

# Geologist promoting oil-rich land

**United Press International**  
**LAKE OUACHITA, Ark.** — A geologist who attracted national attention with his pronouncements that the Ouachita mountains might be rich in oil has 20,000 acres at stake, but his love for Arkansas prompted his crusade.  
 A long-since transplanted Texan, John H. Gray of El Dorado, takes great pleasure in turning up images of wealth in the adopted Arkansas.  
 The first well has not been drilled, but Gray already is cautioning Arkansans about how to spend all the money, using old stories about the newly-rich hunting jackrabbits in Cadillacs over the discovery of large oil fields in Oklahoma and Texas

to warn against greed.  
 The content and the structure of the rocks that surround Lake Ouachita, which straddles Garland and Montgomery counties, prompted the reports about the possibility that huge oil and natural gas reserves might lie 15,000 feet below the surface. But the only way to prove it is to drill a well. That is what Gray and other geologists are waiting for.  
 Gray said he has leased 20,000 acres in the area, but frowns at the thought that someone might interpret that as a reason for promoting the area.  
 Major oil companies have leased most of the 1.5 million acres in the sprawling Ouachita

Mountains pinpointed by Arkansas geologists in 1979 as a potential oil and gas resource.  
 The key to Gray's optimism is the economics of the oil business that recently has made the expense of drilling 15,000 feet and below feasible.  
 The reason he openly discusses the area is that he is an independent geologist, beholden to no traditionally tight-lipped oil companies, Gray said.  
 Gray averages two speeches a week to various civic groups around the state. He first started talking about the potential for oil finds in February. Gray has averaged 70-75 telephone calls a month from the curious since then.  
 "You have to be an optimist.

When you're out on new ground, you always have skeptics," Gray said during a tour of rock formations edging Lake Ouachita on Saturday for 35 reporters, geologists and energy industry representatives.  
 Gray has been transformed into a hometown celebrity, with one politician during a recent speech in El Dorado asking if Moses was anywhere in the audience hawking his promised land.  
 "It's kind of fun. My wife is sorry," Gray said about all the attention.  
 A likeable man with a friendly face and a funny story at every stop on the tour, Gray said his career is just his way of continuing his childhood play at

the rock pile.  
 When Gray learned that geologists actually made a living at playing with rocks, the native of Fort Worth enrolled at what is now the University of Texas at El Paso and came away a geologist in 1948.  
 He still plays with rocks, shrugging off icy rain on the Saturday barge tour to scramble up jagged cliffs and pick at the quartz, shale and sandstone. He joked about the bane of all geologists — snakes.  
 His silvered hair is his resume. Gray, who has worked in Arkansas, Texas, Mexico and China, said he would not have survived 36 years in oil and gas exploration without a good record of success.

**MSC OPAS**  
**Academy of St. Martin**  
**In the Fields Octet**  
 April 11  
**Rudder Auditorium**  
 Tickets: MSC Box Office  
 845-1234

# Manager of chicken restaurant gives Geter a free lifetime pass

**United Press International**  
**GREENVILLE** — The manager of a fast-food restaurant which figured in Lenell Geter's month legal ordeal gave the black engineer a lifetime pass for free chicken.  
 Geter and NAACP attorney George Hairston Saturday stopped by the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant Saturday on their way to a black-tie banquet in Dallas, where Geter and Anthony Williams, his former roommate, presented awards to two of their lawyers on behalf of black attorneys' group.

"He wanted chicken," Geter said when asked why he and Hairston stopped at the restaurant northeast of Dallas. "I guess it was a spur-of-the-moment thing."  
 Geter said Joe Cuna, the manager of the restaurant, recognized Geter and gave him a business card with a handwritten lifetime free meal pass on the back.  
 "We were really touched he'd come in," Cuna said. "I guess he just wanted to show us everything was cool."  
 None of the employees Saturday

were working at the restaurant when police claimed Geter robbed it in August 1982.  
 An investigation by Greenville police implicated Geter in the robbery. Although he was never charged in the case, Greenville police circulated erroneous information which contributed to his conviction and life sentence in a robbery at a Balch Springs Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant.  
 Williams, another black engineer at E-Systems Inc. in Greenville, was charged with robbing a Taco Bell restaurant

in Garland. Williams was acquitted at a trial last year.  
 After media attention to allegations that racism led to Geter's conviction, the engineer was granted a new trial, which had been scheduled to start Monday.

**AUTO INSURANCE FOR AGGIES**  
 Call: George Webb  
 Farmers Insurance Group  
 3400 S. College 823 8051

**Alpha Kappa Psi**  
 National Professional Business Fraternity announces its  
 1st Annual Sale of  
**Easter "Agg" Baskets**  
 -candy filled baskets will be sold April 9-17 in the MSC, Commons, & Blocker Building for \$5.00.  
 -on campus delivery will be April 18-19.

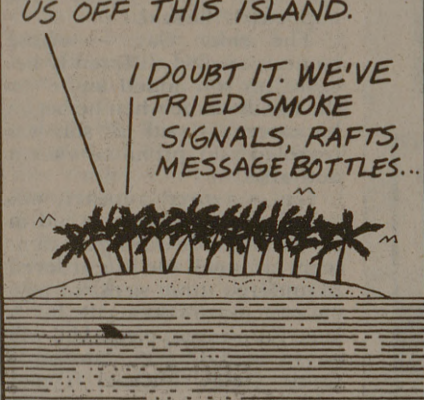


# Maine police on guard during trial of radical

**United Press International**  
**PORTLAND, Maine** — A 45-year-old radical who hid out seven years before his arrest in Texas was found guilty of robbing a bank as a member of a feared terrorist gang that included two men now on the FBI's "10 Most Wanted" list.  
 In the final days of the two-week U.S. District Court trial of James Barrett, jittery police — apparently fearing his commotion would try and disrupt the proceedings — made two "missing" arrests of men answering

the description of the fugitives.  
 It took the jury 10 1/2 hours of deliberations to find Barrett, 45, guilty late Saturday. He faces up to 25 years in prison.  
 U.S. marshals imposed tight security, including sealing the courthouse and checking everyone for weapons.  
 The prosecution charged Barrett was a member of the "Jonathan Jackson-Sam Melville Brigade," a terrorist group named for two dead revolutionaries.

I'VE FINALLY FIGURED OUT SOMETHING TO GET US OFF THIS ISLAND.  
 I DOUBT IT. WE'VE TRIED SMOKE SIGNALS, RAFTS, MESSAGE BOTTLES...



BUT THIS WILL ATTRACT SOME ATTENTION.



**Padre CAFE**  
 Home of World Class Chicken Fried Steak and the "Luncheon Surprise"




**Padre CAFE**  
 really fine eats  
 Dominik Drive  
 College Station-BY-THE-SEA



**April 19th**


MSC Endowed  
 Lecture  
 Series



Henry **Kissinger**      Marvin **Kalb**      Alexander **Haig**

**"Perspectives on U.S. Foreign Policy"**

tickets available at MSC Box Office 845-1234

 Memorial Student Center