

What's Up

Tuesday

KORP RADIO: KORP Radio is looking for anyone interested in being a D.J. If interested, call Steve Lessard at 693-9327 or 845-8232.

Wednesday

EPISCOPAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The group meets for Holy Eucharist and supper at 5:30 p.m. at the Canterbury House, 902 Jersey St.

SCUBA CLUB: Bring skin-diving gear and suit to the organizational meeting at 7 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

'Poltergeist' suit opens in Dallas

United Press International
DALLAS — Jury selection began Monday in a lawsuit trial in which the city's movie classification board is seeking to stop "Poltergeist" from being shown as a PG-rated film.

The Dallas Motion Picture Classification board is trying to

change the film's rating to "R," restricting it to adults or children under 16 accompanied by adults.

The board says the movie about ghosts that takes over a suburban family's home is too violent for a "PG" rating.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield error rate falls in '82, officials say

United Press International
DALLAS — Federal officials and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas acknowledge the Texas Medicare program had problems last year, but they say the situation is looking better.

They responded after a report by the U.S. General Accounting Office said Blue Cross made erroneous payments of \$26 million to Texas Medicare recipients in one quarter last year.

During a six-month period last year, Blue Cross, the state's largest insurance carrier, had a 6 percent error rate for processing Medicare claims — more than three times the national error rate of 1.9 percent, the report said.

Melton said the error rate was down to 3.1 percent in April.

Blue Cross president Melton and other officials blamed the

problems on a switch to a new computer on May 4, 1981.

The GAO report "covered a period back then when we had a lot of problems," said Melton, who became president in October.

"But since the first of the year, I think we've been doing a fairly credible job."

The report also said Blue Cross cleared a backlog of more than 1 million Medicare claims in 1981, partially by turning off a computer program intended to identify false and faulty claims.

Melton said some computer checks were turned off to speed up the processing of claims, but he said no essential checks were deleted.

For several months, the computer could not pass the claims test by the Health Care Financing Administration, losing 23 of

150 claims fed into it in one test, the GAO report said. There were processing problems with

49 claims in that test. However, the computer recently made a 94 on a test on

which a passing score was 90, Sconce said.

Brownsville office moving; workers claim it's haunted

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — Funny things are happening at the Community Development Corporation in this south Texas border town, but office workers aren't laughing.

They're scared — convinced the place is haunted.

Sightings of a black, hooded figure stalking the office's modern hallways, eerie late-night organ music, vibrating furniture, flashing lights and strange noises have had chilling impact on workers.

Some employees — frightened by a year-long siege of strange occurrences — keep crucifixes, icons and vials of holy water on their desks.

"You may think it's funny," said CDC fund-raising coordinator Ruben Reyna, "but you stay here awhile and you won't think it's funny."

Reyna was playing his guitar in the staff conference room late one night when he heard the haunting sounds of organ music. He said it was unmistakably an old pipe organ.

"It builds like a climax in a frightening movie, then abruptly stops," he said.

"There's not an ending. It's like — I don't know — bad, real bad, like there will be an ending. I feel like something's going to happen to somebody."

Yolanda Gonzales, who works at Olive Electric Inc., adjacent to the CDC office, has heard the music, usually on Sunday night.

"I have heard music, I think it was an organ playing," Gonzales said. "It sounds like church organ music, vibrating furniture, flashing lights and strange noises have had chilling impact on workers."

Andy Cortez, who owns the building and also operates his real estate office there, said there is no organ in the building, which is blocks from the nearest church.

Cortez said he has never seen or heard anything strange, and he is convinced there is no ghost. Yet, for about a year the occurrences have mystified workers in the CDC office.

They have also reported whispery voices calling from dark, empty rooms and toilet paper rolling inexplicably across a restroom floor. Doorknobs jiggle when no one is there. A radio appears to have turned itself on and papers have disappeared

only to mysteriously reappear.

One night, Reyna said, he was frightened by thumping noises and decided to leave. He reported he felt as though he was being pushed out of the office as he fumbled for his keys to leave.

When he opened the door, he said it was as though he was thrust outside.

Executive director Nick Ramon, who has reported seeing a shadowy, hooded figure walking the hallways, doesn't have an explanation for the weird events.

He does have a solution. Ramon said the non-profit federally-funded social organization plans to relocate in August.

***** COUPON *****

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Bell requesting new rate hike

United Press International
AUSTIN — Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. announced Monday that it will file a request with the Public Utility Commission next week asking for a rate increase of nearly \$470 million.

Paul Roth, vice president for revenues and public affairs, said the rate request was prompted at least partially by new accounting procedures required by the Federal Communications Commission.

"Probably close to one third of our filing amount will result from those FCC changes, which we have no choice but to follow," Roth said.

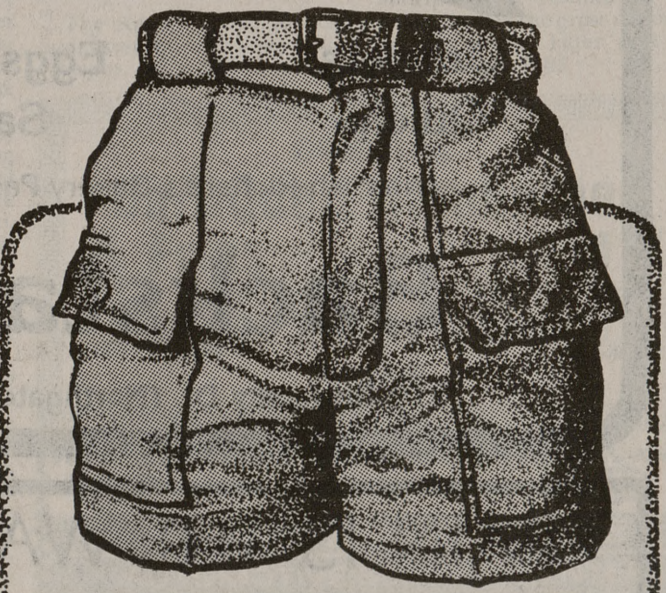
The accounting changes are meant to allow Bell to recover the cost of invested capital more rapidly.

Roth said significant changes would be proposed for local rates, but that a local measured service plan would not be requested. He also said the company would not seek a change in long distance rates.

Details of the rate filing were not released but Bell officials said the company probably would ask for an increase in the range of the \$469.8 million request made in 1981.

The PUC granted only \$243.7 million of the 1981 request and turned down a plan to institute local measured service rates, under which local calls would be billed on the basis of time and distance.

The latest rate request will be Bell's sixth in the last seven years.



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