

# Pizza Hut® Wednesday Special

Buy a **LARGE** one topping **PIZZA** plus a pitcher of soft drink

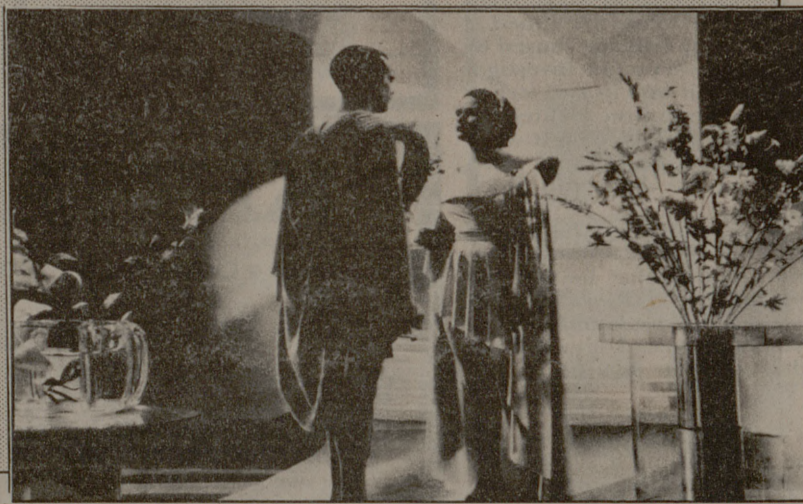
for only **\$7.99** good every Wednesday

501 University

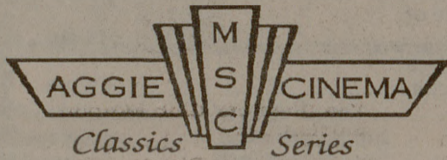
Northgate

## H.G. WELL'S THINGS TO COME

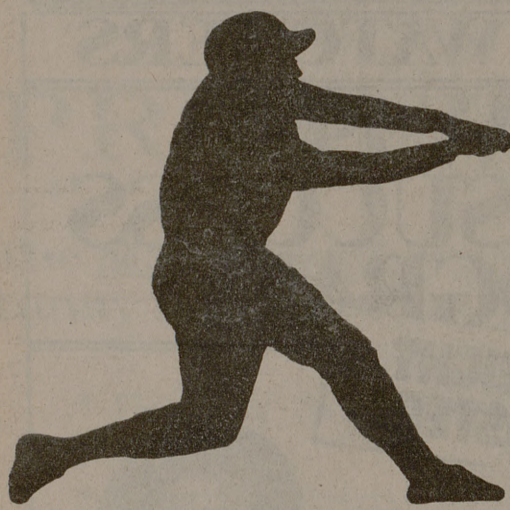
This exciting fantasy forecasts man's final war and his struggle to rebuild a world that has been torn apart by 30 years of horror and pestilence.



Wednesday, April 20  
7:30 pm  
601 Rudder  
\$2.00 with TAMU ID



## (3-day Double Elimination) THE BRYAN CLASSIC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT



benefiting the **American Cancer Society Brazos Unit**

sponsored by **Wyatt's Sporting Goods Stores**

**WHEN: April 22-24, 1988**  
**WHERE: Bryan Softball Park**  
(North of Business 6 & Hwy. 21)  
**ENTRY FEE: \$5.00 (per team)**

\* Division A: Championship  
Division B: All Play

\* Prizes donated by area merchants & given throughout the tournament.

\* Trophies for top teams

\* Contact: William Wetsel, 764-2756 or the American Cancer Society, 776-1463.

Register at Wyatt's Sporting Goods - Culpepper Plaza

CALL BATTALION CLASSIFIED

845-2611

## Unemployment drops slightly during March

AUSTIN (AP) — Unemployment in most of the state's urban areas dropped slightly from February to March, due in part to overall economic improvement and in part to a seasonal increase in jobs, the Texas Employment Commission reported Tuesday.

"I think maybe economic conditions are gradually improving, although it's not a significant change at this point," said Terence Travland, a labor market analyst for the TEC.

In addition, Travland said, spring generally sees some improvement in employment.

"Typically in this period you see more economic activity, particularly outside in construction and agriculture," he said.

The statewide rate was 8.3 percent, down from a revised figure of 8.7 percent in February.

