

76 No. 43 USPS 045360 34 Pages In 2 Sections

College Station, Texas

Friday, October 29, 1982

Poison, pins are ruining Halloween

United Press International loween will be scarier than ever ear because of the Tylenol killn Chicago and the hordes of tion poisonings. Communities mized alternative fun for disap-red trick-or-treaters while New ngers on it... g in The Battaliose y enacted a law to clamp down cople who pass out tainted

ol might beu

TAXABLE IN CONTRACTOR

IPICO

exican Food

XXXXXXXXXXXX

nds put

45-2611

Washington, representatives of exas attorney general are trying an ironic ending to one of the famous Halloween poisoning

The Supreme Court is expected today to consider the state's request to execute Ronald Clark O'Bryan, 38, of Deer Park by poisonous injection on Halloween. He was convicted of giv-ing his 8-year-old son poisoned Hallo-ween candy allegedly so he could collect insurance money. A judge pur-posely set the execution date for Haloween, the eighth anniversary of the boy's death.

Many communities — especially those where sabotaged food has been found - banned trick-or-treating because of the poisoning paranoia.

"I think what they're doing is kill-ing the holiday," said Bill Smith, police chief in Atmore, Ala., where a 69-year-old woman suffered burns to

her mouth, throat and storach after eating a candy bar. "I know I've got two little girls who ain't going trick-or-treating this year. My 2-year-old doesn't mind, but my 8-year-old is ready to trade me in on a new daddy." new daddy.

On New York's Long Island, police reported five incidents of straight pins being hidden in Halloween

"Halloween is a horror and it shouldn't be a horror," said Beatrice Kern of Bethpage, N.Y., who found pins in Baby Ruth bars.

Some cities set up centers in chur-ches and police and fire stations to check the safety of Halloween candy. Hospitals in Amarillo and Houston announced they would use X-ray machines to detect boobytrapped treats such as apples with razor blades

— a frequent tactic of those who have ruined Halloween for youngsters. "I'm not normally one to ring the bell of alarm but this year 1 am," said

Elmer McClung of Pittsburgh's Kingsley Association, a community group that sets up candy inspection centers.

"We normally don't make a big deal of the centers, but in light of what's been happening we will make a big deal of it this year. I suspect that this year we'll have an overabundance of people coming in."

Fears about poisonings are more intense this year because of the deaths of seven Chicago-area people who took ExtraStrength Tylenol laced

with cyanide. The killings set off a wave of copycat poisonings, especially among groceries' Halloween candy supplies. Bags of candy have been taken off the shelves in several cities where signs of tampering have been found.

City officials and neighborhoods organized parties for children to keep them from making the usual candy solicitations. To trick-or-treat safely, parents were advised to take their children only to homes of friends and inspect all candy before it is eaten.

&M may host lobel physicist

m staff and wire reports don Glashow, a Nobel Prizeg physicist, may spend a year-bbatical from Harvard Univer-

show, 49, has been at Harvard 966. He is scheduled to take a ical from the school during the academic year. ishow met here Wednesday niversity officials and returned

n on Thursday. show, who shared the 1979 Prize in physics with two other sts, said Wednesday he is "hav-itful discussions" with Univerinistrators about joining the s department, "but salary has en explicitly discussed."

show had reportedly been ed a "Jackie Sherrill package" in that the six-figure annual salght entice him away from Har-

now said the discussions had red about the "nature of the Texas A&M is going to make in etical physics.

aid he met with Texas

and with the repeated references to "Jackie Sherill packages." The media attention came about

when the Harvard Crimson quoted Glashow as saying: "In informal dis-cussions, (Texas A&M officals) indi-cated they would probably match those arrangements (made with Sher-

rill). "Apparently certain circles didn't see that there should be different valuations of physicists and football coaches.

However, in an interview with the Battalion, Glashow said that was not the case and he had been misquoted. "There have been a lot of nonsen-

sical statements made," he said. The attempt to attract Glashow to Texas A&M is part of an effort to lure outstanding faculity members to the

University Harvard has been outbid for several other "star" professors in recent years. Steven Weinberg, who shared the Nobel Prize in physics with Glashow and another scientist, was hired by the University of Texas two years ago for a salary reported to be in

Big money is being spent to solve campaign worries

by Gary Barker

Battalion Staff Mark White: "Bill Clements has run the state's business for the good of big business, big utility companies and big oil companies." William Clements: "I'm a busi-

Clements: "Mark White's cam-paign financial reports show that he attempted to keep the source of a politically embarrassing contribu-

tion secret." White: "You'll say anything and do anything to get re-elected.

