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# Chemical council defends industry as explosion raises safety question

HOUSTON (AP) - Members of the Texas Chemical Council defended the chemical industry Thursday in the wake of this week's deadly Phillips Petroleum Co. explosion, saying the chemical business has one of the best safety records in man-

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ufacturing. "The chemical industry is probably the safest industry in which to work," said Harry Whitworth, presi-dent of TCC and its related organi-zation, the Association of Chemical Industries of Texas.

'When you look at business from a manufacturing standpoint, the chemical industry is in the top one or two for safety," said Larry Wright, TCC chairman-elect and vice president of Texas operations for Dow Chemical Co.

Whitworth said one reason the industry has a good record is because it is cognizant of the hazardous conditions and materials involved in its production processes.

"I think our industry has the safety record it has because it's very aware of the materials and tempera-tures they work with," Whitworth said. "When you're dealing in high temperatures and pressures, you put safety at the top of the list."

Phillips' plastic plant explosion in Pasadena Monday killed at least five people and injured 124, six critically. Another 17 people remained miss-ing and presumed dead Thursday.

"This plant has operated safely for 40 years," Whitworth said of the Phillips facility. "Occasionally, you do have a failure.'

### **TV** station asks FCC not to revoke license

DALLAS (AP) - WFAA-TV is asking the Federal Communications Commission to dismiss a Dallas Times Herald request to revoke the

station's broadcasting license. In a petition filed Oct. 24 with the FCC, WFAA asserts the *Times Herald* request is factually incorrect, without merit and improper under FCC procedures. FCC procedures.

The FCC request stemmed from the Times Herald's dispute with the Dallas Morning News and A.H. Belo Corp. — parent company of both the *Morning News* and WFAA — over rights to comics and other fea-tures provided by Universal Press Syndicate.

The Times Herald contended Belo was trying to use its newspaper-television combination to undermine newspaper competition in Dallas. The FCC outlawed joint newspaper-television ownership in 1975, but allowed it to continue in cities where it

The FCC request followed a Times Herald lawsuit against the Morning News alleging the newspa-per, Belo and Universal Press improperly agreed to transfer 26 syndicated features from the Times Herald to the Morning News. That agreement said the features might be developed for television use. The case is scheduled for trial April 2, 1990.

TCC, which claims members from about 85 chemical and petrochemi-cal companies, was scheduled to address industry safety as part of its annual meeting that began Thursday.

'None of us wants to be associated with something that ends up hurting people," said Jim Woodrick, ACIT chairman and regional services man-

ager for Dupont. "When something like this happens, it makes you rede-tees and Community Awarene like this happens, it makes you rede-dicate yourselves to working harder to prevent accidents.

Woodrick said members continually review safety measures and devices and work with employees and

Emergency Response groups have been started in the past fi years throughout the state repre. industry and government's conce about involving communities in the maintenance of petrochemical prot communities. Such organizations as lems, he said.



### A professor and her pottery

#### Photo by Scott Guttormson

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Joan Moore, a professor in the College of Aron display October 31 in Hous

Friday, October 27, 198

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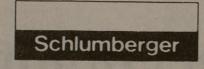
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### **INFORMATION MEETING**\*

Date: October 30, 1989 Time: 6:15PM - 8:15PM Place: See placement center for details

INTERVIEWING October 31, 1989

\*All candidates must attend Information Meeting



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chitecture, holds a piece of prehistoric pottery crafted by the Hopi Indians of Sakyakti, Ariz. Moore sculpts and renovates pottery. Her work is currently on display in the Pasko Gallery in Williamstown, Mass. Moore's second exhibit will go

the Interfirst Plaza, Suite 3050, 1100 Louisiana. The exhibit is entitled "Distant Places, Distant Reveries." The Houston exhibit will involve Alan Stacell, Joseph Hutchinson, and Mary Ciani, who are also members of the A&M faculty.



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