

### 3-year-old crime may be solved

## Lucas tied to more killings

**United Press International**  
BENTON, La. — Sheriff's deputies questioned confessed mass killer Henry Lee Lucas Tuesday in the death of an unidentified woman — one of a growing number of killings being tied to Lucas in northwest Louisiana and northeast Texas. Officials in at least two north-

east Texas counties were preparing to seek indictments against Lucas and his sometime traveling companion, Ottis Elwood Toole. The men have told officials they killed about 200 people as they traveled, both together and separately, across the country. Toole earlier this month was charged in the death of a Hen-

derson school teacher, and prosecutors said Lucas may face burglary charges in that incident.

Smith County investigators said they will consult prosecutors later this week about filing charges against Lucas and Toole in the robbery, rape and killing of a woman in her home just north of Tyler.

Cherokee County Sheriff Allen Horton said a grand jury will hear evidence against Lucas and Toole in the 1982 slaying of a 20-year-old man killed while he was hitchhiking near Jacksonville.

Bossier Parish investigators questioned Lucas Tuesday in Georgetown, where he is awaiting trial for the death of an unidentified hitler. The men are suspects in about six unsolved homicides in Bossier Parish and Bossier City, said Sheriff Vol Dooley.

Bossier Parish Detective Sgt. Thorn earlier talked to Lucas about the unidentified woman's killing, but no charges were filed in the case. Officers also traveled

to Florida to interview Toole about the unsolved slayings.

The unidentified woman's decomposed body was found in January 1981 by a man walking along Louisiana 157 in northeast Bossier Parish. She was stabbed to death, and a kitchen knife was found plunged into the ground near her body.

"We feel like we're well on the right track on this particular one," Dooley said. "I'd like to close this one out."

Lucas has been charged in several Texas slayings and in the shooting death of Northeast Louisiana University co-ed Kathy Whorton. Toole also has been charged in Ms. Whorton's slaying and in the deaths of a Monroe teenager and an Iowa, La., woman.

Lucas has been sentenced to 75 years in prison for the death of an 80-year-old Texas woman, and also has been given a life prison term for the slaying of his teenage common-law wife. Toole, 36, is serving a 20-year prison term for arson in

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## Rare bird dies after treatment for gunshot

**United Press International**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A 2-year-old whooping crane, one of fewer than three dozen members of an experimental flock of the endangered birds, died while being treated for gunshot wounds, officials said Tuesday.

Veterinarians and pathologists planned to examine the carcass to try to find the exact cause of death of the bird, which was found to have three shotgun pellets in the upper leg and lower abdomen.

The bird was underweight and weak, although it could fly, when captured at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge near Socorro, N.M., last weekend and transported to the Rio Grande Zoo for treatment.

Tom Smylie of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the bird, believed to have been a male, weighed about 9 pounds, compared to a nor-

mal body weight of 14-15 pounds.

Wildlife groups offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who shot the bird, and Smylie said a person who reports the shooting of an endangered bird can collect up to a \$2,500 reward.

"We've got about 100 of these birds in the wild, so you're not talking about a lot of birds," Smylie said.

The experimental flock was started in the mid-1970s to create a second wild group of whoopers. The primary flock of 75 birds winters on the Texas Gulf Coast and spends summers in Canada's Northwest Territories.

The new flock is composed of birds hatched from eggs taken from the Canadian nesting grounds and placed in nests of sandhill cranes at Gray's Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Idaho. The young whoopers are raised by their

sandhill "parents" for one year, which includes the fall migration to New Mexico.

Smylie said a total of 30 whoopers were counted migrating south through Colorado last fall, while 26 had been observed during the winter or near the central New Mexico refuge.

The dead whooper, which was hatched in Idaho in 1982, was seen leaving the refuge Dec. 27, he said, and returning Jan. 5.

"They noticed its behavior was not up to par, and it was not eating well," he said. "Then it seemed to be recovering, but when the last cold snap hit, it began to deteriorate."

Smylie said officials do not know when or where the bird was shot, but said it was unlikely it was wounded while on the refuge. He said shooting a whooping crane is punishable by a maximum penalty of year in jail and a fine of \$20,000.

## Judge denies mistrial plea in Latourette murder case

**United Press International**

HOUSTON — The lawyer representing the woman charged with murder in the shooting death of former professional football player Charles Latourette Tuesday claimed news accounts of the trial were biased and requested a mistrial.

However, the request for a mistrial was denied, along with motions to sequester the jury or postpone the case in the trial of Patricia Latourette, who is charged with murder in the slaying of her radiologist-husband on Dec. 22, 1982.

