

State and Local

Ex-worker: Kidnapper said baby was her own

DALLAS (AP) — Prosecutors rested their case Wednesday in the trial of a woman accused of posing as a baby sitter to kidnap a Coppel infant.

Brenda Graham of Crosby, an ex-employee of Susan O. Miller, testified that Miller took the child to a suburban Houston home 10 days after the abduction and pretended the baby was her own.

Graham testified Tuesday in the trial's first day that Miller, 40, had not appeared pregnant in the months before the abduction. But she appeared at her home on Nov. 23, 1985, with an infant girl she called Stephanie.

"I said, 'Sue, where did you get that baby?' She said, 'Ask me no questions and I'll tell you no lies,'" Graham testified.

Miller, a former Houston-area nightclub owner, could face a maximum 10-year prison sentence if convicted of the third-degree felony.

Mallory Sutton, then 2 months old, was abducted from her Coppel home on Nov. 13, 1985. She was found one month later in Tampa, Fla.

Authorities allege that Miller posed as a baby sitter, then kidnapped the child in an attempt to win back her former husband.

The child's mother, Jennifer Sutton, identified Miller in court Tuesday as the woman she had hired through an advertisement to baby-sit her daughter.

The restaurant report will not appear in *The Battalion* this week because Brazos County Health Department sanitarians did not inspect any College Station restaurants between Mar. 16 and Mar. 20.

GSS presents film promoting 'safe sex' between gay men

Movie shown off-campus to avoid attention

By Kysa Anderson
Reporter

Eighteen males crowded into a College Station apartment to view a film promoting "safe sex" between gay and bisexual men Wednesday night.

The film was part of Texas A&M University's Gay Student Services' regular meeting which was in Rudder Tower.

However, because of its "sexual explicitness," the film had to be shown off-campus.

GSS President Scott Sage said showing the film on campus would have caused "unwanted attention."

"The film was not designed just to watch, but for educational purposes, also," Sage said. "The film is designed to help and reorient peoples' sense of sexual habits."

The film, produced by the Gay Men's Health Crisis Center, was to educate gay and bisexual men on how to have "safe sex."

"Safe sex is having sex without

the exchange of body fluids," Sage said.

Dr. Thomas Edwards, a Bryan psychologist who also viewed the film, said no other organization would give information to the gay community on how not to spread or contract the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), so the Gay Men's Health Crisis Center produced the film.

"The 1980 founding people of the center are trying to draw attention to the fact that there's a danger to the community and to the population as a whole," Edwards said.

Edwards also said the disease is becoming more prominent because it no longer affects only the gay community but heterosexuals too.

"The center wants us to examine our feelings and our personal responses to what we see on the film," Edwards said.

The film featured relationships between gay men. It showed the men having sexual intercourse and the precautions they used to avoid

contracting and spreading AIDS. One man in the film had contracted the AIDS virus.

After the film Dr. Edwards suggested that the males get into groups to discuss what they had just seen in the film.

One of the young men said that he was afraid of contracting AIDS.

Another of the men who saw the film said that selecting a partner who you can trust is important.

"The most important part is getting to know your partner," he said.

When asked what scares him the most about the AIDS epidemic, one of the men expressed that there is not enough known about the virus.

"There's too much uncertainty concerning the AIDS epidemic," he said.

Dr. Edwards said practicing "safe sex" has its merits.

"It reduces AIDS anxieties," he said. "It also protects you and your partner and makes you feel better about yourself. And it reduces the fear of spreading AIDS."

Three places filled in runoff of Faculty Senate elections

Editor's note: Wednesday's Battalion incorrectly identified Frank Thomas as the winner of the regular election for the Texas A&M Faculty Senate's Place 3 in the College of Education. Thomas had the highest number of votes, but not the majority required to prevent a run-off.

Three run-offs in the Faculty Senate regular elections Wednesday filled one seat in the College of Education and two seats in the College of Engineering.

The following Senate seats were filled:

College of Education
(101 ballots cast)
• (Place 3): Patricia A. Alexander.

College of Engineering
(81 ballots cast)
• (Place 9): S. Bart Childs.
• (Place 12): Richard M. Alexander.

Nomination dates will be announced at the Senate's April meeting for Senate officers (speaker, deputy speaker, secretary and treasurer) and for members of the Senate Executive Committee. Elections for these positions will be held in May.

Teenager sent to TYC for killing his mother

PORT LAVACA (AP) — A 14-year-old boy who admitted killing his mother because she accused him of lying has been committed to the custody of the Texas Youth Council. Howard Lee Shafer Jr. was sent to the state agency by order of Calhoun

County Judge Mike Fricke at a juvenile hearing Tuesday.

The youth had told the judge charges that he committed a delinquent act by shooting his mother to death were true.

Fricke's action will keep the youth under the TYC's control as long as his 21st birthday, but the TYC will be the sole judge of how long Shafer will be confined.

According to a statement Shafer gave to Calhoun County sheriff's investigators, he shot his mother, Patsy Ann Shafer, 40, on the morning of Feb. 23, 1987, after she accused him of lying to avoid going to school.

"I was tired of her always lying to Daddy about me and getting me whipped all the time," Shafer said. "All she ever did was lay in her bed and accuse me of doing wrong."

He told investigators he took a .22-caliber rifle and went back to his mother's room and shot her in the back of the head "maybe three or four times."

He said he intended to make it look as if someone else had killed her by putting her in the back seat of her car and abandoning the vehicle in a ditch about a mile away from his house.

