Child abuse cases up

United Press International

HOUSTON — Cases of sexual abuse of children have increased dramatically in the last 13 months, a Harris County official said Monday.

Elizabeth Scarborough, a director of the county's Childrens' Protective Services office, said childrens heightened awareness of the problem probably accounts for a 19 percent increase in reported cases from 1982 to 1983. "We suspect there is a lot

more abuse going on in the community than we hear about," she

For instance, she said there were 31 deaths of children from neglect or abuse in 1983, and that the county was not aware of "the majority" of those before

the youngster was killed.
"It is hard to say whether abuse is increasing. All we see are the cases reported. We think it may be worse because people are under stress because of their financial situations," she said.

There were 929 cases of sex-

Harris County, compared to 643 in 1982, Ms. Scarborough said.

And in the first month of 1984, the county has received 85 sexual abuse cases, compared to 60 in the first month of 1983.

Despite the increase in sexual abuse, the overall number of cases of abuse and neglect leveled off in 1982.

Figures over the past three ears are 7,303 cases in 1981; 8,660 in 1982 and 8,003 in 1983.









General Meeting February 1, 1984

6:30 p.m. 601 Rudder

Spring activities will be discussed

Chairman positions available

-Pizza at Pastas after meeting-

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Muster to remain on Easter weekend vio

By KARI WEEKS Reporter

The Muster Committee of the Student Government has voted to keep Muster on April

21 even though it falls during Easter weekend, Muster Chair-woman Nancy York said. In a December meeting, the Muster Committee voted 18-7 to keep San Jacinto Day as the tra-ditional day to honor students and former students who have died, York said.

'We researched both sides of the issue for about 2-1/2 months," York said. Even though an informal poll showed that 553 out of 857 students wanted to

change the date, the committee decided to hold the ceremony on the traditional day, she said.
"Some students threatened campus

not to attend if it was changed," Those in favor of April 21 did cided to hold its muster?

not want to break tradition, York said. However, many hometown musters are not held on the traditional San Jacinto Day, she said.

York said some students wanted to change the date because attendance might decline. They thought everyone should have the opportunity to attend Muster without having to choose between it and Easter weekend,

"There was concern to split would occur between campus Muster and the Br County muster," York said Brazos County A&M Cl even if the campus changed, York said.

There was a similar in 1968 when the Stud ate planned to reschedu ter for April 22. After student opposition Mus mained April 21.

"It is the feeling that on not the day," York said. "It is no way that we can know after the 21st if we made

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Dallas chimpanzee also nominated

latt leads 'bonehead

United Press International

DALLAS - Music critic and environmentalist James Watt Monday topped the list of nominees for "Bonehead of the Year," an award given annually by a Dallas civic group to honor monumental goofs and their perpetrators. Past winners have included former President Richard M. Nixon, the Susan B. Anthony Dollar and Texas A&M University.

A spokesman for the Bone-head Club of Dallas said Watt was selected because of the way in which he "established himself as a music critic, sociologist, environmentalist, comedian and all around loveable government employee" during his tenure as Secretary of the Interior.

During his stint as Interior

Secretary, Watt repeatedly drew ners of football game criticism for his remarks and actions, among them his ban of the Beach Boys from a July 4th concert in Washington.

"U.S. weather forecasters who did not see the 1983 deep freeze their fire station burned coming, could not believe it was ground. here and didn't know when it would leave.'

Also vying for the prize are "the Cabbage Patch dolls that somehow slipped between Darbrothers successfully achie win and Creationism and found-sustained, controlled flight ed a whole new concept of ori-gin" and "Kanda," the Dallas sign in 1865, was nomin gin" and "Kanda," the Dallas chimpanzee, that made monkeys out of the nations' pro football experts with her 'on the money' predictions."

The Dallas Zoo chimpanzee repeatedly bested sportswriters by correctly predicting the win-

Others singled out partment's on-the-job program in which

Divorce rate increases again

United Press International

WASHINGTON - Divorces increased in 1981 for the 19th million, up slightly from the previous year, the government said

In its report on final divorce data for 1981, the National Cen-

all geographic divisions except the eastern North Centra ter for Health Statistics said its of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, information indicated the di-vorce rate was 5.3 for each 1,000 vorces dropped to 206. up from 5.2 in 1980 and equal to the record set in 1979.

Preliminary statistics released the center late last year for 1982 show the number of divorces fell in that year for the first time in 20 years to 1.18 million and the divorce rate fell to 5.1 per 1,000 Americans. Pre- highest in the West, when liminary figures are not yet available for 1983.

In its new report, the agency said the 1.21 million divorces in 1981 compared to 1.19 million

the previous year. Increases were recorded in

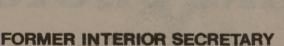
1980, the agency

California had 11 all divorces in the co 1981, or 133,578, follows Texas, with 101,856. Ver recorded fewer divorces any other state, 2,263.

The divorce rate al statistics measured 6.3 di for every 1,000 peop percent more than east's rate of 3.6. In the N Central States, the rate wa per 1,000 population and in South, 6.1, the agency said

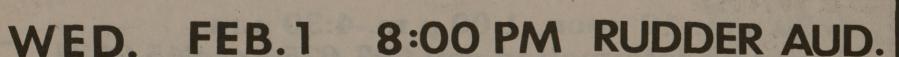


Preservation vs. Development



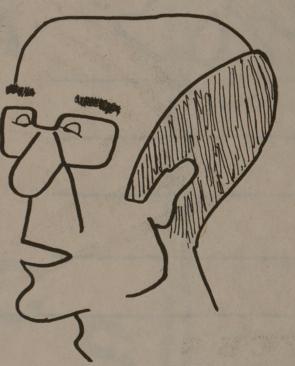
JAMES WATT

Students: 50¢/ Non-Students: \$1



*Tickets go sale Monday, Jan. 30.

Memorial Student Center





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