AUSTIN (AP) — State lawmakers when Dallas-based National County Monday will consider a report that Mutual Fire Insurance Co. was deportrays the State Board of Insurance as inept in regulating Texas'

The Battalion

\$25 billion insurance industry.
Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock,
who has called for the resignation of
all three Insurance Board members, will ask Eugene Gee, a former FBI agent, to testify before the Senate State Affairs Committee on his in-

vestigation into the board.

Gee's preliminary report sparked controversy last week. The report concluded the state's insurance department is "dangerously misman-

by legislators and consumer-rights advocates, who have charged the industry has not been effectively regu-

clared insolvent with a deficit of \$56 million, making it one of the state's largest insurance company failures

Since the failure of National County Mutual, Insurance Commissioner Doyce Lee and several other high ranking officials in the insurance department have resigned.

Insurance Board members said most of the problems outlined in the 'report have been addressed or are being investigated internally within the department.

aged," creating a situation that "is an invitation to fraud."

The Insurance Board has been heavily criticized in recent months

Board Chairman Edwin J. Smith Jr. described Montford's actions as a "witch hunt." He and the other two board members said they would not

Texans pay about \$25 billion annually in premiums. Currently, there are a record 32 Texas-based The criticism grew in October insurance companies in receiv-

Clements wrote Calk back

greeting alive.

whelming.

back?" Calk asked.

Warped

...AND NOW WE GO CHER TO BERNICE BROWN AT THE WRPD NEWS

born in Texas.

"Howdy," the governor began.
"The gradual loss of this salutation is unfortunate. I am glad that proud Texans such as yourself are deter-

mined to keep, this distinctly Texan

disc jockeys in San Antonio, but said the results have been less than over-

Calk wrote similar letters to radio

He said he worries that unique

parts of Texas tradition keep disappearing.
"When was the last time you saw a horny toad? Or someone who really

worked at making a living on horse-

His deep feeling for his native state is sincere, said Calk, who said he thanks God each day that he was

ership, meaning they are under some kind of oversight by the Insurance Board because of financial

The bill also would repeat

Smith defended the agency, saying it has made changes in problem

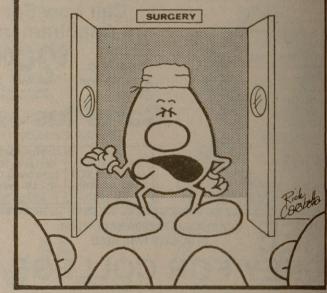
But Montford said, "They really didn't even stir until we started to breathe down their necks."

Also during the meeting, the State Affairs Committee will consider a bill by state Sen. Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur that would prohibit carrying children under age 12 in the back of

Scrambled Eggs

The bill also would repeal fense to a violation of the childs seat law that allows the person cape a fine by showing later acquired a safety seat.

The process of writing a budget continues for the lature, and lawmakers will re debate on education issues a House Higher Education on tee meets Monday and the Public Education Committee



THE GOOD NEWS 15 THAT UNCLE WALDO 15 OFF THE CRITICAL LIST. THE BAD NEWS 15 HE'S DEAD.

.. THERE'S ...

San Antonio man crusades to save 'Howdy' for Texans

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — To all those contributing to the erosion of the Texas speech pattern, Buddy Calk, in his soft-spoken West Texas drawl, has just one word.

Howdy.
The 37-year-old Calk is worried that a bit of Texana is fading away, and that's why he launched a one-man crusade to "Save the Howdy."

I saw this article last summer that said only 6 percent of Texans still greet folks with 'Howdy," Calk said. I thought that was pretty darn sad. Pretty soon, we're all going to sound like we came from Pittsburgh or something.

The catalyst for Calk's cause was a poll conducted last May by the Pub-

poli conducted last May by the Public Policy Research Laboratory at Texas A&M University.

The poll of 1,008 adult Texans determined that, for 44 percent, the preferred greeting is "Hi." More than 20 percent say "Hello." The endangered "Howdy" came in a distant third

Calk couldn't stand still for that and decided to take action. He wrote to Gov. Bill Clements and urged him to back a bill making "howdy" the official state greeting

MHMR offers mental health services locally

The Brazos Valley Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority currently offers a variety of services for mental health and mental retardation patients.
Services offered are emergency

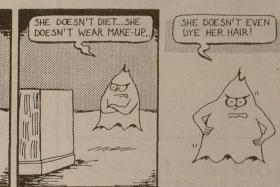
screening, referral services, inpatient services, outpatient services, psychosocial programs, substance and drug-outpatient programs, childhood intervention and a vocational program.

For answers to direct mental health or mental retardation questions contact the Brazos Valley Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority at 822-6467.

For answers to general questions concerning mental health or mental retardation, contact Janie Velasquez

The Texas Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation also is available for information at 1-800Waldo





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ALL RIGHT, WHO TOO MY RULER? WHERE

MY SCOTCH TAPE? COME WE NEVER HAVE

PENCILS IN THIS DES

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January 23, 1989 **Room 502 Rudder Tower** at 7:00pm



(That's tonight, for you people with digital watches)

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205 Holleman





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