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Insurance laws 2nd target for consumer groups in Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Top spokesmen for statewide consumer groups agreed Monday that efforts change Texas' insurance laws will be second only to the crucial issue of raising state revenues during the

1987 Legislature. Carol Barger, Southwest director of the Consumers Union, told a news conference. "Questions about the growing costs and availability of insurance should not result in solutions, which deprive consumers of

important rights and put profits be-fore human health and safety." Rebecca Lightsey, representing the Alliance for Legal and Insurance Equity, said, "Simply accepting the rhetoric of the industry, that an increase in lawsuits is causing the problem, will not only leave us in the same bind, it could seriously limit some of the major court protections

many consumers need." Soaring costs of liability insurance and its availability have been under study by a House-Senate committee for several months in preparation for making recommendations to the 1987 session Barger said another important is-

sue faced by legislators are proposals to deregulate banking and allow in-terstate operation of banks.

She said Consumers Union was not against interstate banking but wants stronger disclosure laws and more safeguards to protect the average customer.

An effort to allow paid-off por-tions of homesteads to be placed un-der a second mortgage failed during the 1985 legislative session.

Var for the roses State's rose enthusiasts prepare for war against bugs

Spray! Spray!" e many of us are rummaging the closet looking for the ice nd picnic basket, Long and eds of Dallas-area rose enthuare locked in mortal combat sucking aphids, ravenous sand deadly fungi.

major rose shows; defeat defimeans a home-grown garden rica.

that

Jie

214 N Main

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Long's modest suburban house withrose bushes, each neatly labeled with the id mean triumph at one of the vide a quarantine bed for exotic waiting to produce that perfect specspecimens from Germany and Af- imen.

LINGTON (AP) — John Long spring's balmy breezes and ing blossoms with the war cry: of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which laims 200 members. Even the uninitiated cannot pass chemist. backyard where he mixes his own pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist. of the Mid-Cities Rose Society, which pesticide with the concentration of a chemist.

Last year he did not follow his out getting the clear impression that spraying schedule and paid the price he is not your garden-variety rose- when spider mites invaded. "They grower. In raised beds along the got to the foliage before I could stop house are more than 300 varieties of them," he says. "It cost me a queen. The queen: the best bloom of the official names such as "Ingrid Berg- show, the award every rose-grower man," "Sir Harry Pilkington," and covets. In six years of shows, Long "Uncle Joe." The center of the front has won three queens. Many serious sounds serious, it is. Victory lawn has been churned over to pro- gardners of longer tenure are still

1. In the growth gate of the second place houses a number of the second place houses a supervisor in ington's street maintenance determinent. At home, he is president that dusk, he retreats to a shed in his second-place honors but has yet to the state of the stat

mors that a magnificent new strain had been perfected by Canadian botanists. The couple promptly hopped a plane, rented a car and spent weeks touring nurseries throughout Canada. The workload before the rose

shows this month and next in Dallas, Fort Worth and the mid-cities is particularly heavy. The mild winter set the stage for a bug boom. Long says the beetle challenge is the worst.

So the rose-growers spray ardu-



RLINGTON (AP) — Investigaot have "a prayer of a lead" pooting death of an 18-yearadent believed to have been tim of a random act of viopolice spokesman.said Mon-

"We haven't a prayer of a lead. We have turned up nothing. We have nothing to show for our work." — Police spokesman Jim Willett.

Branch's body was found said the area is surrounded by houses. The Rev. Leon Sanders said, Out kids play in that parking lot all the big lived here almost 11 years and nothing like this has happened before. Laune Pitts, Branch's aunt, described her as a straight-A student. She said Branch had been attending school and living with her grandpa-rents in Decatur for more than a vear.

a Laune Branch was shot the chest, police said. She parently jogging through a neighborhood to her parents' fter her car broke down Sat-

body was found by a group of ers about 10:30 p.m. Saturtht in an Arlington church

There was no evidence that Branch had been robbed or sexually assaulted, police said.

Police spokesman Jim Willett said. 'We haven't a prayer of a lead. We have turned up nothing. We have nothing to show for our work." Willett said investigators returned

to the middle-class neighborhood

where Branch was found and interviewed residents, but were unable to find anyone who had heard or witnessed the shooting.

The killing appears to have been a random attack, Willett said.

The minister of the church where said.

She had recently been voted Side-Il's "Most Attractive Student," Pitts



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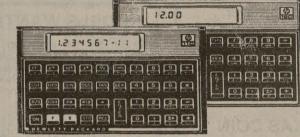
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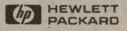
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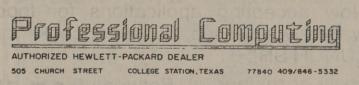


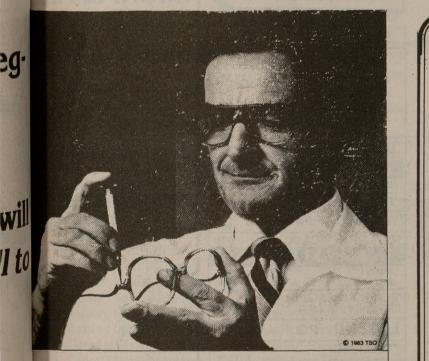


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