Foreman's record leads to drop of charges

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A judge dismissed indictments Wednesday against Mayor Emilio Hernandez because the foreman of the special grand jury that issued the charges of corruption at city hall has a criminal record.

State District Judge Darrell Hester tossed out a spate of charges against the mayor, including soliciting a bribe and official misconduct, when special prosecutor Sharon McRae agreed with defense motions to dismiss the indictments.

On Monday, another judge dismissed indictments against former City Manager Kenneth Lieck and Municipal Judge Kip Van Johnson Hodge after finding that jury foreman Arnoldo Garcia had a lengthy criminal record.

Hernandez, Hodge, Lieck, City Commissioner Tony Zavaleta and three city employees indicted by the panel before it disbanded last month were accused in an on-going probe of corruption at city hall.

District Attorney Ben Euresti Jr., meanwhile,

said he would not fight the dismissals but plans to pursue the case again.

He said he would present another grand jury with the same evidence, which was gathered in a five-month probe by three Texas Rangers and one of his investigators.

Last week, Garcia said he was so troubled by the corruption at city hall he was having trouble sleeping. But it was discovered he had several convictions for misdemeanor crimes.

Grand jurors must be of sound moral character and have no felony convictions or pending indictments against them.

"This is not a blow to the office," Euresti said. "Because of this individual's background and because of what he's done . . . it has tainted the cases. We would probably support motions to quash in these cases."

In addition to his criminal record, Garcia, a 37-year-old school monitor, held a news confer-

ence last week, calling the indictments "the tip of the iceberg."

The mayor was named on five separate indictments handed up on three occasions by the 12-member grand jury. Charges against him included two counts of official misconduct, two counts of soliciting a bribe, two counts of soliciting a gift, and four counts of tampering with a witness.

Hernandez said he was relieved by the judge's action but will wait and see what happens next.

"What has happened has happened," said the two-term mayor and used-car dealer who claimed the charges were politically motivated to derail his re-election campaign this fall. He says he is innocent of wrongdoing.

Many of the charges against the seven men involve the awarding of a lucrative garbage-disposal contract.

Euresti called Garcia a "bad link in the system. We won't change the system, we'll just remove the bad link."

THIRD YEAR ANNIVERSARY

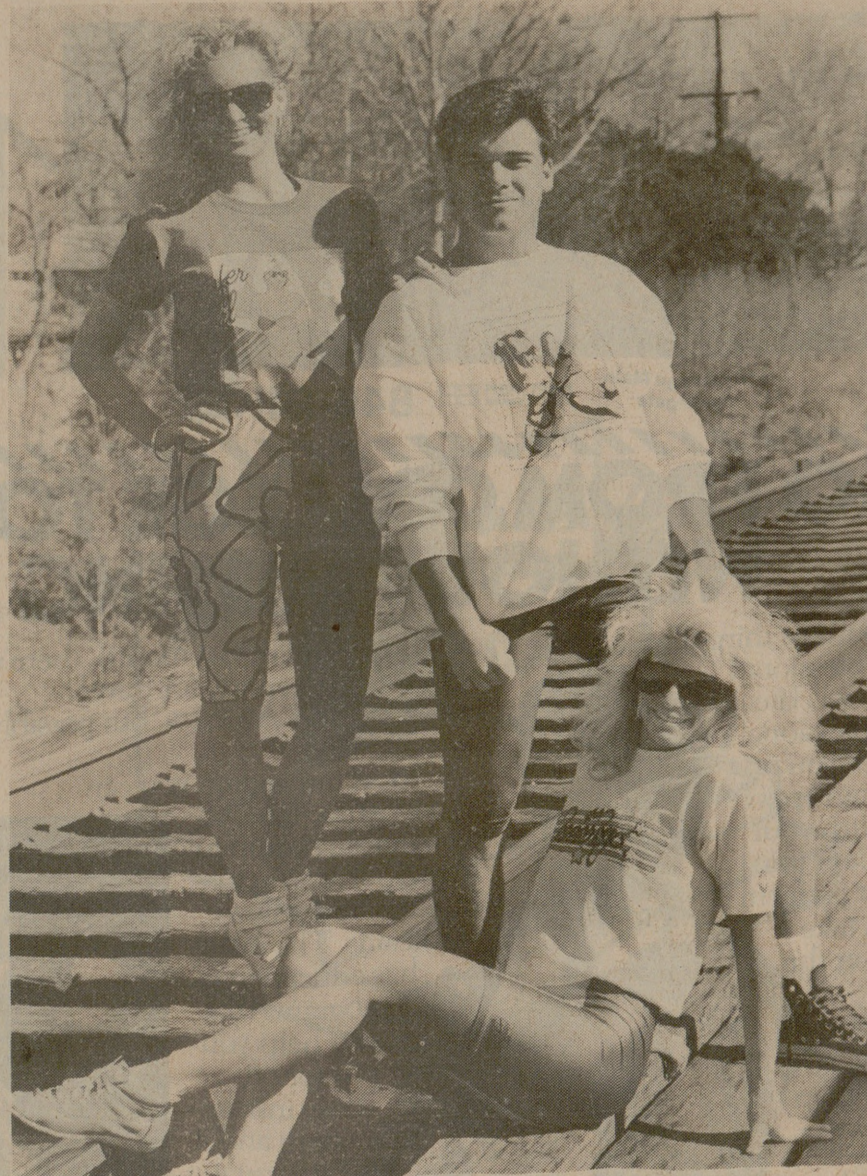
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