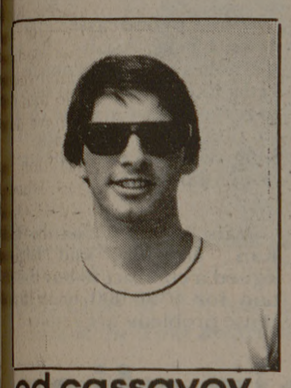
Hockey fever not catching



ed cassavoy
sports writer

Doctors quake with fear at the telltale symptoms. An international incident can be sparked by the results of one game. Canada stops functioning until the final puck has been dropped. Diagnosis: hockey fever.

Every April, the battle for Lord Stanley's cup begins. By the end of May, all but one has disappeared from the playoff picture. For one month, the hockey fan's world is in turmoil.

Many Aggies may question the mere mention of this alien sport in The Battalion, but someone has to do it.

The Eagle, bless its poor misguided heart, doesn't realize that there are any hockey fans in Bryan-College Station. The Eagle does toss the daily standings and scores to the crazed hockey nut. But what a pitiful sight to watch the snivelling hockey fan drooling over these stats until their sweaty fingers smear the ink.

Of course you can always catch the scores in the Houston Post or Chronicle, unless they decide to put the NBA scores where the NHL standings should be (this actually happened.).

Snap on the television set to the USA cable network. Want excitement, thrills and incredible athletic moments to cherish? Then turn that T.V. set right back off.

Or watch the Love Boat.

The USA network has shown a distinct lack of hockey acumen in the current crop of games it has televised. Did you catch the stirring Washington-Philadelphia game? The outcome was up in the air for a staggering 10 minutes. I'm grateful for those precious few moments, because watching Philadelphia in the playoffs is like observing the growth of moss on the side of a tree.

Of course I know that network scheduling is written in stone. But, can we talk? A little flexibility wouldn't hurt.

Sadly, hockey fans missed one of the biggest upsets of the playoff. A floundering Montreal team humbled the mighty Bruins in three straight games. Why? A rookie goalie in Montreal by the name of Penney has inspired them — a la Andy Moog — to eat Boston for lunch.

But sorry, you missed it. Uh, maybe you can read about it in The Eagle.

It is so sad to have such apathy for hockey in the South. Granted this is not the ideal climate for developing a love for the game — when was the last time Lake Somerville froze? — so growth will be slow.

I happened to be discussing the sad state-of-affairs in Texas with a fellow reporter who went to Dallas Black Hawk's games. Her reason for seeing a hockey game — the fights.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of U.S. hockey fans feel the same way, not having outgrown their bloodlust. Fans from Boston, Chicago, New York, Detroit and maybe Minnesota do show more maturity. They don't stand up to watch any melees that erupt on the ice.

So maybe there is hope for the fastest sport in the world. Who doesn't feel a twinge of excitement watching Guy Lafleur wheel up the ice? Or having the camera zoom in on a penalized player swearing lustily. Each word obvious to anyone watching his lips move. Or the quick panning of the camera over the player's bench, the camera isolating on the one player spitting through the gap in his teeth. Pure art.

And if you are a hockey fan, write me here at The Battalion and tell me who you think will win the Stanley Cup. All three of you.

Cup playoffs continue

United Press International

Only eight teams remain in the hunt for the NHL's Stanley Cup. Tonight, the defending champion New York Islanders will try to escape another tough series.

New York hosts Washington in a best-of-seven Patrick Division final, one of four division title battles. Other action tonight finds St. Louis at Minnesota in the Norris Division, Calgary at Edmonton in the Smythe Division and Montreal at Quebec in the Adams Division.

The Islanders' won their series with the New York Rangers 3-2. Ken Morrow's overtime goal in the fifth game was the difference.

"We were afraid to lose," Morrow said of his team's frantic efforts to continue their bid for a fifth consecutive Stanley Cup title.

Islanders coach Al Arbour credited the victory to goaltender Bill Smith's 41 saves.

"Billy kept us in the game," Arbour said. "Without him it was all over."

New York's next opponent, Washington, has never been this far in the playoffs. In 1983, their first post-season appearance, the Capitals were eliminated in the first round by the Islanders.

Minnesota has built up a rivalry with St. Louis during the season, winning five, losing two and tying one with the Blues. The North Stars are coming off a series win against Chicago, while St. Louis beat Detroit.

"All of our games with St. Louis were hard fought," Minnesota coach Bill Mahoney said. "I'd rate the Blues as an outstanding physical checking team."

