

## Around town

### Defensive driving course offered

A defensive driving course, conducted by the Brazos Valley Safety Agency will be Friday and Saturday at the Ramada Inn. The class will meet from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday evening and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday morning. Students must attend all eight hours.

Another class will be Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 also at the Ramada Inn. The class will meet from 6 to 10 p.m. both evenings. Those interested can pre-register by telephone at 846-1904 or 846-9271 or at 5 p.m. at the Ramada Inn before the classes.

The purpose of the defensive driving class is basic driver improvement. By taking the class the driver can obtain a 10 percent reduction in insurance rates and traffic fine dismissal. Fees for the class are \$20 per student payable at pre-registration.

### Mills committee to award fellowships

The W.G. Mills Memorial Fellowship Committee is accepting applications for the W.G. Mills Fellowship in Hydrology for the Spring semester. Deadline for application is today.

### MSC Hospitality looking for members

The MSC Hospitality Committee is taking applications for new members. Applications are due today. Interviews will be conducted from Jan. 30 to Feb. 1.

### Order of Rainbow to install officers

The Order of Rainbow for Girls will have an open installation of its officers Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Brazos Valley Union Lodge at 107A Main Street in Bryan.

The Order of the Rainbow for Girls is open to daughters and friends of Masons. Worthy Advisor for the group is Shannon Stuckey and Mother Advisor is Kay Drescher. The group meets the first and fourth Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Union Lodge.

### Boat and Sport Show this weekend

The 6th Annual Brazos Valley Boat and Sport Show will be today, Saturday and Sunday at the Brazos Center. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. today and Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

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

# Newsletter aids homesick 'Brits'

United Press International

NEW ORLEANS — Homesick for Hampshire? Curious about Chichester? Thirsty for news of your native isle that digs deeper than Princess Di's fertility or the latest spy scandal in Cabinet?

As a veteran of life in the colonies, Hilary Brookes knows well the search for that bit of news — or that bit of sausage — that will be forever England. And a small but growing number of "Brits," strewn from Florida to California, are looking to her for the latest.

Britannia, her fledging newsletter, is a lively combination of news summaries from English papers, sentimental memories of home and pragmatic advice on finding food from plum pudding to kippers in a can.

"The recent emphasis on being ethnic has finally made the British aware," said Brookes, who prides herself on roots in Yorkshire. "I don't care if they were in Siberia. They never considered themselves foreigners. They considered the Russians foreigners, not them."

Now all that is changing. The British, who once disappeared into the layers of American society with far greater ease than other ethnic groups, realize that even close ties and decades of residency cannot wipe out their unique identity.

Brookes sees several reasons for this phenomenon beyond increased awareness of roots. A heightened sense of nationalism spawned by the Falklands War is one. A reaction to the lack of coverage given substantive British news in the American media is another.

"I haven't seen anything really that I would want to print about Princess Di," she said. "I don't think most people want to see a picture of a pregnant lady in a bikini, no matter who she is. That's Benny Hill journalism."

Though she perceived a need for a newsletter such as hers, Brookes said she was surprised by the enthusiasm and geographic diversity of the response.

Beyond the British community of Louisiana, she has received subscription orders from Florida, Virginia, Mississippi, Texas and California, without spending a penny on advertising.

At \$10 a year, the subscription income is hardly going to excite Barclay's Bank — even with Brookes writing, typing and mailing out the newsletter

herself. She has about 200 subscribers and hopes to build circulation enough to make it a full-time living.

She dreams of a spruced-up national version in the future.

"Virtually every check has a note attached saying, 'Thank God you did this. Where were you 20 years ago?'" she said. "Some of the Brits who've called me have been here 40 years. They're Americanized, but there's still that longing for home."

It is a longing Brookes knows well.

Marriage took her from the mist-draped valleys of Yorkshire, celebrated by James Her-

riott in "All Creatures Great and Small," to the streets of San Angelo.

Divorce tossed her rudely into the American work force, which was less impressed by her lifetime of avid reading than her lack of a college education.

Starting as a waitress to support herself and a son, she worked her way up to legal secretary. When her son reached adolescence, she felt she could finally trade security for the pursuit of a few dreams — and her college diploma.

Though it frustrated her creativity a bit, the secretarial work did introduce her to the computer technology she uses to

produce Britannia. Her word processor set her back more than \$2,000, and she says it still belongs as much to her credit card as to her.

The monthly "newsletter for expatriate Britons" makes a quirky mix indeed — part serious and part tongue in cheek. It features stiff upper lip summaries of English news and edi-

torials, complete with notes on how stories were displayed in The Times or The Guardian.

Yet it leaves plenty of room for a reader's poignant memories of growing up in Sussex, a pseudo-society report on a bash by "top trendsetters" and a mountain of chatty tips on tracking the elusive mincemeat pie or homemade chutney.

**MIKE'S DISCOUNT LIQUOR**

**Jack Daniels Black Label**  
90° Tenn. Sour Mash Whiskey  
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**Crown Royal**  
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**McCormick Vodka**  
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## Surgery

(continued from page 3)

"Home is a nicer place to be than a hospital," said Mahnky, especially for those patients who feel uncomfortable in a hospital.

For day surgery, patients come the day before their surgery and have necessary lab tests done. Printed instructions about surgical care as well as specifics related to anesthesia are given to the patient. Mahnky said the idea is to educate the patients about their surgery.

Even though patients are hospitalized for less than one day, they receive the same basic nursing care and facilities as overnight patients.

## PEKING GARDEN

Chinese Restaurant

### ALL YOU CAN EAT

Friday, Saturday and Sunday Evening

Buffet 6-8:00 p.m. \$4.98

Weekly Noon Buffet \$3.98

Buffets include: egg roll, fried rice, fried wonton soup, chicken lou mein, sweet and sour pork, and beef with broccoli.

Texas	OPEN DAILY:	1313 S. College
Comer	11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.	822-7661
S. College	5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	

# "Ladies"

The gentlemen of Crocker Hall would like to thank all of you for attending the 1984 version of the Crocker/Purveyor "All Girls Free Party" last Saturday, January 21, 1984. The problems which caused the early shutdown have been take care of to ensure an even better party next time. To prove our point, we cordially invite you to attend our Norman G. Crocker Birthday Celebration with us, February 18, 1984 at the Elks Lodge.

Thank You,

The Men of Crocker Hall

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**1:00 - 3:30 P.M.**

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