

Brazosbanc, Safeway agree to open branches

by Chris Cox
Battalion Reporter
BrazosBanc Savings Association of Bryan has made an agreement with Safeway stores to open branch bank offices in seven Houston stores and one Huntsville store in 1984.

Ralph Reed, president of BrazosBanc, says the branch offices will be self-enclosed buildings within the Safeway stores that will offer everything BrazosBanc offers except safety deposit boxes.

"The branch banks will open accounts, do transactions, make applications for loans and do anything else BrazosBanc presently does," Reed said.

"It is a way to provide convenience to the customer because the bank will be able to get closer to them," he said. "Most people spend a lot of time in

grocery stores. Through this natural outgrowth, BrazosBanc can provide service to the customer at that store. Because of the arrangement with Safeway stores, the branch offices will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Today the country has two wage-earning members in a family. This will give some extended hours for families like this to conduct services at Safeway. It is just more convenience for the customer."

The first eight offices will be in the Houston area, Reed said, but BrazosBanc does have plans and an agreement with Safeway that branch offices will be coming to the Bryan-College Station area.

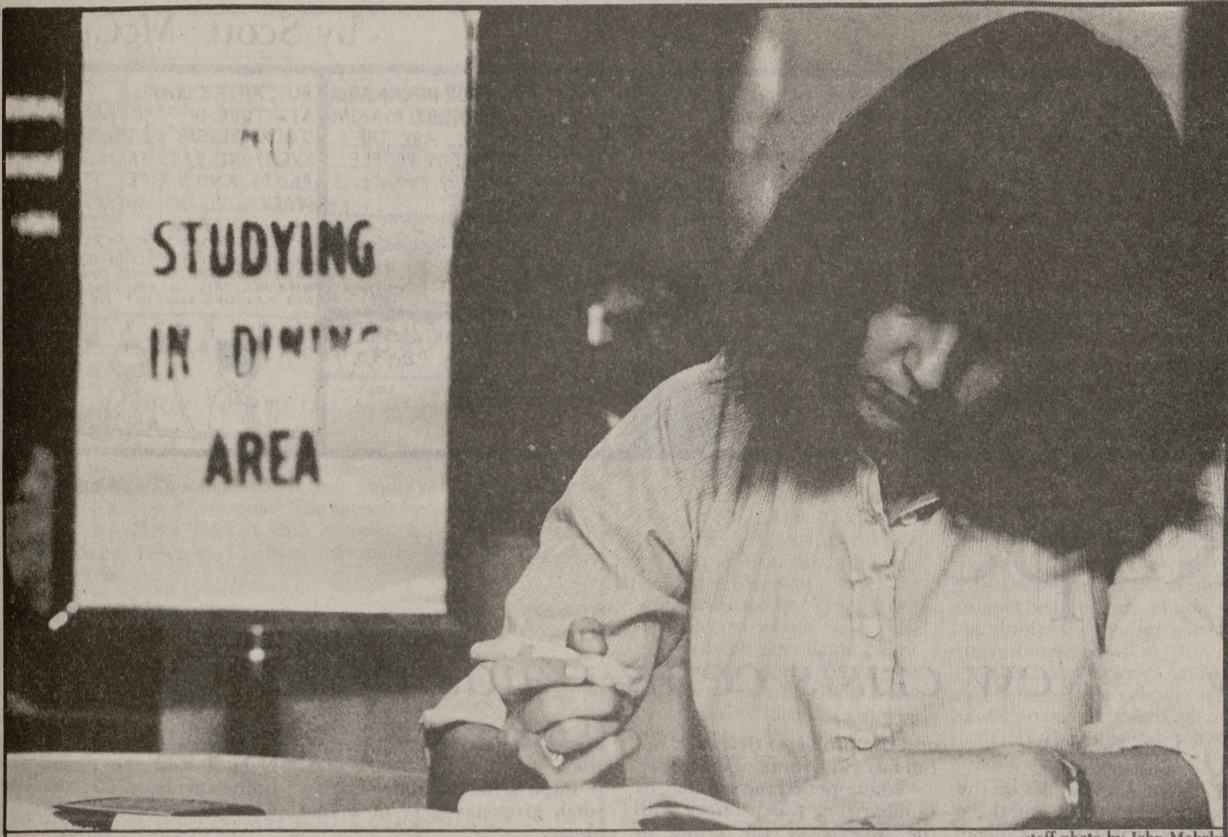
"All of this depends on the success the bank has with the first eight stores," he said. "BrazosBanc feels that because of the

convenience and extra service, the branch offices will be successful."

BrazosBanc has been a leader in trying to introduce new products and conveniences in order to give the bank a head start on the competition, Reed said. And, he said, with these products and services the BrazosBanc brings, it can move to other markets and be successful.

Currently BrazosBanc, a division of Lamar Savings in Austin, operates 19 branches throughout central Texas.

"Houston offers another opportunity," he said. "The agreement with Safeway is just another way to give the customer what he wants — an easy way to get his money, to conduct his banking business, and to get on with other things because lives are very busy."



staff photo by John Makely

But I wasn't reading the sign...

