

Parents involved in murder case

Girl put in grandparents' custody

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — Custody of a 3-year-old girl whose mother

and step-father were convicted of murdering her natural father was awarded Monday to the child's

maternal grandparents in an out-of-court settlement. Melanie Staton, 3, was talking

to her father, Billy Staton, 26, during a court-ordered visitation when her step-father, Paul Wolf,

21, attacked Staton from behind with an iron bar.

Wolf and the child's mother, Sherry Staton Wolf, 21, both were sentenced to life in prison during separate trials last summer. The pair was convicted of plotting to kill Staton and hide his body.

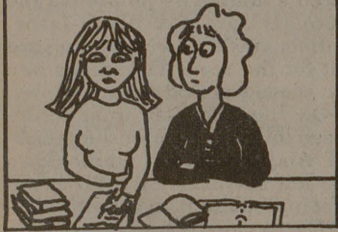
Staton inadvertently taped his own slaying on a micro-tape recorder he had secreted on his body to gather evidence in the child visitation squabble with the Wolfs.

Staton's fiancée, Leticia Castro, 26, also was beaten and shot in the head with a shotgun in the fight that started at the Wolfs' house near La Feria in July 1982. The bodies were found in drainage canals three weeks after the killings.

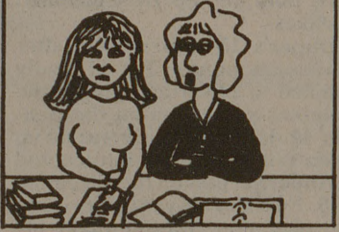
The out-of-court settlement was announced in the court of District Judge Melchor Chavez.

by Paul Dirmeyer

Ralph Waldo Emerson was the ultimate optimist, and was changed by critics as being ignorant to understand a man not given to logic...



I have been accused of that too, not that I'm an airhead.



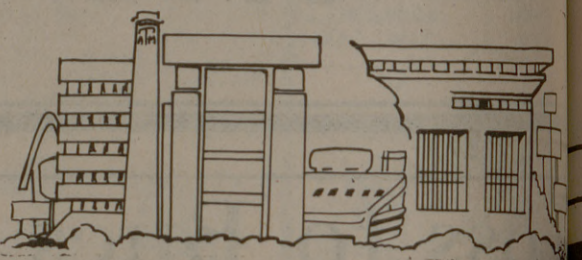
Just because I can't think of a damn thesis!



DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!



Around town



Safety agency offers driving course

The Brazos Valley Safety Agency will offer a defensive driving course tonight and Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Ramada Inn. The fee for the two-day course is \$20. Participants can register at 5 tonight at the Ramada Inn, or call 693-4177. The class can be used to dismiss certain misdemeanor offenses and to receive a 10 percent discount on automobile insurance.

Student Y wrapping Christmas gifts

The Student Y Association is offering a Christmas gift-wrapping service today through Friday and Dec. 5-9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 211 Pavilion. The service is free to Y members. Non-members will be charged from 50 cents to \$1.25 depending on the size of the gift. Bows and ribbons will be included in the wrapping, but boxes must be provided by the owners.

University Press to hold book sale

More than 150 new and backlist titles published by the A&M University Press will be sold at a discount of 20 percent to 80 percent at the Press' Christmas Warehouse Sale through Saturday. Damaged copies also will be available at greater reductions.

The sale will feature the books of Bill Brett, author of "Here's a Good'un." Brett will be there Thursday to autograph his books.

Sale hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The sale will be held at the Press' new location on Lewis Street, adjacent to the bookstore.

Overseas Day gives travel, study info

MSC Travel and the Study Abroad Program invites everyone to attend their Overseas Day Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Lounge. Information will be presented on opportunities for work and study overseas.

Aggieland photos still being taken

Juniors, seniors, veterinary and medical school students will have individual pictures for the 1984 Aggieland taken through Friday at the Yearbook Associates office at 1700 S. K. behind Culpepper Plaza; and Dec. 5-9 at the Pavilion on campus. This will be the last chance for students to have pictures made.

To submit an item for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald.

Alcoa workers will buy plant

United Press International
MARSHALL — A group of former Alcoa employees will purchase a northeast Texas plant shut down earlier this year after workers rejected wage and benefit cuts, an Alcoa spokesman said Monday.

Representatives of Alcoa and the workers reached an agreement in principle for the purchase after talks last week in Houston, said company spokesman Hal Reagan. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Although "a number of details need to be resolved" in the 50-page purchase proposal, Reagan said all major hurdles have been

cleared and final details worked out in four to six weeks, he said.

Alcoa officials decided this fall to close the plant after union workers overwhelmingly rejected a \$5 an hour cut in wages and benefits. The company said reductions were essential to remain competitive.

The facility, which began the most modern of its before layoffs began. The plant manufactures insulated cable.