Rates of unemployment in the urban areas of Texas as announced Tuesday by the TEC for March compared with revised February figures (in parenthesis) were:

- Abilene 7.6 (7.9)
- Amarillo 6.5 (7.0)
- Austin 6.9 (7.1)
- Beaumont-Port Arthur 11.7 (12.8)
- Brazoria 9.3 (9.7)
- Brownsville-Harlingen 15.0 (16.4)
- Bryan-College Station 5.0 (5.5)
- Corpus Christi 10.7 (11.6)
- Dallas 6.4 (6.7)
- El Paso 11.5 (12.4)
- Fort Worth-Arlington 7.0 (7.4)
- Galveston-Texas City 10.3 (10.6)
- Houston 7.8 (8.3)
- Temple-Killeen 8.3 (8.6)
- Laredo 17.0 (18.0)
- Longview-Marshall 9.9 (10.9)
- Lubbock 6.0 (6.3)
- McAllen-Edinburg-Mission 19.7 (20.6)
- Midland 7.1 (7.7)
- Odessa 8.4 (9.1)
- San Angelo 6.2 (6.4)
- San Antonio 8.3 (8.8)
- Sherman-Denison 7.5 (8.0)
- Texarkana - not available
- Tyler 8.2 (8.7)
- Victoria 7.7 (8.4)

## In Advance

### Playwright to discuss ethnic identity

By Mary-Lynne Rice  
Staff Writer

Award-winning playwright, actor, director and teacher Ed Bullins will discuss the importance of ethnic identity in playwriting Thursday at 8 p.m. in 150 Blocker.

Bullins, winner of the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, two Guggenheim Awards, three Obie Awards and four Rockefeller Awards for playwriting, is recognized as a major figure among American black playwrights, especially for his work in the 1960s and 1970s.

"At that time, most black writers were writing protests," said Charles Gordone, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and distin-

guished lecturer in A&M's theater arts department. "He was perhaps the most concerned with social problems."

"He was one of the voices during that time who mirrored the social issues of the time, and he was perhaps the most consistent vocal of all the writers at the time."

Bullins, who now teaches American humanities and literature and scriptwriting at Southern State University, set a literary example for both the playwrights of the '60s and '70s and for those today, Gordone said.

"He gave courage to other writers in the theater," Gordone said. "His influence spawned the works of other playwrights, many of whom have yet to be heard."

### Aggie Muster set for Thursday night

By Stephen Masters  
Staff Writer

The coliseum is quiet and somber. One by one, the name of each of the Aggies who died in the past twelve months is called.

One by one, a friend or family member answers "here" in their place. A candle is lit for each. The Ross Volunteers fire three volleys and Silver Taps is played.

On Thursday beginning at 8 p.m., Muster, one of Texas A&M's most honored traditions, will be held worldwide.

The largest Muster will be held on the A&M campus in G. Rollie White Coliseum with an expected crowd of more than 8,000, said Beth Baker, chairman of the Muster Committee.

Musters also are planned in over 300 other locations in the United States and in 34 other countries including China, El Salvador and the Republic of Singapore, she said.

The ceremony includes a Silver Taps and roll call for the absent. This year's Muster features

speaker Gerald D. Griffin, president of the Houston Chamber of Commerce and former director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

The ceremony also will include the presentation of three limited edition coins, one gold, one silver and one bronze.

The coins were minted by the Soil from Corregidor Island in the Philippines.

This year's campus ceremony will be broadcast live via satellite on Transponder 6D of Western communications through a link from KAMU-TV.

The first Muster was held in 1883 when some students decided to get together and celebrate their victories in battle in class.

In 1903, Silver Taps was added in a protest of former A&M president Davis F. Houston scheduling classes on San Jacinto Day.

In 1942, Muster gained wide attention when 25 Aggies stationed on Corregidor Island held Muster while under Japanese attack.

## Commission supports plan to control dial-a-porn service

AUSTIN (AP) — The Public Utility Commission on Tuesday nixed a proposed ban on dial-a-porn services but backed a plan to give telephone companies broad discretion in controlling the controversial calls.

Under the plan, Southwestern Bell and other phone companies would be allowed to stop doing billing and collection for dial-a-porn providers. The phone companies also would be allowed to connect dial-a-porn services on a subscription-only basis.

