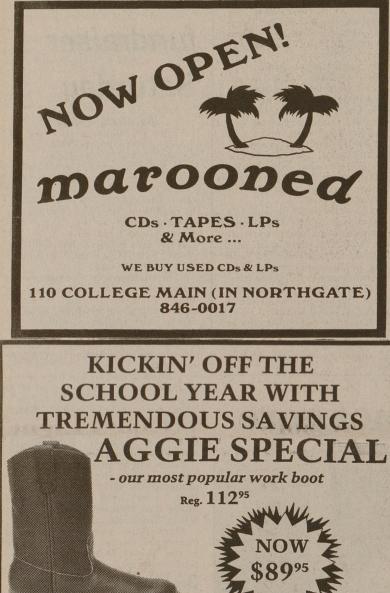




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3810 South Texas Ave. 846-3813 Bryan

# Competition rings true in rural area

WARRD

Page 8

AUSTIN (AP) - A small familyowned phone company, Alenco Communications Inc., successfully competed Wednesday against Southwestern Bell to provide the first-ever phone service to a wide area of South Texas in Webb County.

The six-employee phone com-pany from Joshua, Texas, will ini-tially serve about 400 rural house-holds and businesses that had for years pleaded with Southwestern Paul to provide messable priord Bell to provide reasonably priced phone service, said Robby Allen, company co-owner with his wife, Modeana.

Texas has more residents without access to phone service than does the nation as a whole. Public Utility Commission statistics indicate that as of last November, slightly more than 10 percent of all Texas households mostly in West and South Texas and the Panhandle — were not served by phone companies, com-pared to the national average of lightly less than 7 percent.

"I consider it poor to be below the national average," said Rowland Curry, director of the PUC's telephone analysis program. Generally, Southwestern Bell

serves urban areas of Texas, and 61 smaller phone companies serve rural areas, where Bell believes it cannot

operate profitably, Curry said. "Bell has not been aggressive in serving distant, rural areas of Texas," he said.

Allen said he got the idea to ex-pand his 500-line North Texas phone company into South Texas when he stopped at a rural Webb County cafe in September 1988. "We were having a hamburger one day and were talking to the cook, who said there was no telephone service in the whole area," he said.

Allen said he checked with Bell officials in San Antonio to determine why they weren't offering service in Webb County. Bell officials told him "there was nothing out there but a bunch of poor houses," Allen said.

Southwestern Bell officials say they did not use those words, but did tell Allen they considered Webb County an unprofitable area.

The Public Utility Commission, which on Wednesday finalized its order allowing Alenco to serve the area, also had harsh words for Southwestern Bell.

**Commissioners** Marta Greytok and Jo Campbell said that Bell had been uninterested in serving the rural area until company officials learned that a new international bridge would be built over the Rio Grande near Laredo. The bridge is expected to spur demand for tele-phone service by 650 lines over the next five years.



LUCKY FOR HERBERT THAT HE DIDN'T WALKUNDER THE LADDER. road.

**Around Town** 

at door.

# TOMORROWS TUBULARMAN VERSUS BONGMASTER Man survives

emergency crash landing WEATHERFORD (AP) -An An

lington man escaped safely Wedne day when the landing gear on h private airplane hit a fence and crashed during an attempted emer

Department of Public Safety as patcher Susan McAllester said public Wes Shamp, 28, was the only perso on the twin-engine Beechcraft whe it went down about a quarter mu-it went down about a quarter musoutheast of the Parker County Ai port. The accident was reported a 7:34 a.m., she said.

The plane had left Love Field in

"He turned one of his engines of and was going to land," McAllest said. But the landing gear hit fence, and the plane crashed onto

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**The Battalion** 

Thursday, September 6, 199 Thursday,

by Scott McCullar 019

CAMPUS BIKE TRENCH

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### Live Music

Information is provided by the individual nightclubs and is subject to change.

#### **FLYING TOMATO**

At Northgate at 303 University Drive. All ages admitted. For more information, call 846-1616. Thursday — White Bread. Rock. Starts at 8 p.m. \$2 cover. Wednesday — Sneaky Pete. Singalong. Starts at 8:30 p.m. \$2 cover

#### **GALLERY BAR**

In the College Station Hilton at 801 E. University Drive. Only ages 21 and older admitted. Call 693-7500 for more information. Thursday — Carla Lack. Easy lis-tening. Starts at 5:30 p.m. No cover.

Friday — Mark Bendiksen. Jazz pianist. Starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. No cover. Saturday — Eugene Smith. Easy

listening. Starts at 7 p.m. No cover.

### **KAY'S CABARET**

At Post Oak Mall. Ages 18 and older 'admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 696-9191

Thursday — Dream Horse Folk. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$2 cover. Friday — Rhythmatics. Blues. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$2 cover. Saturday — The Dwellers. Rock. Starts at 9:30. \$3 cover.

