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Page 8/The Battalion/Thursday, November 15, 1984

#### Woman asks race change

**United Press International** 

NEW ORLEANS - The fairskinned family of a Louisiana woman who wants her birth certificate changed to say she is white in-stead of black could have been lynched if it had tried to "pass" for white in the 1930s, their lawyer said Wednesday.

But in these "enlightened times," said lawyer Brian Begue, the state should be willing to change the birth certificate for Susie Guillory Phipps because she considers herself white

Arguing before a panel of the 4th Louisiana Circuit Court of Appeal, made up of two white men and one black woman, Begue said there is no scientific way to determine racial makeup when chromosomes are genetically dealt like a pack of cards.

When Phipps first filed suit in 1981, Louisiana had a law saying anyone with more than 1-32nd "black blood" — or a black greatgreat-great grandparent — should be considered black. The law has since been repealed.

According to earlier testimony, Phipps said she knew that the family had a black ancestor, a slave named Margarita who designated baby Susie as "colored." Phipps' and her siblings went through church and school listed as black, but later generations were recorded as white and Phipps' parents were designated white on their death certificates in The state, however, still requires a

"preponderance of evidence" to make any change in official records, including race, sex, age and names.

Jack Westholz, representing the

state Health Department, said Phipps' church and school records from Acadia Parish in the '30s and '40s list her as black. Elderly relatives testified at her trial that the family

Begue then displayed a leatherbound family photograph album to the judges showing a fair-skinned

"I mean, look at these people!" he said. "They were victims of the times. People were getting lynched out in the country for trying to pass as white. They had no choice

Phipps was applying for a pass-port in 1977 when she noticed her birth certificate contained the desig-

Begue said the state is on a "fool's errand" to try to keep track of such ancestors and unfairly focuses on

"We maintain it is insensitive. unscientific, born in slavery and fos-

tered in Jim Crow," he said.

## What's up

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: is sponso ing a seminar on developing speaking skills tonight at p.m. in 601 Rudder.

**MSC VARIETY SHOW:** is accepting applications for performers. Applications available in 216 MSC.

STUDY ABROAD: study abroad in Italy through the Colleg of Liberal Arts. There will be a meeting at 8:30 p.m.

NORTH LOUISIANA HOMETOWN CLUB: the picture for the Aggieland will be taken at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC

TEXAS SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION: Dr William Sprins will discuss survey adn mapping in the Defense Mappin Agency at 7:30 p.m. in 110 Civil Engineering Building. STUDY ABROAD: study in England through the College

night. To

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Liberal Arts. There will be a meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 14 TAU BETA PI: offers tutoring in freshman and sophomore engineering classes from 5 to 8 p.m. in 119C Zachry.

CHURCH OF CHRIST STUDENT ORGANIZATION John Leonard will lead a discussion on "Creation or Evolu tion?" at 7:30 p.m. in the All Faiths Chapel Sanctuary. Al students are welcome.

**TAMU BICYCLING CLUB:** is having the last general meeting of the semester at 8:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

VICTORIA AREA HOMETOWN CLUB: is meeting at p.m. in 510 Rudder. All Aggies who live in the Victoria area are welcome.

MSC INTERNATONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: is presenting the film "Moscow Doesn't Believe in Tears 1981 Academy Award winner at 8 p.m. in 207 Harrington SOUTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA AREA HOMETOWN CLUB: is meeting at 8:30 p.m. in A-1 lounge for a Philadelphia style hoagie party.

CHI ALPHA: is meeting in 410 Rudder for fellowship, Bible

BOWIE COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB: is meeting at p.m. in 502 Rudder for a general meeting.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY: is meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Zachry lobby to have Aggieland pictures taken. MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE: is showing 'The Bugs Bunny-/Road Runner Movie" at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. in 701 Rud

MSC PRESENTATIONS: Otto Jaeger will present "The Decline of the Modern City: The Need for a More Man-centered Architecture." The program begins at 7:30 p.m in

105C Architecture Building LONGVIEW-KILGORE HOMETOWN CLUB: pictures for the Aggieland will be taken at 7:45 p.m. in Zachry lobb

CORPUS CHRISTI AREA HOMETOWN CLUB: is meet ing at 7:30 p.m. in 308 Rudder. Officers will be elected and

goals will be set. AGGIE WOMEN ASSOCIATION: is presenting a panel discussion on "Superwoman of the 80's." It will deal with bal-

ancing your career and personal life. SCUBA CLUB: members interested in going on the dive trip to Lake Travis this weekend should contact Jeff or Mike.