Finding a quiet place to study on campus is sometimes difficult but Kay Tangner, a Junior Marketing student from College

Station, seems to have found the perfect spot. Never mind that administrators frown upon the use of dining space for studying.

Antarctica object of study

Researchers to take cruise

by Debbie E. Warren

Battalion Reporter
A cruise to Antarctica is not an average business trip, unless you're an oceanographer. Two Texas A&M oceanographers will spend November aboard West Wind, a Coast Guard icebreaker, studying microscopic plants and animals along the ice edge of the continent.

Greta Fryxell and Kurt Buck will study phytoplankton, the only group of microscopic plants in the Antarctic. The group is a food source for krill, tiny shrimp-like creatures that may someday increase the amount of high protein food available from the sea.

Researchers from other colleges and scientific institutions also will be on the cruise, but for different reasons. They will study bird ecology, marine mammal ecology and marine chemistry.

"If we are going to be able to manage a resource we must have more information about how those resources are supported," Fryxell says. "In this case, what feeds the krill, what feeds the penguin, what is the base of the biological food chain — we need to know these things to make management decisions."

Fryxell says studies have been conducted along the ice edges of Antarctica, but the area has not been researched adequately.

"It's difficult unless you have an icebreaker," she says, "because ship captains are very leary of getting their ships caught in the ice. The ice pressures are so great that ships can sink easily."

Ninety percent of the world's ice and snow is found in Antarctica. During the polar summer — November, December, and January — day and night are arbitrary terms. Residents set their watches by New Zealand time and try to ignore the eter-

nal daylight of summer.

While Fryxell will be on the continent during the summer months she is still expecting winds more than 100 miles per hour and temperatures below 40 degrees.

The U.S. Congress will provide the transportation for the ice-coated cruise, while the National Science Foundation will provide the funding. The icebreaker will do more than just serve as a floating lab. It will be responsible for taking supplies to year-round stations throughout the Arctic region and transporting people from various stations.

Fryxell says the facilities for scientists on the West Wind are not good. She says they have outfitted a van that will be used as a lab.

"It will be chained down firmly on the ship," Fryxell says. "We'll have heaters and some electricity, but no running water. We will, however, be able to carry water in containers."

Traditionally, the southern most continent was a place for men only. The officers of the Coast Guard made it clear to Fryxell that women have not been allowed aboard their facilities.

"The women will have a hard time there," Fryxell says. "The three women aboard the ship will be in a cabin meant for one."

The icebreaker is equipped with a helicopter that will allow researchers to do a survey of the area.

"We will be able to see how far the ice goes and do things like

count seals," she says. "The helicopter will allow us to go further into the ice, drill holes and take samples there."

These samples will be studied in the floating lab and some will be transported to Texas A&M in containers similar to picnic baskets.

"When we come back, we'll keep them in growth chambers at about 4 degrees," Fryxell says. "By bringing the samples back we can continue to watch them grow."

The Oceanography Department has many samples from the southern region. Fryxell says by collecting and comparing the new data, she will be able to better understand the dramatic changes that are going on in the biological community in Antarctica.

Inmates play the market; win with investments

United Press International
CHINO, Calif. — Convicts at the maximum security California Institute for Women are taking the advice of the gruff-spoken actor John Houseman and are learning how to make money "the old fashioned way" — by earning it.

The eight-week course, which runs through September, is designed to teach the basics of

investing in stocks and is taught by Ira Distenfield, Beverly Hills manager of the investment firm of Smith Barney, Harris Upham and Co.

"The goal of the program is to help inmates develop a sense of accomplishment, a basic understanding of how business operates and to give them an opportunity to meet prospective future employers."

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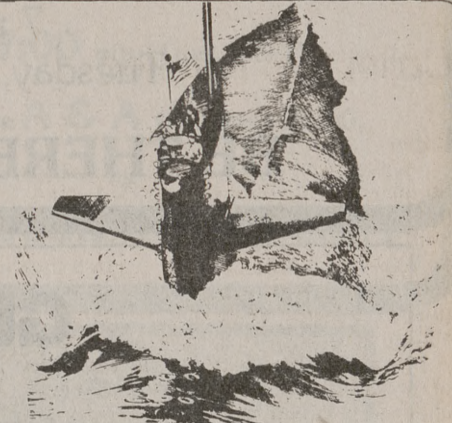
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Tom Carlson	May '83	Nuclear ships
Joe Madden	May '83	Nuclear submarines
John Spellman	May '83	Nuclear submarines
Scott Elliot	May '83	Nuclear instructor
Mark Gray	Aug '83	Nuclear ships
Carey Cobb	Aug '83	Nuclear submarines
Damian Cook	Dec '83	Nuclear submarines
Greg Hilscher	Dec '83	Nuclear submarines
James Shoemaker	Dec '83	Nuclear submarines
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To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen between 19 and 27 years of age, working toward or have earned a bachelor's or master's degree. You must also have completed a minimum of one year each of calculus and calculus-based physics with a "B" average or better. Minimum GPA: 3.2.

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