Mrs. Latourette pleaded innocent in the case.

Defense lawyer Jack Zimmermann asked for the mistrial after Houston television and radio

stations broadcasted excerpts from a tape-recorded conversation between the Latourettes two months before the shooting.

In the tape, Mrs. Latourette is heard screaming and yelling at her husband and threatening to kill him because she did not like the way she was being treated by him.

The 25-minute tape was played for the seven-man, five-woman jury Monday, and two television reporters received permission from the presiding judge to record the tape as it was being played in the courtroom.

Zimmermann said playing the tape on television and the radio caused "pervasive, prosecutorial-bias, improper and inaccurate reporting." He said although the jury had been in-

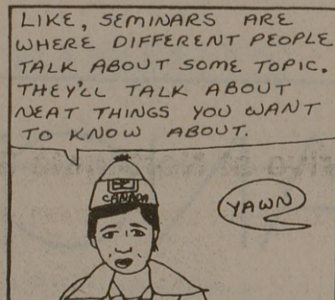
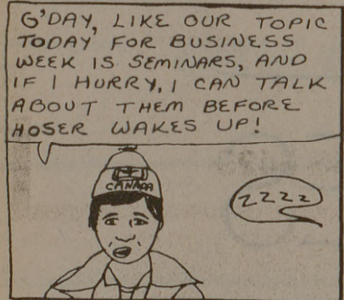
structed not to listen to or re-

ports of the case, Zimmermann said the pressure from the community would be so great that it would convict his client.

The tape, peppered with curse words and threats, was made while Latourette, a former football player for the St. Louis Cardinals, dictated medical records in his office. His wife led him on the telephone and recorded her words from an amplification over a speaker phone. She repeatedly accused him of having a girlfriend and rejecting her.

Mrs. Latourette, a real estate broker, told her husband of months not to come home, because if he did, she would shoot him with his own guns.

### A Take Off

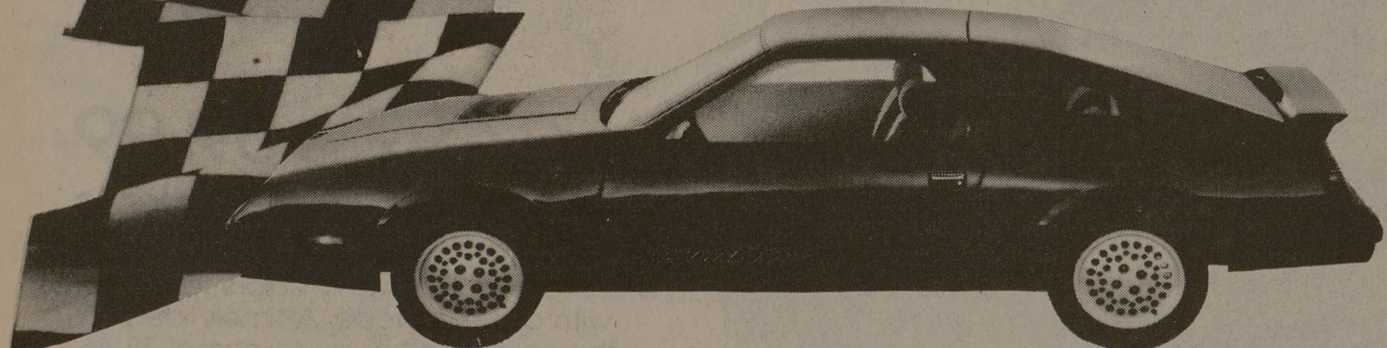


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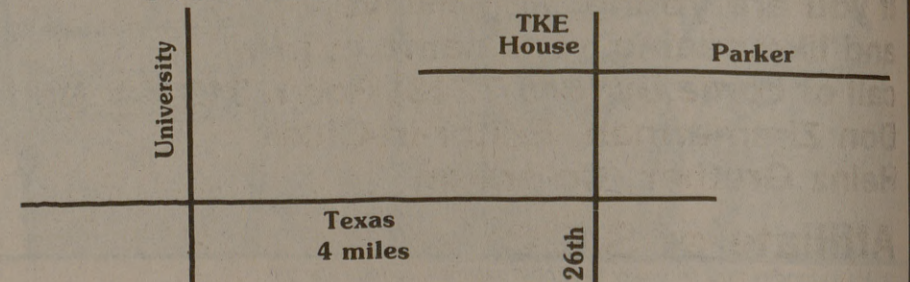
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