robbery charges will be filed against the suspect if he lives, Lt. Bruce Thomason said.

The 31-year-old man was hospitalized in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit at St. Elizabeth Hospital after the two-hour incident late Wednesday. His name was withheld.

Thomason said the hostages were released two by two after the incident began about 5:30 p.m. until it ended about 7:30 p.m. No shots were fired.

Sgt. Charles Cole said the SWAT team walked in the front door after the suspect passed out. Cole said it was not known whether the man, who was wearing a three-piece suit and carrying a briefcase, had any drugs with him when he entered the store.

The incident began when the man walked into the Bill Thames Pharmacy, pointed a gun at the pharmacist and said: "This is the real thing." Pharmacist Joseph Seale, four other employees and four customers were taken hostage.

The gunman ordered Seale to fill his briefcase with drugs from a safe and ordered the hostages to stand in the pharmacy section.

"All the time he was eating pills, eating them by the handful," said Thomason, who described the man as "cleancut."

The man told the last hos-

tages to get out, then collapsed, Thomason said.

A clerk who escaped said the man initially had entered the store seeking someone to ban-

dage his cut finger, left with some Band-Aids and returned 30 minutes later with a briefcase and herded everyone to the back of the store.

### Who can top their bottoms?



The new County Seat in Post Oak Mall can. We've got all the shirts you love to wear. And during our Grand Opening Feb. 17 to 20 you'll save big!

Guys' Levi's western shirts, reg. \$23. Now \$12.99.  
Gals' colorful print shirts, reg. \$16. Now \$9.99.



**COUNTY SEAT STORES**

For the best in casual clothes for guys, gals and kids, just direct your feet to the County Seat. ©1982 CSSI

# FORCED SALE OF STEREO GEAR AND RELATED ELECTRONICS

The complete inventories of Woodstone Audio of College Station and North Star Electronics of Corpus Christi have been purchased by Dyer Electronics. The old Woodstone location will be converted to a Dyer store --- but first, ALL THIS MERCHANDISE MUST BE SOLD TO SOMEONE AT SOME PRICE!

## SELLING TO THE BARE WALLS

### CAR STEREO

## Car Stereo Speakers ... \$5<sup>pr</sup>

Model 7100 18-wpc  
Digital Cassette ..... \$99

Model 3800  
Auto-Rev. Cassette ... \$69

Model 1655  
AM-FM 8-Track ..... \$59

Sanyo SP-709  
Car Speakers ..... \$14<sup>88</sup><sub>pr</sub>

Pioneer TS-108  
2-way Speakers ..... \$49<sup>pr</sup>

Pioneer TS-168  
3-way Car Speakers ... \$69<sup>pr</sup>

**SOME DEMOS — — MOST BOXED**

**EVERYTHING MUST BE LIQUIDATED!**

- Receivers • Amplifiers • Cassette Decks • Blank Tapes
- Cartridges • Accessories • Turntables • Speakers
- Car Stereos • Car Speakers • and More

**MANY ITEMS SOLD BELOW DEALER COST!**

- CASH • CHECK • CHARGE CARD • ALL SALES FINAL

### HOME STEREO

Allsop 3  
Cassette Cleaner ..... \$1<sup>99</sup>

Akai UC-2 incl. Speakers  
Mini System ..... \$749

Akai SW-30  
Home Speakers ..... \$99<sup>ea</sup>

Maxell  
Demagnetizer ..... \$5

Assorted  
Stereo Racks ..... \$99<sup>up</sup>

Hitachi AC/DC  
Portable Color TV . \$299

**CHOOSE THE COMPONENTS YOU WANT FROM NAMES LIKE MARANTZ, PIONEER, SANYO, OMEGA, KLH, TECHNICS, KOSS, CERWIN-VEGA, ETR, AND MORE! SOME DEMOS BUT MOST ITEMS BOXED! EVERYTHING MUST BE SOLD!**

## WOODSTONE AUDIO

### 913 Harvey Rd. in Woodstone Center

Supplies limited to stock on hand!

693-9558

Supplies limited to stock on hand!

**SALE AT ABOVE ADDRESS ONLY!**