The 1982 Texas race for the governor's office is nearing its end and as usual, both sides are claiming victory. But the winning candidate in this year's election won't win be-

cause of clearly defined issues. The key to this year's election is mud — hot, bubbly, dirty mud that has been thrown back and forth like two five-year-old boys shouting: "are too; am not; are too!" But a Texas A&M political scien-



Republican candidate Gov. William P. Clements and Democratic candidate Attorney General Mark White.

tween the two candidates," Dr. date faced also may have contri-Bruce Robeck said. "Otherwise they buted to the mudslinging.

"He wouldn't be emphasizing some Mr. Nice Guy kinds of adver-tisements and this 'I'm just plain Bill, I'm not a politician' unless he had poll data indicating that he's got a personality problem with a lot of voters," Robeck said. But White has had his campaign problems, too. He hasn't found a key issue, and he has failed to excite the Democratic party. Robeck said

the Democratic party, Robeck said. "White hasn't found a successful issue and he's been struggling to find some leverage," Robeck said. "People don't perceive any parti-cular dimension of Clements' as

cular dimension of Clements' as being bad; there's no unifying kind of opposition and so White's been searching around switching issues and switching things around. You can tell he doesn't have any lev-

But White has spent a hefty sum trying to get leverage and Clements has spent an even heftier sum trying to alleviate his image problem. Clements raised \$11.8 million —

President Frank Vandiver and long and fruitful discussion." an editorial in Monday's Houspronicle. Vandiver wrote he is beeved" about the media atteniven to their talks with Glashow

excess of \$100,000 per year. At Harvard, the top salaries -

\$80,000 per year — go to professors holding the title of "university professor." Glashow is not a "university professor.

ce professor says it's just a sign the race is close.

"It (the mudslinging) is a good sign that things are fairly close be-

wouldn't be coming out with the kind of advertisements they're coming out with."

said, is voters' perception of his personality; many voters see him as The main problems each candiarrogant, stubborn and uncaring.

Clements' main problem, Robeck

including a \$2 million loan — and as of Wednesday had spent \$11.5 mil-lion. White raised \$6.4 million — including a \$2.2 million loan — and See RACE, page 14

he year's come and gone

SMU fans look back, commemorate with foam sabers

by Carol Smith Battalion Staff only sabers that will be branwhen the Texas Aggie football meets the Southern Methodist rsity football team this weekend foam rubber sabers — "Saggy Sabers" to be exact.

s been one year since Greg an officer of the day at last Texas A&M-SMU football pulled his saber when the SMU eaders ran on to Kyle Field aftouchdown to spell S-M-U ding to Texas A&M tradition ly people allowed on Kyle Field the game are members of the band, officials, coaches and

This year the cheerleaders can spell S-M-U, Southern Methodist University or the entire SMU fight song at Texas Stadium in Dallas with nothing to fear - except the foam sabers held by their own fans.

The "Saggy Aggie Sabers" were created by two SMU graduate stu-dents and Bonnie Wheeler, director of the Medieval Studies program at SMU. The idea for the "sabers" was conceived at a late-night dinner between Wheeler, Roger Siverson and Mike Tomlin.

"Our mottos are 'honor with humor' and 'we droop to conquer," Wheeler said. "We felt that with a president named Shields (SMU presi-

to reassess damages awarded to the family of a 17-year-old killed in 1977

by Houston police who then planted a

gun in his hand. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Thursday a lower court jury and judge erred by award-

ing punitive damages against the city of Houston and by not awarding actual damages to the family of Randy

Webster, whose constitutional rights

stole a van in Houston and drove it

through a storeroom window, was

caught by police after a high-speed

chase and fatally shot while he lay un-

Webster, a Shreveport youth who

were violated.

dent L. Donald Shields) and a quar-terback named Lance (Mustang quar-terback Lance McIlhenny), we needed to commemorate an important event in the proper spirit.'

