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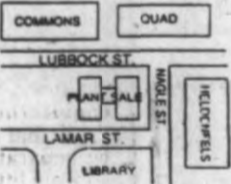
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**U/2 Can Rattle and Hum w/ Xit**  
Date: January 19  
Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Lodge

**Comedy Club ++**  
Date: January 26  
Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Lodge  
Date Optional

**Barbecue at the Lodge\***  
Date: January 21  
Time: 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Lodge

**Barn Dance w/ KKF\***  
Date: January 28  
Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Lodge

**Smoker +**  
Date: January 24  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: MSC Rm 201

**An Added Attraction\***  
Date: January 30  
Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Lodge

Lodge @ 803 Wellborn Rd.

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## Houston official released on bond

HOUSTON (AP) — The North Forest Independent School District's interim superintendent was released from jail Thursday after posting bond on a felony theft charge accusing him of stealing \$5,000 from the school district.

Robert B. Jones, 55, was on freed on \$2,000 bond after a brief court appearance. Jones was arrested Wednesday at a convenience store, prosecutor Jim Lindeman said.

The felony complaint, which claims that the theft occurred Dec. 5, stems from an ongoing investigation into district finances, Lindeman said. The charge carries a maximum punishment of 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

In a Dec. 12 memo from the district's Texas Education Agency-appointed master, Joe Randow, Jones was warned to repay a \$5,000 salary advance and other expenditures to the district.

Lindeman, while declining to elaborate on the charge against Jones, cautioned against assuming that it relates specifically to the salary advance.

But the *Houston Chronicle* reported Thursday that a source said the charge does stem from the salary advance Jones received in September.

District spokeswoman Hollis Hood, who had no comment on Jones' arrest, said the interim superintendent had repaid \$750 of the advance.

Randow's memo also directed Jones to make restitution for an automobile he leased from a Baytown car dealer and didn't use for school business, for gasoline company credit card charges that were made in Jones' name but someone else's handwriting, and for \$300 in long-distance phone calls Randow said were unrelated to school business.

The TEA cited several instances of "inappropriate expenditures of school funds for personal use" among other violations by the district when it appointed Randow as master for North Forest earlier this month and lowered the district's accreditation.

Randow, as master, has broad authority over district affairs. North Forest is one step away from loss of accreditation, which would lead to cancellation of state funding.

On Tuesday, the district's school trustees voted 5-2 to hire Charles Matthews as the district's new superintendent. Trustees hope to bring Matthews on board within the next few weeks.

## Jail-overcrowding suit may expand statewide

AUSTIN (AP) — If a jail overcrowding lawsuit against the state by Nueces County goes forward, all 254 Texas counties should be included, an assistant attorney general told a state judge Thursday.

The move — which is opposed by Nueces County — is needed "to avoid a multiplicity of lawsuits for the state with varying or inconsistent results," Assistant Attorney General Bob Ozer said after the hearing before State District Judge Joe Hart.

Ozer said inmates who have been sentenced to the Texas Department of Corrections and are "allegedly backlogged in county jails" also should be added to the suit.

But Nueces County Attorney Carlos Valdez and Steve Bickerstaff, an Austin attorney who represented Collin, Lubbock and El Paso counties at the hearing, called the proposal a delaying tactic.

"This lawsuit doesn't need that," Bickerstaff said. "We feel the only reason the state is trying to add all of these unnecessary parties is simply to obstruct the case."

Bickerstaff, who was granted permission to file a friend-of-the-court brief, estimated there are 11,000 inmates who should be in TDC but are being held in county jails.

TDC, which is under a federal court order because of crowded conditions, limits the number of admissions with a quota system for counties. The suit says the state has a duty to take its prisoners.

The judge also heard motions by Nueces County and the state, which both asked for a ruling in their favor without going through a full trial. Hart could rule as soon as early next month, Valdez said.

