

High Court denies request to stay Autry's execution

United Press International
 WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court Monday cleared the way for the execution of condemned killer James David Autry for the murder of a Texas grocery store clerk. He is scheduled to die Wednesday by lethal injection.

ing their traditional vote opposing the death sentence as "in all circumstances cruel and unusual punishment."
 Joining Brennan and Marshall were Justices John Paul Stevens and Harry Blackmun.
 Autry now has three alternatives: he can ask the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision, try to get a Texas federal judge to halt the execution or ask Gov. Mark White to halt it.

As Attorney General last year, White refused a request to halt the execution of Charlie Brooks Jr., 40, the first Texas prisoner executed in 18 years and the first in the nation to be killed by lethal injection.
 Autry would become the 9th man executed in the nation since 1976 when the Supreme Court approved the use of the death penalty and the second man in the nation to die by lethal injection.

He is scheduled to die Wednesday morning at 12:01 in Huntsville at the Walls unit of the Texas Department of Corrections — the same place where Brooks was executed.
 This is the third time Autry has faced an execution date. Each previous time, stays of execution were issued by appeals courts to give them time to review the case.
 Autry was convicted and sentenced to death for murdering Shirley Drouet, 43 and a mother of five, at a Sak-n-Pak grocery store in Port Arthur on the evening of Oct. 9, 1980. Autry has maintained his innocence.
 His conviction and sentence were upheld by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals in Austin

Astronaut's kid

Son of first black space flier is Agg

by Michael Piwonka
 Battalion Reporter



Guion Stewart Bluford III, son of Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford II, the first black astronaut.

How would it feel to have a dad who's an astronaut? How would it feel to have a dad who's the first black astronaut?
 Guion Stewart Bluford III, a sophomore computer science major at Texas A&M, knows the feeling, but he would rather keep it to himself.
 Bluford says he would like to keep the fact that he is the son of Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford II "low-keyed." The elder Bluford became the first black to travel in space when he took part in the latest space shuttle mission.
 The younger Bluford, who goes by the name Stewart, says he doesn't want everyone to bother him because it makes it difficult to get things done.
 "I just don't want people bugging me when I go to class," Bluford says. "It can be annoying."
 But he says he hasn't had too much of a problem with that yet.
 "People who know me don't say much about it because they know it bothers me," he says.
 Even though he plays down the fact, the younger Bluford is proud of his father's accomplishment, and says it's a big step for blacks everywhere.
 "It proves we can do anything anybody else can do," he says.
 Bluford adds that he never thought there were any differences between blacks and whites, but many people do. It is important to show those people, he says.
 On the issue of Sally Ride being the first American woman

in space, Bluford simply says, "I think it's great."
 The elder Bluford received his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from Pennsylvania State University and his master's and doctorate in aerospace from the Air Force Institute of Technology in Dayton, Ohio.
 Bluford says his father looks upon the space mission as just being a job. It's not unlike being a professor at Texas A&M, he says.
 However, Bluford says his mother and brother are about having an astronaut family.
 But when asked if he would like to be an astronaut, the younger Bluford says he doesn't have time to think about it.
 "Right now all I'm trying to get through college," he says.

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Insolvent bank reopens

United Press International
 ODESSA — Customers at the former National Bank of Odessa were treated to cake and balloons Monday during the bank's reopening as First State Bank of Odessa, a new subsidiary of independent Bankshares Inc. of Abilene.

businesses during the boom that crashed in 1982 the rapid decline of oil prices.
 Texas Banking Commissioner William Aldridge said a convicted thief who was 25-year sentence for assault, will return to State Bank of Odessa to assess damages.
 FDIC spokesman Alan Arthur Steele said the assumption of the need for a payoff of failed bank's accounts.

Acting bank president Brad Stephens said he planned for the bank to start out fresh, adding it would make energy loans. Bankshares is a holding company that owns First State Bank of Abilene.
 Unpaid loans to oil and natural gas drilling companies were said to be the main reason for the financial failure of National Bank, which the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation closed Friday.
 The bank had deposits of \$77 million and about 18,000 accounts, officials said. NBO reported nearly a \$19 million loss for the first six months of 1983.
 Odessa is in the energy-rich Permian Basin area of West Texas. Many loans were made to oil exploration and producing

businesses during the boom that crashed in 1982 the rapid decline of oil prices.
 Texas Banking Commissioner William Aldridge said a convicted thief who was 25-year sentence for assault, will return to State Bank of Odessa to assess damages.
 FDIC spokesman Alan Arthur Steele said the assumption of the need for a payoff of failed bank's accounts.
 Whitney added it was possible losses to federal customers with accounts above the federally-insured limit of \$100,000.
 The Odessa bank failed within three months State Banking Board of Metro Bank of Midland filed the law in late July.
 The Midland bank re-opened the following Monday under name of Mid-Cities Bank.

A. BARTLETT

GIAMATTI

The Role of the Federal Government in Higher Education
 The E. L. Miller Lecture
 8 P.M., Wednesday, October 5
 Rudder Theater

University/Industry Relations
 4 P.M., Tuesday, October 4
 Room 204, Sterling C. Evans Library

The Role of Athletics in Education
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