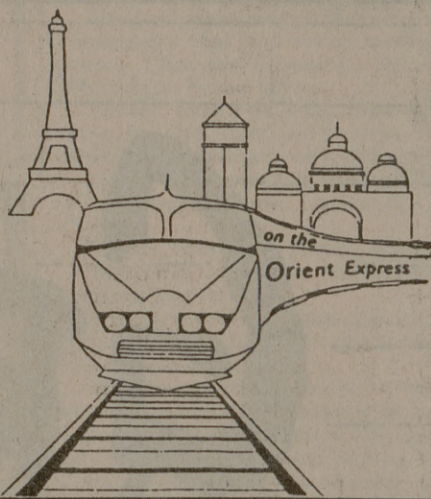


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Anti-abortionists endorse candidate for Texas Senate

AUSTIN (AP) — Anti-abortion groups said Tuesday they could provide the margin of victory for U.S. Rep. Beau Boulter in the April 12 Republican runoff for the U.S. Senate nomination.

The Amarillo congressman faces Houston businessman Wes Gilbreath for the GOP nod to challenge Democratic incumbent Lloyd Bentsen in November. Although Gilbreath also bills himself as pro-life, Boulter picked up the endorsements of several major anti-abortion coalitions.

"We are backing Beau Boulter... because we believe in being loyal to those public officials who have loyally voted for the pro-life policies we support," Bill Price, the director of the Texas Coalition for Life, said.

"Again and again, Beau Boulter has stood with us in our hour of need."

Price acknowledged that Boulter and Gilbreath hold very similar positions on abortion. He spoke at a Capitol news conference during which Boulter also was endorsed by the Texas Right to Life Committee, the Christian Pro-Life Foundation and the Life Advocates. Price said the groups represent about 200,000 voters.

"I believe the backing of the pro-life movement could very well provide, and I hope will provide, the

margin of victory in this campaign," he said.

Boulter welcomed the endorsements, saying, "I am not a single issue candidate... but I know an issue that is more important than work on in behalf of the people who are the most helpless humans of all."

He criticized Bentsen as an opponent of the anti-abortion movement. "Even though I'm not a single issue candidate, that reason was compelling in my decision to run for the United States Senate," Boulter said.

Mark Fury, executive director of the Texas Right to Life Committee, said Boulter has been an outstanding congressional supporter of abortion measures.

Inmates shoot officer, escape from patrol car

HOUSTON (AP) — Broken handcuffs allowed an inmate to break free inside a moving squad car, grab a police officer's gun and wound the officer with gunfire, police said Tuesday.

After officer Dennis Nelius was shot, his unmarked squad car went out of control and collided with a pickup truck on a freeway in Houston, Sgt. David Calhoun said.

Calhoun said authorities have not determined what caused the handcuffs' failure, after which Nelius was shot in the left leg and right hand.

The officer lost the ends of two fingers when his .357-caliber Magnum revolver fired as he held his hand over the barrel.

His partner — David Baskin — suffered minor injuries in the traffic accident.

Houston police spokesman Dan Turner said the officers, both members of the Northwest Tactical Response Unit, bought a large amount of cocaine from two men earlier Monday and had taken them first to the northwest station.

They were transporting the two to the city jail downtown when the shooting and accident took place.

Juan Armando Ozuna, 28, allegedly freed his hands, reached into the front seat and grabbed the steering wheel and Nelius' pistol at the same time. As the car continued to move, both officers climbed into the back seat to retrieve the pistol.

"They figured the gun is more important than trying to keep control of the vehicle," Calhoun said.

The gun fired during the struggle, and the bullet struck Nelius' left thigh after mangled his fingers. The car then collided with a truck.

Ozuna had been charged earlier with delivery of a controlled substance and was being held without bail because he was on probation from a 1984 conviction of indecency with a child.

He had been charged earlier with delivery of a controlled substance and was being held without bail because he was on probation from a 1984 conviction of indecency with a child. Police said he faces a charge of attempted capital murder of a police officer.

A second suspect riding in the squad car — Jose Antonio Gallegos, 22 — was taken into custody near the scene more than an hour later. He was charged earlier Monday with possession of a controlled substance with bond set at \$5,000.

The driver of the pickup truck that collided with the police car was taken into custody on suspicion of driving while intoxicated.

Byproducts may be cause of fish deaths

AUSTIN (AP) — A substance thought to be a petroleum byproduct has killed hundreds of small fish in a tributary of Big Creek and left officials puzzled over the source of the toxic charge.

Dead fish were found along a three-mile strip of Little Hill Branch, Capt. Steve Calhoun of the Fire Department's hazardous materials unit said.

"It is difficult to finger any petroleum product," Jack Ralph, contaminant biologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department who collected water samples from the creek, said.

But Ralph said a rainbow trout died by the sun striking a substance on the surface of the water is an indicator of a petroleum byproduct. "We can smell it," he said. "We can smell it, I know it's toxic because of the smell."

"Right now, we don't know where it came from." An official of Austin's Department of Environmental Protection estimated that hundreds of small fish, mostly sunfish and perch, had been killed.

OPAS 15

CATS™

has been rescheduled.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society performances of America's #1 musical, CATS, have been rescheduled. The new dates are April 12 & 13. All tickets previously purchased will be honored according to the following schedule:

OLD TICKETS FOR:	ARE NOW GOOD FOR:
Thursday, April 14 (8:00 p.m.)	Tuesday, April 12 (8:00 p.m.)
Friday, April 15 (2:00 p.m.)	Wednesday, April 13 (2:00 p.m.)
Friday, April 15 (8:00 p.m.)	Wednesday, April 13 (8:00 p.m.)

For more information concerning your tickets or to purchase additional tickets, call the MSC Box Office at, 845-1234.

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