REGIONAL STUDIES CLUB: Dr. Al Ringleb of the man agement department will discuss the impacts of the proposed Textron project at noon in the Langford Gallery. ABILENE HOMETOWN CLUB: pictures for the Aggieland

will be taken at 6:45 p.m. in the MSC lobby.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS CLUB: is meeting at 7 p.m. in 112 O&M. Frank Novak of Republic Securities Corporation will speak.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to desired publication date.

# Inmate injured in Huntsville in 336th stabbing of the year

**United Press International** 

HUNTSVILLE - A prisoner at the Ellis One Unit here was stabbed three times Wednesday in the 336th inmate stabbing in Texas this year, a Texas Department of Corrections spokesman said.

TDC spokesman Charles Brown said inmate Robert Bethea, 36, was stabbed three times in a fight officials believe is gang-related. He was listed in poor condition Wednesday night at the TDC hospital in Galves-

It was the third Texas inmate stabbing in three days.

Bethea is serving 25 years for auto theft, unauthorized use of an auto-

Brown said the incident occurred about 12:15 p.m. Wednesday in the rity cell to a day room. Tamez was

mobile and possession of drugs.

Leo Barnard Jr., 22, is suspected in the stabbing, Brown said. Barnard is serving five years for unauthorized use of an automobile The incident was the third in two

prison dining room. He said Bethea-

was eating lunch when a fellow pris-oner stabbed him in the neck from

behind. Bethea attempted to kick his

attacker, but was then stabbed in the

left leg and right forearm, Brown

days at Texas prison units. In two unrelated incidents at the Ramsey II Unit in Rosharon Tuesday, an inmate was stabbed and a guard was struck by a convict.

Guard David Tamez was struck on the head while he was attempting to take an inmate from a high secuincident. Bryant is serving a life se tence for a Palo Pinto County aggre vated robbery. An hour later, a different inn was stabbed.

treated at the unit's infirmary.

Roy Bryant, 33, is suspected in

Ray Lee Hughes, 25, servingers years for a Dallas County convic of possession of a gun by a felon, treated at the infirmary after bell

Suspected in the incident is a non King Jr., 27, serving 25 je for involuntary manslaughter.

cut in the arm with a sharpent

piece of flat metal.

Assistant Warden D.F. Donne said officials have not established motive for the stabbing.

## Boy is better off in a foster home than with parents, witnesses say

**United Press International** SAN DIEGO — A second witness

has testified that 13-year-old Brian Batey would be better off in a foster home than with either his homosexual father or his fundamentalist Christian mother. Kathy Patrick, a court conciliation

counselor who was assigned to the case in 1981, recommended in San Diego Superior Court Wednesday that Brian be made a ward of the court rather than be turned over to one of the divorced couple.

Tuesday, court-appointed psy-chologist Dr. Russell Gold testified that neither parent could supply the right kind of home atmosphere for

Brian was living with his father in Palm Springs in 1982 when he was taken to Texas and Colorado by his mother, whom he had gone to visit in San Diego. The pair spent the next 18 months underground with various members of Mrs. Batey's

Mrs. Batey, 40, surrendered the FBI in Denver last May. Br surfaced a few days later. She l trial on child-stealing charges Jan

Mrs. Batey claimed she took son out of California because feared for his safety while he li with his father and his roomn described in court as Frank Bate)

The custody hearing was pected to end sometime next week

# KKK wizard released from prison

**United Press International** 

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — After spending two years in a federal prison in Texas for planning an invasion of a Caribbean nation, Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard Don Black is scheduled to return to Alabama

Black, 30, is to be released at 8 a.m. from a federal prison in Big Spring, according to a spokesman for the Klan leader. He said Black

would arrive in Birmingham by private jet "between 11 and 11:30 and planned to hold a news conference

Black received the two-year prison sentence for violating the Neutrality Act, which forbids American citizens from launching an invasion against nations with which the

United States is at peace.
Black and 10 other Klansmen were arrested near New Orleans in

1981 as they set out to invade the ribbean island nation of Dominic Last month, Black said planned to organize a group ( unteers to fight Communists it tral America. He said at the tim he did not fear another charge olating the Neutrality Act, be federal officials have not against a north Alabama-la group that has been aiding Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua.

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