

New 'soap' starts Sunday

by Angel Stokes
Battalion Staff
After years of planning, a new daytime drama — "Loving" — will debut as a two-hour movie Sunday night.

This is the first time a movie has been used to initiate a soap opera, said Barbara Duggan, associate producer for "Loving," in a telephone interview. ABC, the network carrying the program, decided that a feature-length movie would be a good way to give viewers a comprehensive background to the

show. The main focus of "Loving," which is set in the fictitious East coast town of Corinth, is Alden University.

Although set in a university environment, "Loving" will have something for everyone, Duggan said. She said that all ages will be encompassed, with main characters from the late teens to the early sixties.

However, she said there has been a push in soap's story lines to have plots revolving around younger characters because of an increasing interest in the soaps by young people, especially in the summer. There is no doubt that the soap opera audience is changing, she said, and the networks are aware of the change.

The show is a microcosm of daily life in a small community, Duggan said. Lifestyles depicted in the soap opera range from that of the very rich Alden family to that of middle-class blue collar families.

Duggan said "Loving," which was created by Agnes Nixon, has been in production since January. Nixon also is the creator of the popular "All My Children" and "One Life to Live," other ABC soap operas.

The show will include veteran soap stars from "One Life to Live" and "The Doctors," as well as an entirely new group of actors.

Duggan said she and ABC are very excited about the 10:30 a.m. time slot chosen for "Loving."

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Houstonian asks for execution stay

United Press International
LAKE CHARLES, La. — Defense lawyers are asking a state judge to halt the July 1 execution of Joe Lewis Perry of Houston, convicted of killing a Florida truck driver in 1980.

Perry's lawyer said he would file the stay request Wednesday with District Judge L. E. Hawsey Jr., along with a request for post-conviction relief. The lawyer, who wants a hearing on the post-conviction relief motion, Tuesday said he expected Hawsey to rule quickly on the stay request.

The Louisiana Supreme Court earlier upheld Perry's March 1981 first-degree murder conviction and death sentence in the November 1980 killing of a truck driver, 58, during a robbery at a rest area near Vinton, La.

Perry's lawyer said his post-conviction relief motion seeks a new trial on grounds of inadequacy of trial counsel and jury composition, among other issues. Further appeals will be

pursued if Hawsey refuses to halt the execution, he said.

"There's really no indictment on the lawyer because these folks get paid a small amount of money for handling an awesome job," he said. "They're not as prepared as they could be."

The lawyer said defense attorney Scotty Rozas was unable to adequately represent Perry during sentencing because of limited resources, not because of Rozas' incompetence.

He said he understood Rozas, for example, did not know Perry had confessed until the statement was introduced in court.

The U.S. Supreme Court refused in May to hear three cases, including Perry's, in which defense attorneys accused prosecutors of unconstitutionally stacking juries. The defense attorneys claimed prosecutors systematically excluded blacks and Hispanics from the panels.

Perry's lawyer said that issue again is raised in the post-conviction relief motion. He said the jury composition issue focuses on his contention of the exclusive use of voter registration lists for selecting jury pools is unfair and incomplete. Perry is black and was at a disadvantage before an all-white jury, he said.

"We're saying that the whole system is designed where blacks go in there at a disadvantage," he said.



Chin up!

Joe Parks, a sophomore political science major from Houston, takes a break from homework to build up his muscles after building his mind. These pull-ups are part of his regular weight-lifting program.

Unattended vehicle's owner liable for wreck

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that a man who left his unattended and unlighted pickup on a highway roadside was liable for damages resulting when another vehicle rammed the car in the dark.

The high court upheld an Eastland County appeals court ruling that awarded \$16,301 to Donny Young of Stamford and \$1,520 to Craig Young of

Abilene. The Young brothers were driving on U.S. Highway 6 three miles east of Stamford when they rammed a pickup left on the shoulder of the road by L.E. Underwood. Underwood had left the car partially on the paved shoulder of the highway, apparently after he ran out of gas.

Court documents filed in the case indicated that Underwood's car was not marked by emergen-

cy lights or other warning vices as required by Texas law. The court also indicated there was ample room for Underwood to have removed his car from the paved shoulder. The court also ruled Underwood was partially responsible for the accident because he swerved to the left when he saw headlights. The award to Donny Young was for past and future pain, loss of earnings and medical expenses.

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Man claims deaths of 100 women

United Press International
MONTAGUE — Authorities are investigating possible connections between unsolved murders in three states and a man who confessed at his arraignment in the death of a Texas woman to killing about 100 women.

Henry Lee Lucas was arraigned Tuesday in the stabbing death of Kate Rich of Ringgold, Texas.

When asked by 97th District Court Judge Frank Douthitt of Henrietta whether he was mentally competent to stand trial, Lucas said, "there is about hundred women out there that says different."

Law enforcement authorities said Lucas, 46, had made statements concerning an unspecified number of deaths. The suspect told the court several times Tuesday he had killed 100 women, however he did not elaborate.

"It's just speculation until we can begin to confirm them," district attorney Jack McGaugaty said. "It's not beyond imagination that he's just spinning yarns."

McGaugaty said Lucas has made statements regarding about seven deaths in Texas. He would not specify the murder

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