

# Mattox will ask court to vacate Autry's stay

**United Press International**  
AUSTIN — Attorney General Jim Mattox said Thursday that his office would ask the U.S. Supreme Court to vacate the last-minute stay of execution that saved convicted murderer James David Autry from death by lethal injection.

Supreme Court Justice Byron White issued the stay late Tuesday just half an hour before the 29-year-old killer of a store clerk was scheduled to be executed with a lethal combination of three drugs.

In his order, White said the

execution should be delayed pending the high court's resolution.

*Texas already has a review procedure because it requires mandatory appeals of all capital punishment cases to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.*

tion of an unrelated California case.

In the California case the Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether state courts must review each death sentence imposed to ensure they are in line with punishments handed down for similar crimes.

Mattox, who said his motion to the court would be filed "within days," maintained that Texas already has such a review procedure because it requires mandatory appeals of all capital punishment cases to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

"The state of Texas believes that is sufficient to comply with

the constitutional mandate of the Supreme Court to ensure the even-handed, rational and consistent imposition of the death penalty in Texas," Mattox said.

Mattox also said he would file the motion to the Supreme Court to get a "reading" on whether the court intends to hold up all executions until the resolution of the California case, which was scheduled for arguments in November.

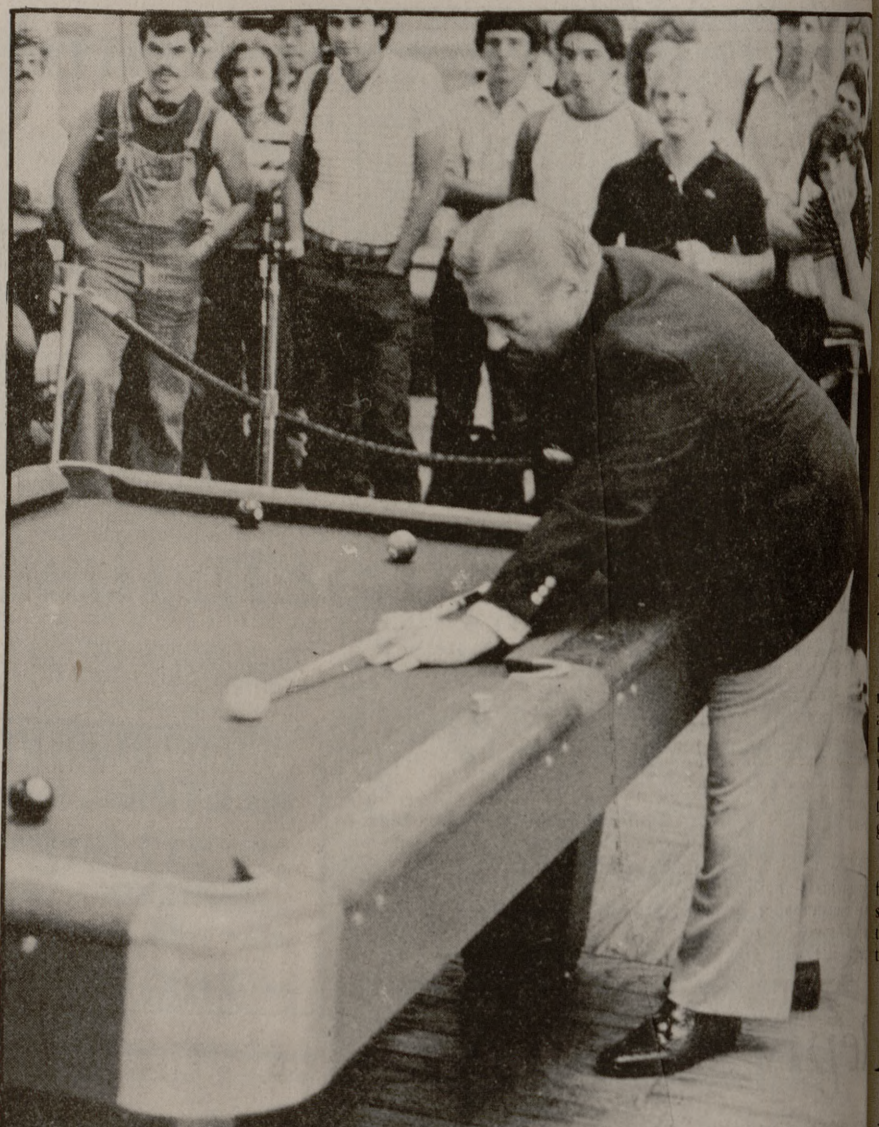
"Depending on the Supreme Court's response in this case, we will know what course of action to take in other pending death penalty cases in Texas," he said.

