



Game? What game?

staff photo by Peter Rocha

Members of the Louisiana Tech bullpen pay more attention to Diamond Darling Carri Baker than to Wednesday's game against the Aggies. Baker is a sophomore business major from Humble.

Supreme Court faces head shop decisions

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is far from finished with the nationwide controversy over efforts to restrict the operations of "head shops" that sell drug-related accessories.

The justices on Wednesday handed a major victory to cities trying to curb head shops, ruling 8-0 that local governments can ban the sale of drug paraphernalia to juveniles.

But the court has not resolved whether local governments can prohibit the sale of drug accessories to adults. Such a case currently confronts the justices, sparked by an anti-paraphernalia law based directly on a "model" statute drafted by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

It is an appeal by an Omaha, Neb., record store, contesting a ruling that found Nebraska's drug accessory law constitutional. It prohibits the sale of such material both to juveniles and adults.

On Wednesday, the court upheld an ordinance enacted by

the Chicago suburb of Hoffman Estates, Ill., which prohibits head shops — stores that offer drug paraphernalia — from selling such items to minors.

That decision holds nationwide implications, since at least 10 states and scores of cities have passed anti-paraphernalia ordinances generally aimed at putting head shops out of business.

Writing for the court, Justice Thurgood Marshall cautioned: "Whether these laws are wise or effective is not, of course, the province of this court."

He said the justices were only declaring that such legislation is not "overbroad or vague." But he stressed the laws must be "reasonably clear" in their application.

Justice John Paul Stevens,

who is from the Chicago area, did not participate in the case.

The laws against head shops have created an enforcement nightmare because many items listed as paraphernalia — cigarette rolling papers, scales, spoons and water pipes — are perfectly legal when sold at other stores.

Many local and state paraphernalia ordinances — such as the Nebraska law — are based on the national "model" law prepared in 1979 by DEA. The Hoffman Estates measure, however, was not based on the federal model.

The DEA suggests criminal penalties for possession of paraphernalia by both adults and juveniles.

Hispanic leader wants Mexican-American ties

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — Mexico's probable next president, Miguel de la Madrid, met with 15 Hispanic-American leaders and told them he will seek greater ties to Americans of Mexican heritage than previous governments.

In the past, Mexican leaders have "relatively abandoned" Hispanic communities in the United States. De la Madrid said Wednesday during his private meeting with the 15 Hispanic leaders, whom he invited to the new building of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

De la Madrid met with the Americans for two hours and told them he will devote more time and attention to improving contacts with Hispanic-Americans if he is elected.

"Surely we can establish much stronger links" with De la Madrid, said Eugenio Rodriguez, representative of San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros, adding that he was "very impressed" when De la Madrid talked about "stretching out my hands with the Mexican-American people like a brother."

Polly Baca Barragan, a Democratic state senator for Colorado, said that this was the first time the Hispanic leadership of the United States has met with the presidential candidate of the 50-year-ruling PRI.

De la Madrid is considered an almost certain winner in Mexico's presidential election, to be held June 4, 1982. He is competing against six other candidates from communists to right-wingers, but his party has won every presidential election since 1929.

"I am confident we will be able to establish a permanent communication with the government," said Ruben Bonilla, former president of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

De la Madrid also warned the United States about a military intervention in Central America saying that "violence should not be used" because it "begets more violence", Bonilla said.

The Mexican government has been critical about the U.S. policy

of giving military aid to the ruling junta in El Salvador. President Jose Lopez Portillo asked Washington last week to promise the United States would not try to intervene in Nicaragua.

Society of Petroleum Engineers Meeting
President of Halliburton - Leonard Leon
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Tuesday March 9 Room 100 Heldenfels 7:00 P.M.

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