

In Advance

Red Cross sponsors local health fair

By Taani Baier
Reporter

More than 80 exhibitors will set up in Post Oak Mall on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. to inform the public about the health and safety agencies in the local area.

The fair is sponsored by the Brazos County Chapter of the American Red Cross and takes "Why Wait? Make a Date with Health Fair '88" as its theme.

Diane Church, coordinator for the fair, said this year's fair looks like it will be the most successful.

"This is the first year that we will be completely filled," she said. "Every space in the mall will be occupied."

Church said the fair's purpose is basically two-fold.

"First, we want to let the com-

munity know what health and safety agencies are in the area," she said. "And secondly, we're there so that the agencies can get information out to the public."

Emily Stiteler, director for the American Red Cross, said the fair is emphasizing convenience.

The public is being offered a number of different medical screening tests at no charge and in a convenient location.

"The location and fact that the tests are free should get a few people out," she said. "The most important thing is that people who can't afford to get the tests done, can get them done."

A variety of health and safety organizations will be there to distribute information, give free medical screening tests and interpret the screenings.

Classes will combine semi-formals

By Holly Becka
Reporter

The classes of '89 and '90 will have a combined semi-formal ball this year as part of class officers' efforts to promote unity between the two, said sophomore representative Katherine Smith, a business major from Houston.

"It's something new," she said. "We decided to do it as something different and to promote class unity. Previously, we've found that there is a lot of apathy when it comes to class balls. This year we tried to generate excitement and higher attendance."

The semi-formal will be Saturday from 8:30 p.m. until 12:30

a.m. in the MSC Ballroom. Tickets will be on sale this week for \$12 per couple in the MSC, the Commons and Sbsa Dining Hall.

Smith said the theme is "Double Feature Premier — A Formal Event," because of the combined classes. Live music will be provided by a rock band with members from Austin and Houston called "The Shaft," she said.

Smith said by combining efforts and money they could have more money and make more extensive plans for the ball.

"This year is unique because there has never been enough money to pay for a live band before," she said.

Big Event will help B-CS community

By Kathleen Reilly
Reporter

Students interested in doing community service will get their chance Saturday during the Big Event, a community service project sponsored by the Student Government at Texas A&M every spring.

"It usually occurs in mid-March but spring break forced us to move it up," Student Government Big Event chairman Debbie Massey said. This will be the sixth year for the project.

Massey said students will give four hours of their time to work in the community. Students will help paint houses, move furniture, babysit children and clean up sections of Texas Avenue. Volunteers also will help the Girl Scouts clean up their campsite and put up tents.

Massey said the deadline for applications has passed but individuals interested should call 845-3051 as soon as possible.

Massey said about 1,000 people turned out the first year, and the event has grown since then.

Texas teachers desert Simon, back Dukakis

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas State Teachers Association on Tuesday dropped its endorsement of Illinois Sen. Paul Simon, dealing another blow to a presidential campaign that a Simon official said has been misconstrued as dead in the South.

The TSTA decided to switch to Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis as its candidate in next Tuesday's Texas Democratic presidential primary.

"While Sen. Simon's strong national record on education prompted our endorsement, his decision not to campaign in Texas forced us to re-assess our position," TSTA President Charles Beard said at a news conference.

Simon announced last week that he does not have sufficient money to mount full campaigns in the Super Tuesday states, including Texas.

But Bob Krueger, Simon's Texas chairman, said Tuesday that Simon is running in Texas and expects to earn some delegates.

"Paul Simon has not chosen to buy paid television (ads) for Super Tuesday, but that does not mean he is not in Super Tuesday," Krueger said. "He is on the ballot. He expects this to be a marathon that will go all the way to California. And he expects to be in the White House."

Simon will campaign in Texas Monday and Tuesday, according to Krueger.

The Illinois senator had won the unanimous endorsement of TSTA on Jan. 30, several weeks before his sagging finances forced him to scale down his Super Tuesday efforts in Texas and other states.

Beard said TSTA felt a need to support a candidate with a more active Texas campaign. He said Dukakis "will carry the education banner into the White House and will be our partner in our quest to make America's schools world-class institutions."

With 95,000 members, TSTA is the state's largest teacher organization.

"For a matter of practicality, for our people to be able to influence this system, then we have to play Texas politics, and when your candidate takes himself out of the picture, then they are no longer a player as far as we're concerned here," Beard said.

Krueger said Simon has not taken himself out of the Texas picture. "There was a perception somehow that Paul had dropped out of Super Tuesday," Krueger said. "He did not drop out. All he ever dropped out of was buying paid television."

"We want our delegates. We want people to go to precinct conventions. We want people to vote for Paul Simon. The perception that he is not in the race has certainly cost us some support."