Civil rights attorneys have hailed White's stay order as a major development and said it could halt all pending execution and cause a large-scale review of capital punishment sentences.

There currently are no executions scheduled in Texas. If the Supreme Court did overturn Autry's stay, it would be up to the state district judge who originally heard his case to set a new execution date.

Autry has steadfastly denied any guilt in the death of store clerk Shirley Drouet, 43, and claimed a co-defendant in the 1980 slaying was the triggerman.

But John Alton Sandifer, who was released from prison last month after serving 3 1/2 years for an unrelated conviction, refuses to discuss the crime he and Autry were said to be involved with. Sandifer was indicted along with Autry, but the charges against him were later dropped.



staff photo by John White

## Any Challengers?

Taking on any challengers with enough guts to lose in front of a crowd, professional billiards and trick shot artist Jack White

offered up to \$100 to anyone who could beat him during an exhibition in the MSC. No money was won.

# Venezuelan receives UH leaders' award

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — Venezuelan presidential-candidate Jaime Lusinchi said his country would be able to repay its foreign debt of more than \$30 billion if he is elected president of his country.

Lusinchi, in Houston with a delegation of high-ranking Venezuelan educators and government leaders, received an award from the University of Houston designating him as "Distinguished Social and Educational Leader of the Americas."

The South American educator, physician and political leader said the debt will be paid "once we get sensible terms." He would not elaborate what terms are considered "sensible."

"Sometimes it is better not to talk," he said. "There is still some

to go until I assume the responsibilities."

Lusinchi, 56, is one of 12 candidates running for the presidency of Venezuela in the Dec. 4 election. He is one of the founding members of the Accion Democratica party, the main opposition party. Lusinchi is considered one of the front runners in the election.

Venezuela has been a democratic country since the 1950s, because of the commitment and determination of labor, management, the armed forces and major political parties, Lusinchi said.

He said the people of the country support democracy.

"More than 70 percent of the Venezuelan population is under 30 years old," Lusinchi said. "This means that the great ma-

majority of Venezuelans have recollection of the dictatorship and that they were brought up in a climate of liberty and democracy, like no other generation before them."

In a speech Wednesday before about 400 students at the University of Houston, Lusinchi said his country ran up the foreign debt partly because of corruption and confused policy.

"The financial crisis of some countries of Latin America has gotten to the point of no return," he said, warning the consequences are unpredictable.

He said the world is watching Central America and the Caribbean, where there are traditional dictatorships offering opposition in the name of anti-communism and "dictatorship in modern garb."

# Bones discovered at suicide site

**United Press International**  
FORT WORTH — Pathologists began piecing together fragments of human skeletons found Thursday in the debris beneath a burned out house which was the site of a bizarre suicide four years ago.

Authorities said a workman bulldozing debris at the house which burned two weeks ago uncovered the bones and sum-

moned police. Officers determined the bones were those of at least one human and launched a full investigation.


Police said a 43-year-old man committed suicide at the house in February 1980, by hanging himself from a light fixture. Investigators said George Earl Gray had a note which mentioned a wife and child who have been missing since the suicide.

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Tuesday, October 11, 1983  
Contact Office of Placement for Sign-Ups



## Memorial Oak Sale

Sat., Oct. 8, 1983 - Prior to Aggie - Cougar Game



Sixty-three years ago, a ceremony was held in front of Guion Hall to plant living monuments to the sons of A. and M. College who died in service of their country during World War I. Many of these Memorial Live Oaks will not survive much longer. The TAMU Plant Sciences Club has grown from acorns, progeny of selected trees and will offer a limited number of the seedlings for sale.

Price: \$7.00-10.00  
Location: Rudder Fountain  
Time: 11:30-7:00 - seedlings may be reserved for pick-up after the game.

A short biography of the tree's namesake will be provided. Instructions for planting your valuable tree will also be given

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DENTON — Co-murderer Henry... already sentenced... prison for killing... woman who befri... faces a pretrial hea... the slaying of his girlfriend.

The 47-year-old former psychiatric... says his murder... through 17 states... the death of Frie...

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**United Press International**  
AUSTIN — Frie... leagues of Rep... eulogized him TH... champion of the c... whose career was... idealism temper... necessary realism... goals.

Garcia, a San A... ney who began... career in 1972, die... a heart attack last... was 55.

More than 200... the House chamber... Mark White, House... Lewis and severa... bers pay their last... Garcia while his w... dren watched from... er's podium.

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