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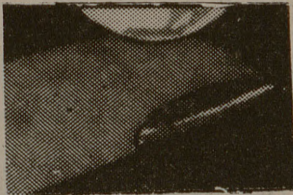
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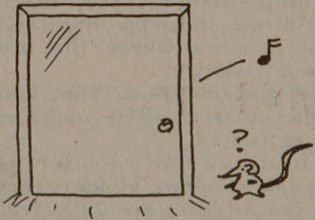
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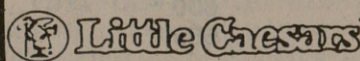
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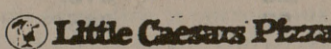


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## 'Chicken Ranch' museum proposal facing opposition

By Sandra Voelkel  
Reporter

Although the phrase "Chicken Ranch" has aroused various emotions from many people, it has brought color, folklore and nationwide attention to La Grange.

The most recent arousal was initiated by a proposal by Todd Hoffman, president of The Original Chicken Ranch Inc., to sell 45 million square-inch plots of ground around the original site for \$8 each, build a two-story museum to tell its history, and stage an annual "Chicken Fest," which would feature well-known entertainers and special events, such as a barbecue cookoff, in hopes of raising \$600,000.

Hoffman says the ranch operated in the La Grange community uninterrupted for more than 130 years until Marvin Zindler, a television journalist for Houston's KTRK television station, exposed the operation and forced its closing.

Hoffman's plan has met opposition from two camps — the La Grange City Council, led by Mayor Charlie Jungmichel, and the La Grange Ministerial Association, led by Monsignor Harry Mazurkiewicz.

In a recent statement, members of the ministerial association said they would not condone any attempt to glorify, memorialize or otherwise celebrate the ranch's existence.

The statement also said association members believed the purpose

of such economic gain was grounded in the same immoral choices that gave the community its reputation for exploitation of the sanctity of human life.

Hoffman and the thousands of property owners in The Original Chicken Ranch subdivision are asking Monsignor Mazurkiewicz why the Ranch's existence was never openly opposed when it was in full operation as a brothel.

Hoffman added that the church and the community accepted large donations from Edna Milton and Jessie Williams, the previous madams of the Chicken Ranch.

Hoffman said his research has shown that Jungmichel was a state representative while the ranch was in full operation and that he made no attempts to shut down the "illegal and immoral operations" of the ranch.

"I have made numerous attempts to meet with the La Grange Ministerial Association and the La Grange City Council to answer any questions and discuss the plans for The Original Chicken Ranch," Hoffman said. "All of my attempts have been to no avail."

Plans for the re-opening of The Original Chicken Ranch have been successful despite the opposition, Hoffman said, with numerous organizations, companies and universities involved with the sale of the plots.

## Court: Custody law biased against men

AUSTIN (AP) — Fathers are discriminated against in cases involving illegitimate children because state custody laws give mothers all rights to the child, the Texas Supreme Court ruled Wednesday.

The court ordered a new trial in a Wichita County case in which a father sued for custody of his son, who was born in 1983 to a woman to whom he wasn't married.

The father sued for custody when the mother offered the child for adoption.

The trial court upheld Laura McLean's right to offer the baby for adoption. That ruling was appealed by Billy Dean Wise, the father.

The Texas Court of Appeals in Fort Worth had upheld the trial court decision, saying, in most cases, state law gives a mother custody of an illegitimate child.

According to the state law, "when a child is born to a woman not married to the child's father, she automatically exercises all of the rights, duties and privileges of the parent-child relationship."

But the law says the father has those rights only if the mother agrees.

The Supreme Court said the law discriminates because a father must prove it is the child's best interest to be with him.

"Mothers are never subjected to such a proceeding," the Supreme

Court said in a majority opinion by Justice William Kilgarlin.

"A father . . . should not be required to meet a higher burden of proof solely because he is male," Kilgarlin said.

In a separate opinion, Justices Raul Gonzalez and James Wallace said Wise should be given custody of his son without another trial.

"When the state is making great efforts to find absentee parents," Gonzalez said, "it's ironic that the state spends so much time and energy in denying a father . . . his lawful rights as a parent."

## Error in judge's instructions to jury leads to new trial for teen-ager

AUSTIN (AP) — In a decision rapped by three justices, the Texas Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that a juvenile is entitled to a new trial because of differences between the allegation against him and the judge's instructions to jurors.

The case involves a 14-year-old, identified as L.G.R., who was accused of setting a fire that caused extensive damage at a produce business in Weslaco on June 14, 1985.

The formal allegation against

L.G.R. said he set the fire in a building that housed the produce business. But the judge's instructions to jurors asked them to determine whether the youth had set the fire in a boxcar that was six feet from the building.

According to court records, the fire started in the boxcar and spread to the building, putting 750 seasonal employees out of work.

Justice Raul Gonzalez' 6-3 majority opinion said there was no choice

but to order a new trial.

"The variance between the petition and the court's charged L.G.R. a fair trial," the court said.

But Justice Franklin Spears' dissent said that the majority missed the point. Spears said the Texas Family Code, which sets standards for juvenile delinquency, does not require the same steps required in adult criminal proceedings.

## What's up

Thursday

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: will meet at 6 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at 12:15 p.m. at 845-5826 for location.

PI SIGMA ALPHA: will meet at 7 p.m. in 604 A-B Rudder.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS: will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 401 Rudder.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN ENGINEERING SOCIETY: will meet at 7 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

GREEN EARTH SOCIETY: will meet at 7 p.m. in 305 A-B Rudder.

TAMU BICYCLE CLUB: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder.

ATARI USER GROUP: will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 102 Rudder.

LEBANESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at 8 p.m. in 407 A-B Rudder.

ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY: will meet at 7 p.m. in 102 Zachry.

BRAZOS DUPLICATED CLUB: invites students, faculty and beginners at 7 p.m. to the College Station Community Center.

Friday

ALPHA PHI OMEGA: will have free babysitting for A&M staff and faculty from 7 to 10:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: will meet at 7 p.m. in 156 Blocker.

LATTER-DAY SAINT STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at noon at the LDS Institute Building.

INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: will meet at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

DELTA SIGMA PI: will conduct a meeting for prospective members at 5 p.m. at Interurban.

SAUDI STUDENT CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 201 MSC.

TAMU TABLE TENNIS CLUB: will meet from 7 p.m. to midnight in 304 Read.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: will meet at 7 p.m. in 108 Harrington.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY: will meet for a "peanut butter fellowship" from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rudder Fountain and for a Bible study at 6:30 p.m. at A&M Presbyterian Church.

BUCK WEIRUS SPIRIT AWARDS: applications are available through Friday in the Memorial Student Center, Student Activities office, the vice president of Student Affairs office and Student Affairs office.

PARENTS' WEEKEND: applications and schedule forms are available through Friday in the Student Programs office and the Student Government office.

LIBRARY TOURS: sign-up sheets are available at the first floor reference desk. Tours are scheduled for 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

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