



Roll over, Rover

staff photo by Bill Schulz

These dogs are having their day in the sun as they roll around on the Texas A&M campus. Jody, right,

is owned by Mike Cullen, a graduate student from Harlingen. Lobo, is owned by Wendel Stoner.

## Book bill passes Senate

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Textbook proponents who complained that powerful fundamentalists Mel and Norma Gabler controlled the school book adoption process will have a chance to voice their opinions under a bill passed by the Senate.

In one of several points of business, the Senate voted 30-0 Monday to approve the bill opening state text adoption hearings to positive comments.

Current State Board of Education rules allow only critics of proposed texts to comment.

The Gablers, of Longview, have attended school book adoption hearings for more

than 20 years, and their critics charged publishers "diluted" science texts so as not to run afoul of their strict beliefs in religious creationism.

Under the textbook bill sponsored by Sen. Ray Farabee, D-Wichita Falls, both critics and supporters would have an equal chance to present their views to the textbook adoption committee. The committee's membership also would be expanded from 15 to 27.

A bill identical to Farabee's was pending in a House committee.

"This bill represents the solution of the Board of Education," said Rep. Gerald Hill, D-Austin.

"This covers the possibility that one side or another will not be overrepresented. Both sides will be equally treated," he said.

In other action, the Senate approved a bill extending the statute of limitations in rape and other sexual abuse cases from three to five years. The bill's sponsor, Sen. Bob McFarland, R-Arlington, said prosecutors were not always able to indict a rape suspect within three years.

"This just gives them (the prosecutors) an additional 24 months," he said.

McFarland said instances of rape are rising at an alarming rate and referred to the Dallas area as the "rape crisis center of

the world." The bill was prompted in particular by a Tarrant County rape that occurred just more than three years ago. McFarland said police have a suspect but for now the man is home free because of the three-year limitation.

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## Study says senior citizens suffer abuse and neglect

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Survey results released Tuesday by a senior citizen advocacy group showed long-term environmental conditions like poverty and overcrowded living conditions are the primary cause of abuse of the elderly.

The survey by the Gray Panthers indicated "elder abuse" is a severe problem in Texas. The group called for increased state funding of programs

to help the elderly live more independently and to help family members deal with the emotional problems of caring for a senile parent.

The group sent questionnaires to 1,500 people employed in the fields of health services, law enforcement and social services.

Long-term conditions such as poverty are targeted as the primary cause of abuse, followed by a desire by the abuser

for personal gain (as in taking an elderly person's Social Security check), emotional disorders in the abuser and alcohol or drug use by the abuser.

The survey showed the most prominent form of abuse is self-neglect, in which an isolated elderly person does not have the resources to care for himself. Financial exploitation of the elderly by relatives or acquaintances is second, followed by verbal and emotional abuse, physical abuse and active neglect.

## Top cop asks court for delay

United Press International  
AMARILLO — L.R. Wynne, former Amarillo police chief on trial for murder, Tuesday, requested a continuance in Judge H. Bryon Poff's 47th State District Court.

Wynne has been charged with murder in the Oct. 15, 1983, shooting of Amarillo oilman Erle Winston Mathis.

Mathis was shot several times while sitting in his pickup truck

at an intersection in downtown Amarillo awaiting a traffic light.

Wynne was hoping to be represented in court by F. Lee Bailey. However, Bailey has trials in Philadelphia and New Mexico and cannot appear in court with Wynne.

Travis Shelton, an attorney from Lubbock, was considering taking the case, and was expected to make a decision on the matter Tuesday.

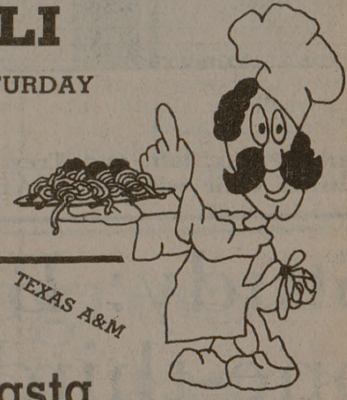
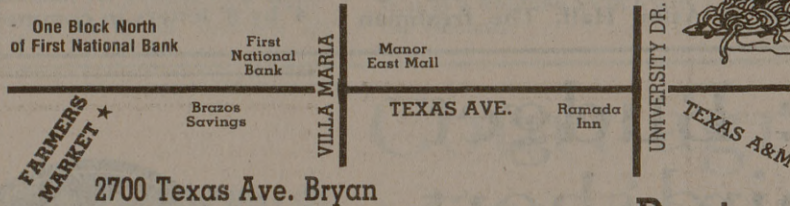
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