#### MAMA'S PIZZA

At 1601 S. Texas Ave. in College Station. All ages admitted. For more information, call 696-0032.

Sunday - Mama's Boys. Rock. Starts at 9 p.m. No cover. Wednesday — Lippman Jam. Open stage. Starts at 8:30 p.m. No cover.

### **TEXAS HALL OF FAME**

On FM 2818 in Bryan. Alcohol served. For more information, call 822-2222.

Thursday — Full House. Coun-try. Starts at 9 p.m., doors open at 8 p.m. \$3 cover (\$1 off with A&M ID)

Friday — Special F/X. Country. Starts at 9 p.m., doors open at 8 p.m. \$5 cover. aturday - Randy Pelt and Gold Rush. Country. Starts at 9:00

p.m. \$4 cover.

#### FRONT PORCH CAFE

In Bryan at 4410 College Main. ll ages admitted. Alcohol All ages admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 846-LIVE.

Thursday — **Ten Hands**. Funk. Starts at 9:00 p.m. \$5 cover. Friday — Jesse Taylor and Tor-nado Alley featuring Junior Medlow. Blues. Starts at 9 p.m. \$5 cover. Saturday — One Touch. Brazil-

ian dance. Starts at 9 p.m. \$5 cover. Tuesday — Acoustic Stage. Starts at 8:00 p.m. \$1 cover.

#### **TIPPY'S**

At 1803 Greenfield Plaza in Bryan. Ages 21 and older ad-mitted. For more information, call 846-7203. Thursday — Road Kings. Rockabilly. Starts at 8:30. No cover. Friday — Cold Blue Steel, feauturing the Texas Music Hall of Famers. Classic and Texas rock. Starts at 9 p.m. \$2 cover.

## Comedy Information is subject to

change.

#### **GARFIELD'S**

Located at 1503 S. Texas Ave. Reservations recommended. Ages 21 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-1736 for more information. Thursday — Comedy with **Brad Epton** and **Mark Mayberry**. Starts at 9 p.m. \$4 in advance, \$5

#### SUNDANCE CLUB

Located at 801 E. University Dr. in the Hilton. Ages 19 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-7500 for more information.

Thursday — Comedy workshop with TCA Cable and Showtime starring Tim Stewart as the master of ceremonies and comedians Scott Kennedy, Jeff Schilling, Bill Silva, Michael O' Rourke, and David Lamont. Starts at 8:00 p.m. \$4 in advance, \$5 at door.

### Movies

Information is subject to change. Admission restrictions may apply.

#### **CINEMA THREE**

Located at 315 College Ave. Call 693-2796 for more information about matinee showtimes. Wild at Heart. Rated R. Show-times are 2, 4:20, 7 and 9:20. The Witches. Rated PG. Showtimes are 2:20, 4:30, 7:05 and 9:05.

Young Guns II. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 2:10, 4:15 7:10 and 9:15

Pump Up the Volume. Rated R. Beginning Friday, showtimes are 2:20, 4:20, 7:20 and 9:20.

#### **POST OAK THREE**

Located in Post Oak Mall. Call 693-2796 for more information about matinee showtimes. Air America. Rated R. Show-times are 2:10, 4:15, 7:10 and

Dark Man. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:05, 4:25, 7:05 and 9:25.

Ghost. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 2, 4:20, 7 and 9:20.

#### SCHULMAN SIX

In Bryan at 2000 E. 29th Street. Call 775-2463 for more information about matinee showtimes

The Exorcist III. Rated R. Showtimes are 7:15 and 9:50. My Blue Heaven. Rated PG-18. Showtimes are 7:10 and 9:35. **Problem Child**. Rated PG. Show-

times are 7:20 and 9:30. Hunt For Red October. Rated

PG. "**Dollar movie**". Showtimes are 7:15 and 9:40. Total Recall. Rated R. "Dollar

movie". Showtimes are 7:05 and 9:45

Gremlins II. "Dollar movie". Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 7:05 and 9:00.

#### MANOR EAST THREE

In Bryan in Manor East Mall. Call 823-8300 for information about matinee showtimes. Men at Work. Rated R. Showtimes 7:20 and 9:50. Flatliners. Rated R. Showtimes are7:15 and 9:30. Presumed Innocent. Rated R. Showtimes are 7 and 9:40.

#### **AGGIE CINEMA**

For more information, call the MSC Box Office at 845-1234. Pretty Woman. Rated R. Rudder Auditorium on Friday and Saturday. Showtimes are 7:30 and 9:45. Admission is \$2. Rock Horror Picture Show. Rated R. In the Grove. Showtimes are midnight on Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$2. Charlotte's Web. Rated G. Rudder Auditorium Showtime is at 3 on Saturday. Admission is \$2 for adults, and \$1 for children.