The recorded calls now are offered as part of the "Dial 976" service, in which providers set the price of the call and the phone companies do the billing and forward the money to the provider.

The service, available in Texas' metropolitan areas, is offered on phone lines with the 976 prefix.

The commission in February proposed two changes: a complete ban on all 976 services, including the non-pornographic ones, or a subscription-only system in which customers would have to ask for access to the service.

Commissioner Jo Campbell said the total ban was not necessary.

"This is a private corporation's problem and not a state problem," she said.

PUC Chairman Dennis Thomas voted with Campbell in accepting Southwestern Bell's plan, which was submitted as more than 23,000 Texans wrote to the commission to call for either a ban on all 976 calls or on dial-a-porn calls.

Commissioner Marta Greytok dissenting, advocating a ban on all 976

"One person's right to speak ends where another person's right to listen begins..."

— PUC Commissioner Marta Greytok

services, including the non-controversial ones such as horoscopes, sports scores and other types of information.

"I don't think it has anything to do with free speech," Greytok said, adding that "one person's right to speak ends where another person's right to listen begins."

"The service is totally messed up. It is something that got out of hand. We have never had 20,000 letters over any issue. We need to respond to the fact that the public is saying there is a better way."

Southwestern Bell now offers free blocking, at customer request, of calls to 976 numbers.

The company has filed a proposed tariff that would let it force 976 providers to promise not to offer dial-a-porn or other objectionable services.

Bill Free, a Southwestern Bell vice president, said providers that don't agree to that condition would be given phone numbers outside the 976 system and would have to do their own billing, making it more difficult to do business.

"We are allowing anyone to use our telephone network," he said. "We simply are saying if you want to use it in a method contrary to our best image, we are not going to bill for you."

"The test is whether or not contrary to what we perceive as the best corporate image. Sexual content is not permitted, vulgar content is not permitted, and confusing or deceptive content is not permitted."

Free expects the matter to end up in court.

"It takes \$50 and a trip to courthouse to file a lawsuit. There will be many lawsuits," he said.

Mark Weaver of Austin, executive director of the American Family Association of Texas — better known as Citizens Against Pornography — said the commission's decision not banning all 976 services.

"Southwestern Bell will not responsibly unless forced to by a commission or citizens' complaints," he said. "Years have been spent by Southwestern Bell to do something he said."

But Austin lawyer Jim Boyle represents a company that offers a variety of 976 services, said that complaints have been based on fact.

"I think what you're seeing particularly in a lot of the letters is of the Jimmy Swaggart scandal," Boyle said. "I think if Jimmy Swaggart had had this service available, he wouldn't be in the trouble he is in now."

## 21 enter pleas after indictments of stealing long-distance access

MIDLAND (AP) — Twenty-one current and former Odessa College students have begun entering pleas after being indicted on federal charges of bilking a communications company out of \$30,000 in long-distance phone calls.

Five students charged in the case have made initial appearances before a U.S. magistrate, entering not guilty pleas, court officials said.

A federal grand jury indicted the students last week on charges of unlawful use of counterfeit access codes belonging to Midland-based ClayDesta Communications.

Students allegedly used pirated access codes to make hundreds of long-distance phone calls from dormitory pay phones.

The students are to be released on

their own recognizance, U.S. Attorney Tom Beery said.

If convicted of the felony, each student faces a maximum 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

ClayDesta President Randy Kidwell alleged the students and others in the Permian Basin illegally obtained the codes and made thousands of calls, some to foreign countries.

The company lost more than \$200,000 to phone theft during a three-month period in late 1986 and early 1987 before Secret Service agents and the U.S. attorney's office in San Antonio launched an investigation, he said.

The students are being charged with \$30,000 worth of those calls, authorities said.

About 50 access codes were stolen.

with as much as \$100,000 charged to one code, Kidwell said.

He said the codes probably were obtained from careless credit card users or through computer programs. Usually, such calls are charged against a ClayDesta customer's phone.

Kidwell said the cost of making such theft exceeds the amount allegedly used by the students. "We decided it was time to stand and try to stop it."

Odessa College President Speegle told the Odessa College Board last week the school plans a preliminary action against the students.

All the students named in the indictments are either current or former Odessa College athletes, playing in men's and women's sports and track.