Joe Dooley, SMU student body president, said the sabers are meant to be fun and humorous. The sabers aren't meant to revive the hostility of the incident, but only to take the sting out of it, Wheeler added.

"We hope that this is something

that the Aggies will enjoy," she said. The sabers are being sold on the SMU campus and several different types are available, Wheeler said. The 20-inch foam weapons are available in different styles - a special "com-

memorative edition complete with the munitions box" that was given to school officials, a "game edition" for \$3 and the "impressive droop" avail-

able through the mail for \$5. "It's really much less than meets the eye," Wheeler said.

In addition to sales on campus, the sabers also are being sold by mail through an advertisement in Texas Monthly, she said.

The sabers have received a considerable amount of publicity in the local media. The Dallas Morning News ran a photograph of SMU president L. Donald Shields, chairman of the board Edwin L. Cox, SMU dean Hal Williams and Dooley all holding the

sabers. WFAA-TV in Dallas had a story about the sabers on it's Tuesday night telecast.

Dooley said he gave the sabers to Shields, Cox and Williams at the Board of Governors meeting earlier this week. They thought the idea was clever, Dooley said, and were happy to see the students have fun with it.

Tom Joseph, head yell leader at Texas A&M, said he's not expecting much hostility from the SMU crowd this weekend in Dallas.

"I'll try to get over to their cheerleaders before the game and talk to them a little — tell them not to give us too hard of a time," he said. "But, I don't see any problems with it (the

game). I think it's all in the college spirit of fun, but there may still be some hostility.

Joseph said no officers of the day will go to the game, though they usually attend all away games.

"It was not my decision to make, but I agree with it," he said. Texas Stadium officials suggested

that the ODs not carry their sabers so the decision was made to not take ODs at all, Joseph said.

Wheeler doesn't see a potential for

hostility at the game. "On one hand we don't want to forget the incident, but on the other hand, violence isn't our answer humor is our answer," she said.

inside

ound to	1	v	n																-	4	
ssified																				12	
ional.																					
nions																					
orts																					
e	•			•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	6	
at's up	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•		•			•	•	•			11	

forecast

Today's Forecast: High around low around 45. Partly cloudy lay with a chance of rain.

armed on the ground. United Press International NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court has ordered a new trial

Police then planted a gun in the victim's hand and tried to cover up the entire incident by disregarding witnesses' accounts and resisting efforts by Webster's father to determine the truth.

A federal jury found the officers and the city guilty in a suit brought by Webster's parents and awarded the family significant amounts from the individual officers and more than \$2,500 in actual damages and \$200,000 in punitive damages from the city.

Acting on an appeal brought by the city, the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals Thursday agreed the jury's verdict was correct, based on the

Houston 'throw down' suit remanded

police department's policy of planting the gun and covering up the incident. But the three-judge appeals court panel said U.S. District Judge George Cire of Houston wrongly allowed the family to recover punitive damages in family to recover punitive damages in a suit brought against a city and did not compensate the family in actual damages for the violation of Webster's civil rights.

The opinion, which remanded the case for a new trial only on the issue of damages, also harshly criticized the actions of the Houston police depart-

"The innocent, far from being protected, lay on a city street, dying, while Houston police officers debated whether to cover up their misdeeds by placing a 'throw down' gun at the vic-tim's side," wrote Circuit Judge John Brown.

Basing its decision on a 1981 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that punitive damages cannot be assessed against a municipality except under extremely abnormal circumstances, the appeals court found the \$200,000 award was incorrect.

"The plight of Randy Webster, however reprehensible, however tra-gic, does not rise to the level of outrageous conduct" necessary to support an award of punitive damages, Brown wrote.

The appeals court also found the jury and Judge Cire erred by not awarded any damages to the family based on its finding that the police

A

had violated Webster's constitutional rights.

'Randy Webster had violated the law, for which he could legitimately be punished," Judge Brown wrote. 'Yet no offense can justify the shooting of an unarmed 17-year-old and the subsequent cover-up by a not insignificant segment of the HPD. "In taking Randy's life, the officer

violated his consitutional right to live, to be free of excessive force, to face the charges against him and to defend himself on those charges," the judge continued.

"In tacitly condoning the use of throw downs and then in covering up this instance of a throw down, the HPD implicated itself in that constitutional violation.