THE UNDERGROUND

SBISA BASEMENT
Cup-a-Soup Special
Monday, Nov. 28 - Friday, Dec. 2
Lipton Cup-a-Soup 89¢
OFFER GOOD TO THE LAST BOX
"The Best Food. The Lowest Price."

AGGIE RED CROSS CLUB

Meeting-Tuesday,
Nov. 29, 1983
8:30 in Rm 607
Rudder
Guest Speaker to talk on
Red Cross Blood
Services

Magazine studies drive behind hard rock scene

United Press International
IRVING — There's a frenzied energy that goes with rock music like butter goes on bread. It's an urge to live, do, feel, scream, jump up and down. Hero worship of a guitarist in leather pants and long, sweat-matted hair may not make sense to someone over 25, and there's a sound biological reason why.

"It is hormonal," says Gerry Rothberg, publisher and editor of New York-based Circus magazine, chronicler of the heavy metal scene for a mostly male audience that ranges from 15 to about 22 years old.

Some young men turn to sports as an outlet for all that energy and vigor, but playing football also means succumbing to the discipline of a coach. That doesn't set too well with a teenager who is testing the limits of his independence and rebellion.

Heavy metal (the term is generally believed to have come from "The Soft Machine" by William Burroughs) and has come to refer

to a particularly loud, clanging, but still melodic electric rock) fills the needs of that impatient, hemmed-in feeling teenager.

By the time he hits his mid-20s, he either has worked it out of his system or is "condemned" to be a rebel for life.

"This is a rite of passage," Rothberg says. "The music is really geared toward a particular age group. As you get older your state of being doesn't need that anymore. If it offends you (that's because you're not entertained by it.

"This is not an art. This is rock and roll," he says. "We're not dealing in Picassos."

In the 14 years since Rothberg left Esquire magazine to publish Circus, bringing to a monthly circulation of 500,000 and a position as the fastest-growing magazine in newsstand sales, he's learned a lot about his audience.

About two-thirds of the readers are male, although the number of young women who follow the scene through Circus is increasing.

They pack quite an economic wallop that is not ignored by advertisers. After all, they're the people who spend an average \$60 a month on concerts and records by Van Halen, Def Leppard, Quiet Riot, Judas Priest, Ozzy Osbourne and the like.

Some 88 percent of Circus' readers play a musical instrument themselves, mostly electric guitar. As a result the pages are filled with ads for instruments, amplifiers and microphones.

The magazine's articles and many, many color pictures deal with the elements of concert tour

life, the personalities of the performers, what goes on behind the scenes. The name Circus derives from the long tradition of referring to the rock and roll life as a circus.

In a recent interview during a promotional tour, Rothberg noted a lot of basic similarities in the bands that were on top when Circus debuted in 1969 — like Led Zeppelin, Grand Funk Railroad — and the big names today. There is a trend toward more theatricality, though, as personified by the antics of the group Van Halen and sex symbol lead singer David Lee Roth.

"You rarely find that simple trio with an acoustic guitar anymore," he says.

He sees some welcome unloading of hard-and-fast categories like rock, new wave and punk, because it gets to be very difficult to lock a band like the Police into one grouping.

Although Rothberg, who is in his early 40s, is not much of a rock fan himself (he prefers classical), he tries not to let his personal ideology dictate the magazine's contents.

"In a sense it does, but it's a reflection of my perception of what the audience wants," he says. "I maintain it as a vehicle of expression for kids. I probably was a frustrated teacher."

Circus does take some stands, such as not accepting cigarette ads and trying to be anti-drug in a low-key way.

"We don't preach it, but it'll come out in the interview. A star will say 'come to the show and don't get high, don't get stoned,'" Rothberg says.

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PRESENTS:

1ST ANNUAL WINTER BOWLING CLASSIC

DATE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1983
TIME: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: HILLSIDE LANES
701 UNIVERSITY

REGISTRATION: MSC MAIN FLOOR
NOV. 23-30 11:00 - 2:00
OTHER TIMES - SPO - 216 MSC

FEE: \$5.00/PERSON or \$20.00/TEAM
4 PEOPLE TO A TEAM

DIVISIONS: MENS
MIXED - Must have one member of the opposite sex

PRIZES - EVERYONE WELCOME!

Laundry List

THINGS TO JOT DOWN:

If you need a clean self-serve laundry with an attendant on duty.....
JOT 59
If you need the quickest "do-it-yourself" dry cleaning service where you can clean up to 8 pounds for only \$4.50.....
JOT 59
If you are a Corps member who would like to save 15% on all your uniform laundering.....
JOT 59
If you would like to leave your dirty laundry and pick it up the same day clean and folded.....
JOT 59
If you like to do your laundry in the cleanest facility where customer satisfaction always comes first.....
JOT 59

103 E. Holleman 693-2121
6 a.m. - 11 p.m. 7 days/week