

POLITICAL FORUM WANTS YOU...

TO JOIN US!

FIRST GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING
 Wednesday, January 25th
 212 MSC
 7:00 P.M.

State considers insurance report

Former FBI agent reports State Board of Insurance has failed

AUSTIN (AP) — State lawmakers Monday will consider a report that portrays the State Board of Insurance as inept in regulating Texas' \$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 investigation into the board.

Gee's preliminary report sparked controversy last week. The report concluded the state's insurance department is "dangerously mismanaged," creating a situation that "is an invitation to fraud."

The Insurance Board has been heavily criticized in recent months by legislators and consumer-rights advocates, who have charged the industry has not been effectively regulated.

The criticism grew in October

when Dallas-based National County Mutual Fire Insurance Co. was declared insolvent with a deficit of \$56 million, making it one of the state's largest insurance company failures ever.

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.

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 resign.

Texasans pay about \$25 billion annually in premiums. Currently, there are a record 32 Texas-based insurance companies in receive-

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

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

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

a pickup or a flatbed trailer.

The bill also would repeal a defense to a violation of the child seat law that allows the person to escape a fine by showing later he acquired a safety seat.

The process of writing a budget continues for the legislature, and lawmakers will debate on education issues as the House Higher Education Committee meets Monday and the Public Education Committee Tuesday.

CONTACT LENSES
 ONLY QUALITY NAME BRANDS
 (Bausch & Lomb, Cliba, Barnes-Hinds-Hydrocurve)

\$79.00 SPARE PAIR *10 pr.*-STD. DAILY WEAR SOFT LENSES

\$99.00 pr.*-STD. EXTENDED WEAR SOFT LENSES

\$99.00 pr.*-STD. TINTED SOFT LENSES Daily Wear or Extended Wear

Same Day Delivery on Most Lenses
 With Purchase of 1st Pr. at Reg. Price. Sale Ends 1/27/89.

Call **696-3754** for Appointment
 Sale Applies to Std. Daily Wear Clear Only

Charles C. Schroepel, O.D., P.C.
 Doctor of Optometry
 707 S. Texas Ave.-Suite 101D
 1 Blk. South of Texas Ave. & University Dr. Intersection
 College Station, Texas 77840
 *EYE EXAM AND CARE KIT NOT INCLUDED

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 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.

Clements wrote Calk back. "Howdy," the governor began. "The gradual loss of this salutation is unfortunate. I am glad that proud Texans such as yourself are determined to keep this distinctly Texan greeting alive."

Calk wrote similar letters to radio disc jockeys in San Antonio, but said the results have been less than overwhelming.

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 horseback?" Calk asked.

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

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE

BE AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

Study in Mexico, Scotland or Germany for TAMU credit!

Find out how YOU can be chosen.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
 Tuesday, January 24
 11 a.m. - 12 noon OR 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
 251 Bizzell West

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE, 161 BIZZELL WEST, PHONE: 845-0544

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 at 822-6467.

The Texas Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation also is available for information at 1-800-252-8154.

\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME STUDY										
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Wanted: Symptomatic patients with physician diagnosed Irritable Bowel Syndrome to participate in a short study. \$100 incentive for those chosen to participate.										
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
ASTHMA STUDY										
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
Individuals who have regular asthma to participate in an asthma study. \$400 incentive for those chosen to participate.										
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
FREE STREP THROAT TESTING										
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
For individuals 12 years and older with sore throat willing to participate in a study to treat strep throat. Diagnosed strep throat welcome. \$100 incentive for those chosen to participate.										
\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$200
CEDAR/WINTER ALLERGY STUDY										
\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$200
Looking for mountain cedar allergic individuals to participate in a short allergy study. \$100-\$200 incentive for those chosen to participate. Free skin testing available to determine eligibility.										
\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$200	\$200

CALL PAULL RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL
776-0400

Are you a closet... WARGAMER?

Then MSC NOVA is the place for you!

MSC NOVA provides a forum for boardgamers and roleplayers to meet and play their favorite games: RISK, AD&D, Battletech, Traveller, Star Fleet Battles, Champions, and many others. Also, MSC NOVA presents **WARCON**, Texas' oldest Wargaming Convention, to be held **February 3-5, 1989**.

This con brings together gamers of all calibres from all over the Free World (meaning Texas and the surrounding states) for 3 days and nights of intense gaming. Additionally, we need people to run Tournaments at **WARCON**, so if you're interested, come to our New Members' meeting on...

January 23, 1989
Room 502 Rudder Tower
at 7:00pm
 (That's tonight, for you people with digital watches)
See You At The Meeting!

NOVA

Scrambled Eggs

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

Warped by Scott McCullough

Waldo by Kevin Thomas

INCOME TAX SERVICE

MOULDER TAX SERVICE
 505 University E. #701
 College Station, TX
 Behind Franks Bar & Grill

Sammy Parks
Gayland Moulder
Michael Moulder
 New for '88

Offering Electronic Filing of your Tax Return for faster refund.

PROFESSIONAL & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES

Welcome back Aggies

Williams LUBE KING

10 Minute Drive-Thru Lube, Oil, & Filter Change

\$3.00 Off Oil, Lube & Filter Change

exp 2-28-89 205 Holleman 764-7992

UP BIG SAVINGS!

Buy and Sell Through Classified Ads Call 845-2611