

Proposed plant causes protests in north Texas

United Press International
AUSTIN — Some Lucas residents say communities that would benefit from a proposed sewage treatment to be built near their town should take care of their waste on an individual basis or find another spot to build the plant.

The North Texas Municipal Water District, which plans to construct the Wilson Creek Regional Sewage Treatment plant on the edge of and partially within Lucas, is seeking a discharge permit from the Texas Department of Water Resources.

The plant would serve Dallas suburbs of Plano, McKinney, Allen and Richardson.

However, Lucas residents and their city council oppose the plant, saying the cities should either take care of their waste on an individual basis or find another spot to build the plant. Georgia Curry, who lives with her husband less than 1,000 yards from the site of the proposed plant, said the growth of Plano is largely responsible for the need for more treatment facilities.

"We feel Plano should stick it to their west side, which is where all the growth is occurring," Curry said.

Her husband, David Curry, said Lucas has an ordinance requiring septic tanks and home lots of no less than two acres. "It's a lifestyle we have chosen and that lifestyle is in danger,"

Curry said. "It's just a bad situation."

Curry said his group also is concerned about the effect such a large-scale plant would have on the environment.

Water department spokesman Tom Milligan said the discharge of effluent from the proposed plant into Lavon Lake — where many of the communities draw their drinking water — will be the focal point of the hearings.

Milligan said NTMWD currently sells water from the lake to the communities and is prepared to present scientific testimony showing that the sewage plant will have no effect on drinking supplies.

Carl Riehn, executive director of NTMWD, said the district's current facilities will be overloaded by 1985, and the proposed facility is needed to keep pace with growth in the area.

He said the company hoped to begin construction on the plant this year.

"If they (Lucas citizens group) can drag it out long enough they know that it will alter the desirability of locating the plant there," he said. "It is a very desirable site and we hope that won't happen."

Hearings on the permit have been scheduled into November, but Milligan said he was unsure if it would take that long to hear all testimony.

Court upholds smuggling conviction

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the conviction Monday of Alfredo Ortega-Chavez of Texas, who was convicted in an attempt to

sneak five undocumented aliens into the United States from Mexico by hiding them in a secret compartment in a van.

Ortega-Chavez and Ramon Gonzalez Sanchez left

the United States Nov. 21, 1980, and entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo, where Sanchez received a permit to transport certain merchandise into the United States, court records showed.

Ortega-Chavez, Sanchez, Alejandro Gonzalez Delgado and five undocumented aliens

later met near a bridge leading to the United States. Ortega-Chavez hid the five aliens in a van compartment while

the vehicle went through a border check, trial testimony showed.

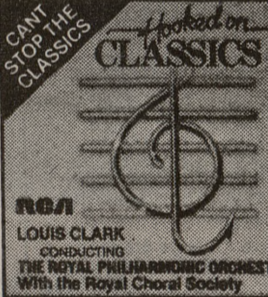
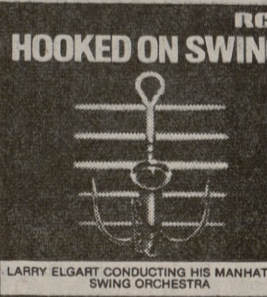
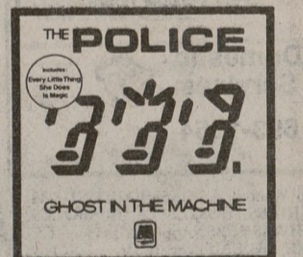
Ortega-Chavez was arrested later and charged with conspiracy to transport illegal aliens into the United States.

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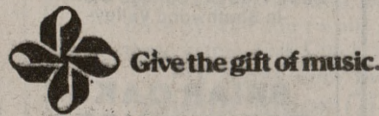
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Teachers deny groups' charges

United Press International
AUSTIN — A spokeswoman for the Texas State Teachers Association says complaints about alleged unscrupulous recruiting tactics by the TSTA are a "dead issue," and that the organization planned no counter-action against rival groups.

The Texas Classroom Teachers Association and Association of Texas Professional Educators last week accused TSTA, the state's largest teacher organization, of printing pamphlets containing misleading information about TCTA and ATPE in an effort to attract new members.

However, Annette Cootes, public relations coordinator for the TSTA, said Monday the group had violated no laws in printing information about the rival organizations.

"It's a dead issue, over and done with," Cootes said. "I think it was an attempt to create some kind of public media event to try to get members and try to picture us as doing something illegal in our membership recruitment, which we weren't."

The groups asked the attorney general's office to look into their complaints that TSTA violated the Deceptive Trades Practices Act in printing the pamphlets. The attorney general's office said the complaints were being reviewed.

Cootes said the TSTA had not been contacted by the attorney general's office and planned no counter-action against the rival groups.

"Our attorneys looked at them (the complaints) and they say they are not valid," Cootes said. She also said the TSTA is not affiliated with the AFL-CIO, as was incorrectly reported last week.

Cootes said the pamphlets were printed last summer and were based on information in TCTA's and ATPE's own literature. She said there were no further plans to distribute the pamphlets.

"They were as accurate as they could be at the time of publication last summer," she said.

Texas Briefs

Navy crash

United Press International
HEBBRONVILLE — A Navy pilot on a training flight parachuted from a TA-45 jet trainer just before it crashed and exploded in a pasture about 10 miles south of Hebbbronville, authorities said.

Ensign Tom Hills, 23, of Kingsville, was in good condition Monday night in a Corpus Christi Hospital. Hills, a member of training squadron VT-22, was the only occupant of the plane which was on a routine training mission from the Kingsville Naval Air Station. Authorities said Hills noticed the plane was having problems and ejected before it went down. Navy officials planned to begin an investigation of the crash Tuesday.

Inmate killing

United Press International
HUNTSVILLE — A Texas Department of Corrections Ellis Unit inmate faces charges in the stabbing death of convicted murderer Alvin Burton. Burton, 56 and serving a life sentence from Harris County, was found dead shortly after noon Sunday. TDC spokesman Charlie Brown said Monday that the inmate was stabbed several times with a homemade knife.

Charges against the suspect are pending completion of an investigation by the Walker County Sheriff's Department, Brown said. He said investigators have yet to determine a motive in the attack.

Disabled

United Press International
AUSTIN — Hearings are scheduled in eight cities on a special committee's efforts to create a 10-year plan to solve the problems of Texas' 1.7 million disabled people.

Gov. Bill Clements appointed the Long-range Planning Group for Texans with Disabilities. His office said Monday the group will hold hearings in Dallas on Thursday, Longview on Saturday, Lubbock on Sept. 9, El Paso on Sept. 11, Houston on Sept. 15, McAllen on Sept. 18, San Antonio on Sept. 23 and Austin on Sept. 25.

"For years we disabled Texans have been asking the government to include us in high-level disability related planning," said Justin W. Dart Jr. of Austin, chairman of the planning group. "Gov. Clements has responded by asking leaders of the disabled community to participate and take the lead in this most significant planning process."