

Across-the-border births called legal

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — The promise of U.S. citizenship and a better life for their children annually draws thousands of women, most in extreme labor, across the Texas border to clinics within walking distance of the Rio Grande, state statistics indicate.

The practice is legal and immigration officials indicate they have no desire to interfere.

"I would never take it upon myself to tell a pregnant woman she couldn't come across because it looks like she might have a baby over here," says Immigration and Naturalization Service

supervisor Al Lachowsky. "I don't think anybody with any humanitarian instinct would."

U.S. law grants citizenship to anyone born on American soil. The INS issues "nonresident alien" cards that allow border residents to spend up to 72 hours within a 25-mile strip north of the river.

The result is that in 1981, the only year for which state statistics are available, 4,658 babies were born in Texas to Mexican mothers, 99 percent of them in the state's seven border counties.

"They come here so the child will be born an American

citizen," says midwife Josefina Salinas, who delivers babies in her house 12 blocks from the border. "They think life is better here."

Until 1977, a child's U.S. citizenship exempted parents from showing that their employment in this country would not adversely affect American workers.

Since Congress changed the law, children must live with friends or relatives in the United States to attend school, but midwife Margarita Garcia says many Mexican parents feel benefits of American life offset the trauma of separation.

Louisiana spokesman rules out waste site

United Press International
SHREVEPORT, La. — The Department of Energy has said a north Louisiana salt dome will not be among three sites recommended as a repository for radioactive nuclear waste, Rep. Charles "Buddy" Roemer said Monday.

Roemer, D-La., said he was surprised by a recent announcement that the department scheduled a public hearing May 10 in Minden on the possibility of storing spent nuclear fuel in the Vacherie salt dome.

Roemer earlier said a DOE staff study recommended Vacherie be eliminated from consideration as a storage site, and Sen. J. Bennett Johnston,

D-La., said last week that nuclear waste would not be housed at Vacherie.

"We got this information unofficially from the Department of Energy," Roemer said in a telephone conversation from his Washington office. "So we're not just making it up, I share the senator's optimism, but I'm not going to roll over and play dead on this thing. I was surprised and disappointed to hear a public hearing was scheduled."

In addition to Louisiana, sites also are being studied in Texas, Mississippi, Nevada, Washington and Utah.

The department will narrow the field to five or six sites by June and, in the fall, will nomin-

ate three or four of those areas for extensive testing to determine their suitability as nuclear waste dumps.

Two of the final three nominees already have been selected — Basalt Wash., and Tuffs in southern Nevada. Vacherie will not be the third site, Roemer said.

"It's our understanding that the scientific study done by the Department of Energy does not recommend Louisiana," he said. "Either Utah, Mississippi or Texas is number three. But we have no evidence — in fact we have evidence to the contrary — that Louisiana is included in the top three."

What's Up

Tuesday

OFF CAMPUS CENTER: The OCC is holding roommate sessions for students who need roommates for the summer and/or fall semesters at 2 p.m. in 502 and 504 Rudder.

MSC VARIETY SHOW: Tickets for the MSC Variety Show, April 15 (Parent's weekend) at 7:30 p.m., are now on sale at Rudder Box Office.

INTRAMURAL RECREATIONAL SPORTS: Running events in track preliminaries at 7 p.m. in Kyle Field. Entries close for golf doubles and archery singles and doubles at 7 p.m.

AMERICAN HUMANICS STUDENT ASSOCIATION: David Ballew offering advice for "Dealing with jerks on the job" at 7 p.m. in 140 MSC.

A&M NURSING SOCIETY: Will elect officers for the fall at 7 p.m. in 140A MSC.

MSC OUTDOOR RECREATION: General meeting with a program on Outward Bound's western wilderness program at 7 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: Teaching by Larry Edwards of The Lighthouse International at 7 p.m. in the All Faiths' Chapel.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS: Three Texas A&M safety engineering graduates will speak about their industrial experiences at 7:30 p.m. in 342 Zachry.

TEXAS A&M TENNIS CLUB: Sign-ups at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder for tennis tournament to be held April 22 and 23. New members welcome.

RHA CASINO: Casino girls and training sessions from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

MICROBIOLOGY SOCIETY: Elections will be held at 7:30 p.m. in 113 Biological Sciences Building East. Dr. Odonovan from the Department of Biochemistry will speak on current topics.

PEER ADVISOR PROGRAM: Applications for this summer are available in 108 YMCA. This is your chance to get involved and have fun too.

SCHEDULING OFFICE: All student organizations are encouraged to submit room reservation requests for fall 1983, now through April 15.

TAMU SAILING TEAM: A meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. in 109 MLS (Trigon).

STUDENT 'Y' ASSOCIATION: Today is the last day to file for cabinet positions. Applications are available in 213 Pavilion at Janie's desk and must be turned in by 12:30 a.m.

MSC VIDEOTAPE COMMITTEE: Upcoming productions, programming, workshops and the Video Gong Show will be discussed at 8 p.m. in 352 MSC.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE — AG. CONVOCATION: C.G. Scruggs, Vice President and Editor of The Progressive Farmer, will speak at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

WATER SKI CLUB: The University of Texas tournament will be discussed at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder.

TAMU CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION: A meeting is scheduled for 8 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

If you have an item for "What's Up," you can fill out a notice in 216 Reed McDonald at least two days in advance of the activity. No items are accepted by phone.

Flavored popcorn 'big bucks'

United Press International
DALLAS — Charles and Marie Bird want to become the Kernel Sanders' of popcorn.

By the end of September, the Birds say their firm — The Corn Popper — will have grown to 70 stores selling popcorn in 60 flavors ranging from shrimp to dill pickle.

Unadorned popcorn has between 25 and 55 calories a cup (with oil and salt it has 40 to 60 calories a cup), substantially less

than the 416 calories a cup for jelly beans.

The Birds have eight stores in the Dallas area, as well as the 27 franchised Corn Poppers from Washington state to Washington, D.C.

Each store offers 32 regionally-selected flavors from the 60 possible — a list that includes ketchup and watermelon. For instance, Northeastern stores might stock clam chowder fla-

vor, Bird told the Dallas Times-Herald.

"We picked 32 for several reasons," Bird said. "One is for quality control and the other is the fact that we were going into some shopping centers — and there's always a Baskin-Robbins."

"They've got a big sign that says 31 flavors of ice cream. We like to think we were one better than Baskin-Robbins."

The Corn Popper has straw-

berry, lemon, lime, orange and cherry on its list of flavors. New flavors in the next few months will be coffee and bubble gum.

"People in Denver are just chompin' at the bit to get a beer flavor — something that tastes like Coors," Bird said. He said his chemists are working on it.

The Birds say the most popular flavors are still butter, cheese and caramel, with chocolate coming in fourth.

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