New business center established at UTA had a call from a venture capital-

ARLINGTON — Many small inesses could be more profitle if the owners only underood how new technology could help them cut costs and become more efficient, Dr. John Rouse of the the University of Texas at rlington believes.

Rouse's efforts have been the ey to establishment of a Small Business Development Center eared toward new technology UTA, where he is dean of en-

"Ths Small Business Admistration is very excited about is concept," Rouse said recent-"There are 29 SBDC's (naonally) but this is the only one hathas a high technology base."
The SBA is putting up \$100,000. UTA also is putting 100,000 into the technology elopment center, \$50,000 of hich came from local contribu-

couldn't get the Dallas-Fort ing," Rouse noted. Worth community to put up the money we needed, then I did not think there would be enough community participation to ensure success of this program," Rouse said.

Programs to help small businesses are needed. Statistics show that about 80 percent of all veloped a high-tech product. In small businesses fail within the first few years.

The Development Center will help small businesses become more profitable by helping them use technology in production, by helping in development of a high tech product, or by identifying new markets.

Faculty members at UTA, which a large School of Engineering, will direct their expertise to the specific needs of small enterprise being helped by the Development Center.

"We have 100 people here

Thousands of small businesses in Dallas-Fort Worth and the surrounding area of North Texas are engaged in some aspect of high technology, Rouse estimates. Many of them exist because the founder desuch a case the Development Center probably would not help with product development, he said, since the businessman himself has done that. But the Development Center might help the developer take the long step from creation to marketing and

Other small businesses could be helped in choosing computer systems and programs, or in streamlining manufacturing

"As an example, we recently Rouse notes.

School board reviews options for assistant

Staff Writer

Monday night's CSISD meeting didn't turn out to be the normal, beginning-of-the-new-year meeting everyone thought it would be.

As the small meeting room law many of such an administragradually began to fill with a capacity crowd of about 40 people (an audience of 9 is about normal), it was obvious something was up.

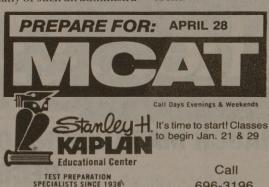
Back-to-school business decisions were flowing at a fast pace until Board President Bruce Robeck introduced an item on the agenda which discussed the pros and cons of hiring an administrative assistant for the dis-

Robeck said the most important responsibilities of a potential administrative assistant would include having primary responsibility for public rela-tions on behalf of the board,

By CHRISTINE MALLON maintaining all board records and documents, assisting in drafting board policies and serving under direction of the board president.

Superintendent H.R. Burnett said he didn't approve of the position because under state tor's duties are the responsibilites of the district's superinten-

Trustee John Reagor said nobody should be hired as a fulltime employee of the district to work directly for the board pres-



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All-out effort launched

Town calls for post office

United Press International

GUN BARREL CITY. — The idents of this east Texas town ave their sights set on a post a 20 office and the woman leading he effort says the community is not firing blanks.

"It may be only through mean strength and awkwardness that we get it, but we're de-ermined," said former mayor elen Broome, who saw her attempt to land the town a post office two years ago rebuffed by To that end, Broome and

ur other civic leaders have onvinced the district's Demoatic congressman, Rep. Sam B. all, to attend a town meeting b. 10 to discuss plans for getig the post office.

T-shirts with slogans calling rapost office in Gun Barrel y have been distributed and ill be highly visible at the meetg next month, Broome said.

Additionally, appeals have been made to Postmaster General William Bolger, who has taken the proposal under advisement,

All the activity in this community of about 3,000 residents 30 miles southeast of Dallas and adjacent to Cedar Creek Lake is

"Any number of our 150 businesses have difficulty with identification. They advertise and have to give their mailing address as Highway 90, Mabank." — Former Gun Barrel City mayor Helen

as much a quest to correct a to give their mailing quirk of geography as it is an Highway 90, Mabank

attempt to give Gun Barrel City businesses a fair break, Broome

Gun Barrel City mail is routed through Mabank, three miles away. Mabank is is Kaufman County. Gun Barrel City is just across the line in Henderson sales tax collected by Gun Barrel

"We're not talking about a little wide spot in the road," Broome said. "People who have been down here have no idea what warm Welike to service." what we are. We like to say we've

just growed like topsy."

But the return address residents and businesses in Gun Barrel City must use is Highway 90, Mabank, Broome said. Highway 90 runs through both Mabank and Gun Barrel City, and that creates a problem.
"Any number of our 150

businesses have such a difficulty with identification," Broome said. "They advertise and have to give their mailing address as

"Well, they're not in Mabank. They're in Gun Barrel City.' And the problem has cost Gun Barrel City in more ways than inconvenience.

ist backing a small business-man," Rouse said. "He said the

business was not making enough

profit and he asked if we could

visit it. An industrial engineer-

ing professor spent one day at the plant and he discovered an inefficient assembly line opera-

The professor then put together for the manufacturer a

list of suggestions that would make it possible to produce the

product with a higher profit

If outside consulting is

needed to help make a small business project go, the UTA center will direct the business-

man to a consulting firm. The

center does not want to compete

usually is a small business, too.'

"After all, the consulting firm

with existing businesses.

City businesses and forwarded to the state comptroller's office for distribution has occasionally found its way to Mabank city cof-

"We found out Mabank had gotten credit for \$72,000 of Gun Barrel City's sales tax money," Broome said. "We got it back, but it took a lot of paperwork."

Broome conceded Mabank officials intent on not diminishing their community's mail carrier routes might oppose anything more than a substation for Gun Barrel City. But she said Gun Barrel City is not seeking to overshadow its neighbor.

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Youths turn from drugs

United Press International

A White House expert on rug abuse policy told 2,000 eering El Paso youths today young people in America turning away from illegal

Carlton Turner. special assis-

merican youth as reently as five years go were more worried about drug abuse han their parents says Carlton Turner, White House expert n drug abuse policy.

licy, said the youth of United States as recently as years ago were more worabout drug abuse than their

Turner gave the opening remarks at an all-day rally sponsored by the El Paso Parents for Drug Awareness.
The White House aide said

he was optimistic because high school daily marijuana use has been almost cut in half since



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