

# Areas of state OK bingo

**United Press International**  
PASADENA — Voters, in light turnouts across the state, have approved legalized bingo games within several communities.

Voters Saturday in the Houston suburb of Pasadena — where Baptists lobbied heavily against the measure — approved bingo by a 2,945 to 1,640 vote.

In Bowie County, a justice precinct including Texarkana recorded 699 for and 412 against bingo. In San Angelo, the vote was 2,046 in favor and 385 against. In Denton, the

game was approved by a 437 to 165 vote. The elections were added to those previously held in 306 justice precincts, counties and cities in the state which have approved bingo since January 1982. The state comptroller had received 2,318 bingo license applications and issued 2,132 as of Thursday.

In Pasadena, it was the second time in five months that a bingo petition had come up for a vote in this oil refinery town. A similar vote in August was defeated by 254 votes.

Anti-bingo forces claim legalized bingo will pave the way for

hard core gambling, but proponents say legalized bingo is a harmless, fun way for nonprofit charity groups to raise money for charity.

Carlene Ashworth, member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 521 in Pasadena, said a telephone survey taken this week indicated 60 percent of the voters polled were against legalization of bingo.

"We don't feel bingo playing will cause people to participate in other gambling. These people know they are not going to win and they know so much of the money goes toward charity and good things in the community,"

Ashworth said.

The new state law authorizing bingo for non-profit groups sets a \$2,500 maximum on winnings that the groups may pay out during one session.

Ashworth said bingo games operated by her group during the past five years have raised more than \$123,000 that has been donated for cancer research, hospital equipment, college scholarships and other charitable projects.

Opponents in Pasadena say legalized bingo will lead to moral decay in the mostly bluecollar, strongly Baptist community.

# Chagra: Wood might have suspected death

**United Press International**  
JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Did U.S. District Judge John H. Wood Jr. of San Antonio, Texas, believe in March 1979 that Jamiel "Jimmy" Chagra might try to murder him?

Kathryn Wood, the judge's widow, testified Friday he never mentioned any such fear to her.

But late Friday afternoon in Chagra's trial for the murder of Wood, Chagra himself was quoted in a March 28, 1979, affidavit as saying he believed that that was exactly what the judge thought.

Chagra, a convicted narcotics trafficker, is accused of paying \$250,000 to convicted hitman Charles V. Harrelson to kill Wood, who had been scheduled to hear his trial on narcotics charges. The government contends Chagra was fearful of getting a life sentence from Wood, known for giving maximum sentences.

Wood was shot in the back with a high-powered rifle as he was leaving his home at the Chateaux Dijon Townhomes in San Antonio on the morning of May 29, 1979.

Seven months before, Assistant U.S. Attorney James Kerr's car was sprayed with rifle fire in San Antonio. Kerr hugged the floor and escaped serious injury.

Then, two days before Christmas 1978, Lee Chagra, Jimmy Chagra's brother, was

murdered in his El Paso, Texas, office.

As Chagra's Las Vegas, Nev., attorney Oscar Goodman put it in his opening statement Thursday, there was a lawless atmosphere in west Texas.

On Friday, Grace Sampsell, Wood's court clerk in 1979, testified that Chagra filed 33 motions in an effort to get Wood to remove himself from his case. All were denied, as was an appeal to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sampsell then was asked by government prosecutor Ray Jahn to read from an March 28, 1979, affidavit Chagra signed in support of the appeal.

"I have been advised," Sampsell quoted Chagra as affirming, "and upon such information believe, that Judge Wood has written a letter to at least one, and perhaps several, judges of the Western District of Texas, to the effect that I, and/or my brother, Lee, and/or other members of my family were responsible for the attempted assassination of the aforementioned Jim Kerr."

Saying he abhorred violence, Chagra denied the purported allegation.

"I have been further advised and believe that rumor had it that there was some nexus between the incident involving Mr. Kerr and what could happen to Judge

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## Couple run over by police

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — A police officer on his way to a crime scene fatally injured two pedestrians who reportedly stepped in front of his patrol car on a street early Saturday, police said.

Assistant Police Chief Bales said officer C.E. Jackson struck and killed an unidentified man and woman at 12:30 a.m. on Westheimer street as they crossed the busy traffic.

Bales said officer Jackson tried unsuccessfully to swerve his patrol car to avoid the couple.

Jackson was involved in department's task force on drunk drivers and was responding to another call at the time of the accident, Bales said.

Bales said no charges were filed against the officer, but an investigation would be conducted by both the accident investigation and internal affairs divisions of the police department.

The identities of the couple were not immediately known.

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