Edmonton was the leading scorer in the preliminary round with 18 goals in a three-game sweep of Winnipeg, but the Oiler powerplay was rendered impotent by the Jets, a situation that coach Glen Sather strived to correct during the last four days of practice.

"We weren't very effective," Sather said. "I think we went nine chances without scoring on the power play and I can't remember the last time that happened."

Gamblers trade Dykes, draft choice for Raines

United Press International

HOUSTON — The USFL Houston Gamblers Wednesday traded defensive back Donald Dykes to the Jacksonville Bulls for defensive end Vaughn Michael Raines, officials said.

The team also placed offensive tackle Denver Johnson on suspension, but no reason for the suspension was released.

JEFF'S PERFORMANCE CENTER
1801 Cavitt

- Tune-Ups
- Starters
- Clutches
- Carb Repairs
- Alternators
- Brakes
- General Auto Repairs
- Complete Engine Repair
- Machine Shop
- Corvette Repairs of all Types
- Hi-Performance Parts & Accessories
- All Work Fully Guaranteed

Bryan 775-8994 822-4934

AGGIE BLOOD DRIVE

Keg Contest

Last Chance to Register - Friday, April 13th

Any organization or group of people is eligible.

Registration table outside 216 MSC.

BOB BROWN UNIVERSAL TRAVEL

COMPLETE, DEPENDABLE DOMESTIC AND WORLDWIDE TRAVEL

• Airline Reservations • Hotel/Motel Accomodations
• Travel Counsel • Rental Car Reservations • Tours
• Charter Flights • FREE Ticket Delivery

846-8718

• Agency is fully computerized•
410 S. Texas/ Lobby of the Ramada Inn/College Station

Tower Dining Room

TRA — Eating Out Is Fun

Serving
Luncheon Buffet
Sandwich and
Soup Bar
Mezzanine Floor
Sunday through Friday
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Delicious Food
Beautiful View

Open to the Public
"Quality First"

ALL STAR AUDIO — YOUR #1 DISCOUNTER!

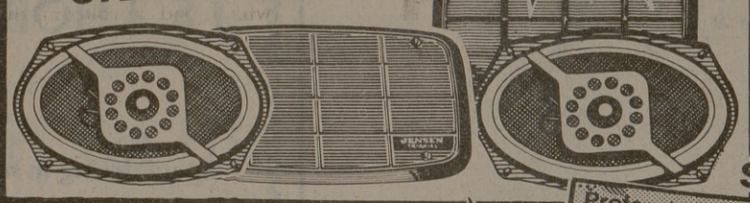
PRICES ARE AT ALL TIME LOWS!

PRICE BUSTERS!

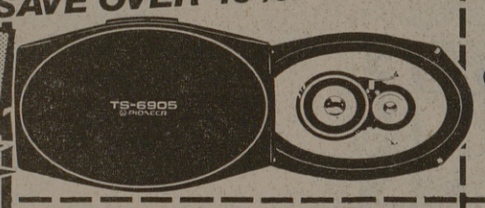
TODAY Home and Car Stereo and Video equipment is priced to move! Save on Every Item in Stock!

WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD!

JENSEN
Car Stereo Speakers
with 45 watts power handling in 6" × 9" two-way design. Model J-1069, List $86 pr.
$39.95
OVER HALF OFF!

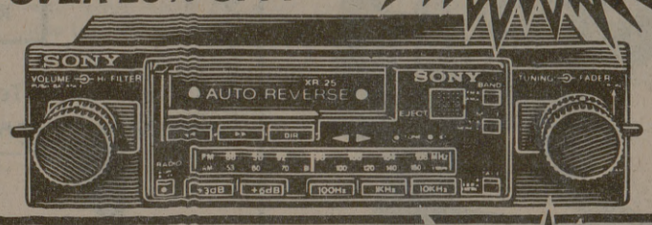


PIONEER
Deluxe Car Stereo Speakers
with 6" × 9" three-way design and 80 watts power handling. Model TS-6905, List $120 pr.
$79.95
SAVE OVER 40%!

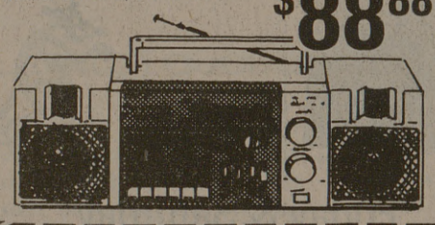


Technics
Quartz Controlled Turntable
with fully automatic design and front panel controls. List $160.
$99.95
OVER 35% OFF!