"We are required to comply with Ruiz (the federal lawsuit)," Ozer said. "And the only way to comply with Ruiz is to develop a reasonable, rational, proportionate admissions

policy for the Texas Department of Corrections. We can't take all the inmates that the counties are trying to send to us."

"A favorable ruling for Nueces County will mean even-handed chaos throughout the state of Texas, at least at the gates of TDC."

But Valdez, who estimated it is costing his county more than \$2 million a year to hold more than 167 prisoners who should be in TDC, said the state must act.

"The only ultimate answer is to build more prisons, to build them as soon as possible," Valdez said. "This problem should've been addressed 10 years ago, and it wasn't, and that's why we're in this predicament at this point."

Valdez said his county's action is needed because, "If somebody doesn't push the state, which is what we're doing, it'll never get done."

## Supporters want end to elections

AUSTIN (AP) — Supporters of replacing direct election of Texas appeals court judges with a modified appointment plan say they now have decided to add state district courts in big urban counties to their plan.

The *Austin American-Statesman*, quoting unnamed legislative sources, Thursday reported that Gov. Bill Clements "has indicated he will support the expanded plan."

Rep. Terral Smith, R-Austin, said he and other key supporters of "merit election" of judges agreed this week to include district judges in the state's six biggest counties — Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Tarrant and Travis — in the plan.

Under merit election, according to its proponents, a judicial candidate would be nominated by the governor but be subject to voter approval.

Currently, Texas judges are elected in direct, partisan elections, and critics of the system have blamed that system for election to the bench of some unqualified judges, especially in larger counties which might have more than 50 district judges.

Previously, however, merit election backers had planned to concentrate their push for state appellate courts, including the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals.

Defenders of partisan elections say they guarantee that judges are accountable to the people.

According to the *American-Statesman*, merit election backers decided to expand their plan after a federal court decision last year, and two pending lawsuits, that could require the state to alter its partisan election system for state courts by dropping at-large races in favor of single-judge districts.

For example, the 13 state district judges in Travis County now run countywide for their seats, and voters cast ballots for all 13. Under a single-judge district system, the county would be divided into 13 districts with a judge elected by voters in only that district. But the judge would continue to hear cases from all over the county, not just those involving someone in his district.

Rep. Bruce Gibson, D-Godley, said a merit election system could retain at-large voting and preserve the right of voters to pass judgment on all judges they might meet in a courtroom.

## Suspect stays under scrutiny after release

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas County sheriff's officials said Thursday their investigation of a seven-year-old double slaying remains a "high priority case" despite the release of their prime suspect.

Sheriff's Department spokesman Jim Ewell said the investigation into the 1981 slayings of a North Dallas woman and her 5-year-old son is still open.

However, he said officials released Mose L. Collins, who was earlier charged with killing Roxann J. Jeeves and her son Kristopher Koper, for lack of sufficient evidence.

"After submitting what findings we did have in the investigation of Mose Collins, the district attorney agreed we had insufficient evidence to indict at this time," Ewell said.

Collins, 34, was arrested Nov. 30 in Junction City, Kan. after an eyewitness placed Collins at Jeeves north Dallas apartment complex the day of the crime, but there was no evidence to tie him directly to the deaths, Lt. M.E. Shaddox told the *Dallas Morning News*.

The bodies of Jeeves and her son were found in a southeast Dallas County field on Dec. 23, 1981.

Collins had been held in jail in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

Collins' defense attorney Brad Lollar says his client is still a suspect in the case and he believes Collins' release was for other reasons.

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Jan. 21	Penthouse Party	University Inn Penthouse
Jan. 22	* Superbowl Bash	-----
Jan. 23	Informational	026 MSC 7:00
Jan. 24	*Import Smoker	-----
Jan. 26	Informational	026 Msc 8:30
Jan. 28	Deadman's Party	Holiday Inn Ballroom
Jan. 29	*Formal Dinner	-----

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