Federal jury begins deliberation in suit against magazine

HOUSTON (AP) — A federal court jury Tuesday began considering whether relatives of a Texas woman should be awarded millions of dollars from Soldier of Fortune magazine because an ad in the military publication led to her death three years ago.

Gary Wayne Black, 18, and Marjorie Einmann, 64, were seeking \$22.5 million in the negligence suit against the self-styled "Journal for Professional Adventurers."

Sandra Black, Gary's mother and Mrs. Einmann's daughter, was shot to death Feb. 21, 1985 at her home in Bryan.

Mrs. Black's husband, Robert, is on Texas' death row for paying John Wayne Hearn \$10,000 to kill her. Hearn is serving three life terms in Florida for the Black slaying and two others in that state.

Robert Black contacted Hearn through a personal services classified ad Hearn placed in Soldier of Fortune in late 1984.

"Are you going to shout or are you going to whisper?" Ron Franklin, attorney for the plaintiffs asked the jury, asking for \$20 million in punitive damages. "The mark of a civilized society is how much value we place on a human life."

"We're here about Soldier of Fortune's conduct, Soldier of Fortune's arrogance. Thanks to (publisher) Robert K. Brown and his magazine, he taught his readership how to contact and hire a professional hitman."

Graham Hill, another attorney for the plaintiffs, said, "They knew those ads could encourage their readers to engage in illegal activity." He added that the magazine showed conscious indifference toward others.

"Sandra Black's murder is of the same general character of stuff that had been going on for years," he said.

But Larry Thompson, lawyer for the magazine, insisted the plaintiffs were interested only in money.

"Soldier of Fortune did not murder Sandra Black," he said. "John Wayne Hearn did. Soldier of Fortune did not solicit the murder of Sandra Black. Robert Black did. We've got to focus on John Wayne Hearn and Robert Black."

"The blame does not rest with anyone but those two men who have

been both tried and punished. You can't blame Soldier of Fortune forever just because John Wayne Hearn met Bob Black through an ad in the magazine."

The jury was asked to consider up to seven questions, including awarding of monetary damages.

"They've had all the sympathy they could have for one lifetime," Hill said, referring to Gary Black and Mrs. Einmann, who quietly sobbed and wiped away tears.

Hill said at \$100 per day, Gary Black, based on his mother's life expectancy of another 16,000 days, should be entitled to nearly \$2 million.

"When he walks up to get that diploma in a couple of months, his mom isn't going to be there to share that moment," Hill said. "What would it mean for a 15-year-old boy to walk into the kitchen and see lying on the floor in her own blood his mother with two bullets in her head?"

Hill asked the jury to assess punitive damages as an example for others.

"Speak loud enough so they can hear you in Boulder, Colo.," he said, referring to the home base of the magazine. "We didn't come down this long road for half-justice."

Hearn's ad appeared in four issues of Soldier of Fortune, offering services of former Marine and Vietnam veterans and weapons specialists with jungle warfare expertise for "high-risk assignments" in the United States or overseas.

Attorneys for the magazine and its parent company, Omega Group, Ltd., do not dispute the ad brought Hearn and Black together, but insist publisher Brown had no way of knowing the ad was for illegal activity.

"They knew and chose to continue running those ads," Hill argued. "He (Brown) likes the mystique and sensationalism because it makes him money."

But Thompson said only a "thin, minute thread" connected the magazine to the slaying, that Black for months had wanted to kill his wife and that he talked to Hearn on numerous occasions before hiring him to do the killing.

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State to probe donation to bankrupt Bishop College

DALLAS (AP) — Events surrounding a donation to Bishop College that was withdrawn and later reoffered are "too strange," a spokesman for the Texas attorney general said.

Jim Mattox' office will investigate the foundation that pledged \$300,000 to the financially strapped black college, and then reneged on the donation before reoffering the money.

Businessman Clifford Sugarman, through his Sugarman Foundation, initially promised an anonymous donation of \$300,000 to Bishop College if it could raise a matching amount.

Supporters raised \$450,000 in one week in January, but negotiations between attorneys for Sugarman and the school over terms of the gift broke down and the money was never donated.

After news reports identified Sugarman as the donor and said he had an extensive legal history, including pleading guilty to worthless check charges, a civil fraud verdict and two Chapter 13 personal bankruptcies, he withdrew his offer.

He renewed the offer Saturday in a letter to Bishop's bankruptcy attorney, T. Glover Roberts. In the letter he gave Bishop until 5 p.m. Mon-

day to deliver documents detailing the sources and forms of the \$300,000 it raised, how a portion of the \$300,000 had been spent, and to give him a copy of a bankruptcy court order that allowed part of Bishop's funds to be spent.

Sugarman said in the letter if Bishop provided the information, he would place his \$300,000 in an escrow account by 5 p.m. Tuesday.

But Roberts said the school met Sugarman's latest demands two weeks ago and that it is time for him to release his pledge to the school.