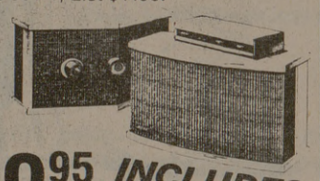
SONY
High Performance Car Stereo
featuring AM/FM receiver, auto-reverse cassette player and fader control. Model XR-25, List $240.
$169.95
OVER 25% OFF!
Professional Car Stereo Installation WHILE YOU WAIT!



UNITECH
Complete Portable Component Stereo
including AM/FM stereo receiver, cassette deck, detachable two-way speakers, and AC/DC power option. Model CX-800, List $120.
$88.88

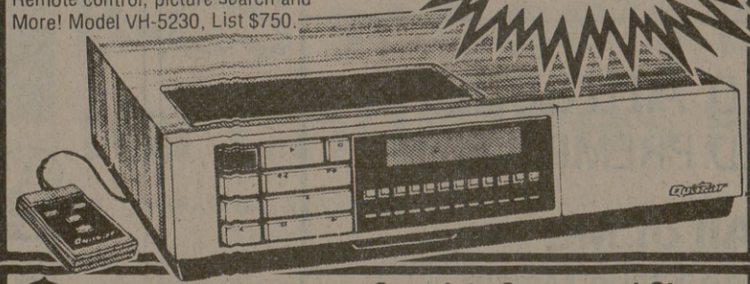


BOSE
Home Loudspeakers
featuring unlimited power capability and famous "Direct-Reflecting" sound, Series 901-V, List $1400.
SAVE OVER $500!

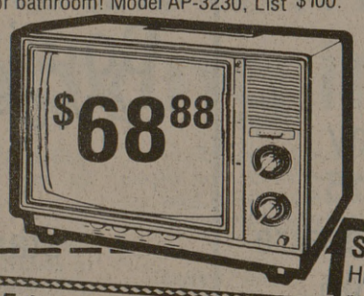


$899.95 INCLUDES EQUALIZER!

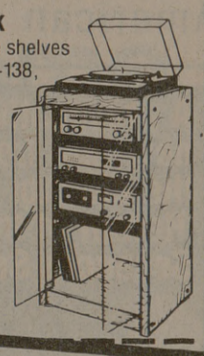
Quasar
Cable Ready VHS Video Recorder
featuring four head, 3 speed design for ultra clear special effects. Top loading with One Touch Recording, Remote control, picture search and More! Model VH-5230, List $750.
SAVE OVER $200!
$549.95



Quasar
Portable Television
12" diagonal black and white portable t.v. Perfect for the kitchen or bathroom! Model AP-3230, List $100.
$68.88



O'SULLIVAN
Deluxe Audio Rack
with glass doors, moveable shelves and record rack. Model AR-138, List $110.
NOW 28% OFF!
$78.88



HITACHI
Complete Component Stereo System
SAVE OVER $300!
$499.95

featuring 25 watt amplifier, AM/FM tuner, semi-automatic turntable with plug-in cartridge, cassette deck with Dolby Noise Reduction, two-way 10" speakers and deluxe audio rack with glass doors! Model AG-225, List $810.

Extended Warranty Contracts Now Available! Introductory Prices! up to 5 years extended warranty on car stereo, home stereo, or video. Free parts and labor.

LOW LOW DISCOUNT PRICES EVERYDAY!

SONY UCX-90 ..... $2.29 ea.
High Bias 90 minute cassettes for natural sound reproduction. List $5.75 ea.
MAXELL UDXL-II-C90 ..... $2.49 ea.
90 minute high bias cassette tape. Famous Maxell quality! List $7.25 ea.
SONY T-120 ..... $6.88 ea.
VHS 2-4-6 hour video cassette tape from the industry leaders! List $25 ea.
SONY L-830 ..... $8.88 ea.
Beta video tape for 3-5 hour recording. List $22 ea.
P.D. MAGNETICS T-120 (10 PACK) . $59.95
High grade, pure chrome VHS 2-4-6 hour video tape. Now $69.95 less manufacturer's $10 rebate. List $250/10 pack.

BRYAN
HOURS: Monday thru Saturday 9AM to 6PM.
3601 East 29th Street 846-1768
in Brookwood Square

COLLEGE STATION
HOURS: Monday thru Friday 10AM to 7PM, Saturday 9AM to 6PM.
913 Harvey Road 693-9558
in Woodstone Shopping Center next to Monterey House

Bryan and College Station locations formerly Dyer Electronics

List prices shown in this ad are usually the manufacturers suggested selling prices. Although our normal retail prices are usually below manufacturers list prices, the prices listed in this ad offer outstanding savings to our customers in our opinion.