

Restaurant Report

By Curtis L. Culberson
Staff Writer

The restaurants listed below were inspected Nov. 25 through Tuesday by the Brazos County Health Department. The information is based on food service establishment reports.

SCORED BETWEEN 90 AND 95:

Monterrey House at 1816 Texas Ave. was inspected by David Plett. Score — 93. Four points were subtracted in the report because a back door was not self-closing and weatherstripping was needed at the base of a door to prevent insects from entering. Two points were subtracted in the report because there was mold on some soda fountain heads. One point was subtracted in the report because wiping cloths weren't stored in bleach water.

Burger Boy #1 at 300 N. Texas Ave. was inspected by David Plett. Score — 91. Four points were deducted in the report because a rear door hinge

needed repairing. Two points were deducted in the report because there were no towels at a hand sink. Three one-point violations were cited in the report because floors, walls and a grill area needed cleaning. The report said the restaurant has seven days to post a cleaning schedule.

SCORED BETWEEN 85 AND 90:

Tom's Barbecue at 3610 S. College Ave. was inspected by David Plett. Score — 89. A four-point violation was cited in the report because barrels were being stored in front of a kitchen hand sink, making it inaccessible to employees. There were two two-point violations cited in the report because towels were not available near a hand sink and a juice dispenser needed cleaning. Three one-point violations were cited in the report because thermometers were needed in a refrigerator where foods were kept, wiping towels weren't stored in bleach water or a hamper and to-go plates were being stored on the floor.

David Jefferson, a registered sanitarian at the department, says restaurants with scores of 95 or above generally have excellent operations and facilities. Jefferson says restaurants with scores in the 70s or low 80s usually have serious violations in the health report.

Scores can be misleading, Jefferson says, because restaurants can get the same score by having several minor violations or a few major violations. He says the major violations can be cause for closing a restaurant while many minor violations can be corrected during the inspection. Point deductions, or violations, in the report range from one point (minor violation) to five points (major violation).

Jefferson says the department might close a restaurant if: the score is below 60, the personnel has infectious diseases, the restaurant lacks adequate refrigeration, there is a sewage backup in the building, the restaurant has a complete lack of sanitization for the food equipment.

The department inspects each restaurant about every six months. Jefferson says a follow-up inspection is sometimes required if a restaurant has a four- or five-point violation that cannot be corrected during the inspection, or if there are numerous small violations.

Inspectors at the department are registered sanitarians.

Texan joins House policy committee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Jim Chapman, D-Sulphur Springs, has been chosen to represent the freshman class in the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, joining fellow Texans Jim Wright and Jack Brooks in the 31-member body.

The powerful committee will work with newly nominated House Speaker Wright, D-Fort Worth, in setting the legislative agenda for the 100th Congress and in determining committee assignments for House members.

"I am pleased to make this appointment," Wright said. "Jim has demonstrated time and time again the leadership qualities that make him a natural choice to serve on the committee that shapes legislative policy."

Chapman, elected to Congress in a special election in August 1985, will be the committee's junior member. During the 99th Congress he served on the Public Works, Transportation and Science and Technology committees, posts he expects to retain in the coming session.

"It is my intention to push all the issues that I have fought for in the past, including a national trade policy, a balanced federal budget, protecting our nation's senior citizens, and an oil import fee as part of a comprehensive national energy policy," Chapman said in a prepared statement.

Twelve members of the Steering and Policy Committee are chosen by their regional caucuses, eight are appointed by the speaker and 11 serve on the panel by virtue of other leadership positions they hold in the House.

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D.A. starts support group for crime victims

AUSTIN (AP) — The Travis County district attorney has started an organization to help keep tabs on the criminal justice system and to offer support to crime victims.

Group members will attend trials in the county's four district courts where criminal cases are heard.

Travis County District Attorney Jim Earle said he hopes the program will take the place of a disappearing

support system that victims once had.

"There was a time not very long ago that the system of defense in the community belonged to everybody," Earle said. "Everybody was part of it."

Earle said that in years past there was an automatic safety net that the victim fell into — extended family, neighbors and friends — people who provided support. That doesn't

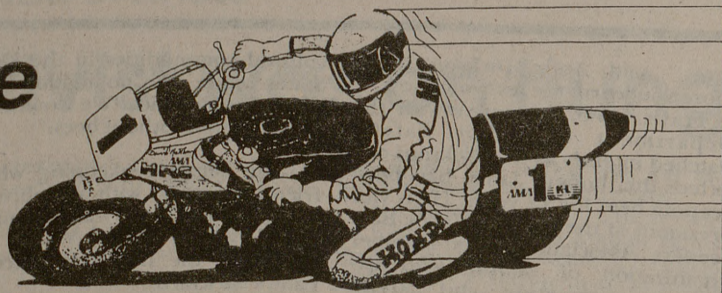
happen anymore, he said.

Among those who have volunteered for the program is Joyce Isaacs, the mother of a crime victim.

"It's time the people of Austin took back the court system," Isaacs said. "It's not some far-off bureaucracy. It involves every one of us on a most intimate basis because people like Troy Wiggins are a danger to every law-abiding person in this town."

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