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Fontenot trial

Detective ignored lead in love triangle murder

Associated Press
LIVINGSTON — A detective testified Wednesday he never checked out what he described as "hearsay" reports about a former junior high school coach allegedly murdered by the school's principal.
Jimmy Belt, who headed the Liberty County sheriff's department investigation into the slaying of Billy Mac Fleming, said he received but did not follow up on information that the coach was seen alive after being given a ride to the school field-house by Hurley Fontenot.

Fontenot, 48, former principal of Hull-Daisetta Woodson Junior High

School, is being tried for Fleming's murder.

Authorities allege Fleming and Fontenot were rivals for the affections of the school's secretary.

Fleming, 38, disappeared April 12 and was found in a forested area 10 days later.

He had been shot twice in the back of the head with a .22-caliber gun.

Fontenot admitted he was the last person to see Fleming alive, but told investigators that he went to Houston and then drove to a Louisiana horse track at the time of Fleming's death.

Under cross-examination by de-

fense attorney Dick DeGuerin, Belt also testified he received reports that the slaying might be connected to the mysterious disappearance of Fleming's former business partner.

Belt said Lynda Fleming told investigators that her estranged husband's former partner in a carpet company was allegedly involved in illegal drugs.

She also told lawmen they would find cocaine at Fleming's apartment in Liberty, Belt said.

While searching Fleming's apartment five days after his disappearance, investigators found a baggie containing a white powder they suspect is cocaine, he said.

Lufkin Congressman's office gets every kind of request

Associated Press
LUFKIN — Who ya gonna call when Soviet submarines appear in Lake Sam Rayburn or bounty hunters show up at Toledo Bend?

Why, your man in Washington, of course. For East Texans that's Rep. Charles Wilson.

Each month the Lufkin Democrat gets hundreds of letters. Generally, people write to voice their opinions or seek help in obtaining public benefits. Some, however, are trying to cut short military or prison time, beat a traffic ticket, or inquire about strange happenings.

A woman near Toledo Bend asked about a statement, attributed to the congressman, that Gov. Mark White would be willing to send a bounty hunter to clean up an arson problem. Though doubtful of the rumor, she was afraid about possible violence.

Another constituent called to report Russian submarines.

"Anything the human mind can conjure up, they ask us about," says Peyton Walters, Wilson's district director, who answers some of the mail.

"Charlie gives us total discretion," says Walters. "We try to be very careful. It can come back to haunt you."

Once, Walters sent a letter to the Texas Employment Commission commending the TEC for two crack-jack secretaries it had sent over.

"They showed it to Charlie and

asked, 'How come you're commending us on the one hand and cutting off our funding on the other?'" The funding was omitted by oversight from an appropriations bill, according to Walters.

Walters said, "A lot of times we'll ask the Washington office to call a

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One constituent wrote to find out why his health care aide had stopped coming by, said Linda Walters, a case worker and Peyton's wife.

"We contacted the health care provider. They said they had removed her at her husband's request, because she and the man were sleeping together."

Mrs. Walters tactfully informed the man that "someone new has been lined up, and you should be sure to try to treat her with courtesy and respect."

Unchastened, he replied, "I am a double amputee, and I had a prostate operation. I didn't think I could. She insisted I could."

Envelopes can be amusing, too. One constituent addressed an envelope: "Charles Wilson, U.S. House of Representatives, Public Document, Official Business, Washington, D.C. 20515." Another was respectfully sent: "House of Representatives, The Honorable Charles Wilson, Congressman, Congress of the United States, Washington, D.C. 20515."

Though some people call or write claiming to be Wilson's friend — one person made the mistake of calling him "Chuck" — Mrs. Walters says this isn't necessary.

More to the point, aides say, is what you're asking.

Wilson is proud of the liaison work his office does in such matters as Social Security, Social Security disability, veterans' benefits, tax dealings and immigration. "That's what we do better than anybody else in the world," he says.

On the other hand, the office doesn't get involved in legal matters or requests to get out of military service.

Cartoonist injured in air crash

Associated Press
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Cartoonist Berke Breathed, creator of the popular "Bloom County" comic strip, suffered a fractured spine Wednesday when the ultralight aircraft in which he was riding crashed, authorities said.

The ultralight, which was carrying Breathed and another man, crashed north of Albuquerque on an Indian reservation near Interstate 25, according to a dispatcher with the Bernalillo County sheriff's department.

Police on the Sandia Pueblo reservation refused to release any information about the accident involving the craft, which resembles a glider with an engine.

Breathed was treated for a fracture of the spine at St. Joseph Hospital in Albuquerque, where he was listed in satisfactory condition, said Lillian Patterson, the evening supervisor at the hospital.

Execution set for convict for third time

Associated Press
GREENVILLE — A convicted killer sentenced to death for the 1982 shooting of a Virginia businessman has received a March 3 execution date.

State District Judge E. Paul Banner of Greenville on Tuesday set the execution date, the third for John Michael Lamb, 28.

The Death Row inmate was sentenced to die by injection for the November 1982 robbery and fatal shooting of Jerry Harrison Chafin. Lamb had been scheduled to be executed last July 22 and Oct. 7, but received a stay each time.

The last execution in Texas was carried out Sept. 11. Other executions scheduled since then were stayed pending a Supreme Court decision on a case challenging the exclusion of death penalty opponents from capital murder juries.

Pat Magee's



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TO DO LIST

1. Pat parking tickets.
2. Take 100% cotton shirts to ALBURN cleaners.
- *3. Attend AA & Co's presentation on Tues. Jan. 20th @ Hilton 6 pm. CASUAL.
4. Sign up for AA & Co. interview on campus FEB. 4-7.
5. Have yearbook picture taken.

Management Information Consulting at Arthur Andersen is at the leading edge of innovative business practices. Our mission: to help clients obtain the information they need to plan, to manage and to seize opportunities essential to the progress and continued growth of their organizations.

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We will be recruiting on the Texas A&M campus February 4-7, 1986. Students graduating in May or the summer are eligible to sign up in the placement office for an interview. No use of bid points is required as all sign-ups will be manual.

Arthur Andersen & Co. wants to help you understand our Consulting Division and extends an invitation to attend an informative reception on Tuesday evening, January 28th at 6:00 p.m. in the Bluebonnet Room of the College Station Hilton. Representatives from AA&Co.'s Texas offices will be in attendance to discuss any questions you have about the Management Consulting Division. Dress is casual.

