

FORECAST
A hot, sticky day with a chance of thunderstorms in the late afternoon

SPORTS
Lady Aggie Volleyball
"As far as talent and athleticism, this team has a lot to offer."
— Coach Al Givens

INSIDE
Emergency Medical Services
"... Sometimes people look at you a little weird when you describe a job like this as being a lot of fun."
— Chief Dudley Wait

OPINION
"I am totally confused, but I'm determined not to let on."
— Toni Garrad, recounts her experiences as a freshman and gives tips to the Class of 1995

The Battalion

Jury convicts mother in murder-for-hire, cheerleading trial

HOUSTON (AP) — A jury Tuesday convicted a Channelview woman of trying to hire a hitman to kill the mother of her daughter's cheerleading rival to further her own daughter's cheerleading career.

Wanda Holloway, 37, could face up to 10 years in prison and a maximum \$10,000 fine. Jurors, who deliberated for about six hours before reaching a verdict, were ordered to return to court Wednesday morning to begin the punishment phase of the trial.

Holloway burst into tears after she

was convicted on the solicitation of murder charge. Relatives and friends surrounded her, shouting at members of the media to stay away.

She also faced a lesser charge of solicitation of aggravated kidnapping, but no verdict was announced on that charge. State District Judge George Godwin said after Tuesday's proceedings that jurors did not have to rule on both charges.

Shortly before the verdict was announced in the packed courtroom, the jury had reached a decision in the case. But at that time, the judge told jurors to

reread the charges and reconsider their decision.

They returned with their final verdict about 20 minutes later. Godwin individually polled the 12 jurors, and each agreed with the guilty verdict.

Attorneys on both sides said they could not discuss the case because of a gag order imposed by Godwin at the start of the trial.

"The gag order is still in effect, (so) we can't say," said defense attorney Troy McKinney.

"I'm pleased with the verdict so far,"

prosecutor Mike Anderson said.

Anderson told jurors in closing arguments that Holloway had every classic motive to want Verna Heath, the mother of her daughter's cheerleading rival, kidnapped or killed.

"This is not about cheerleading, folks," Anderson said. "This is about someone who hated someone so much that it gnawed at her day and night."

"It ain't about cheerleading. It's about not getting what you want, and it's about getting it above anything else."

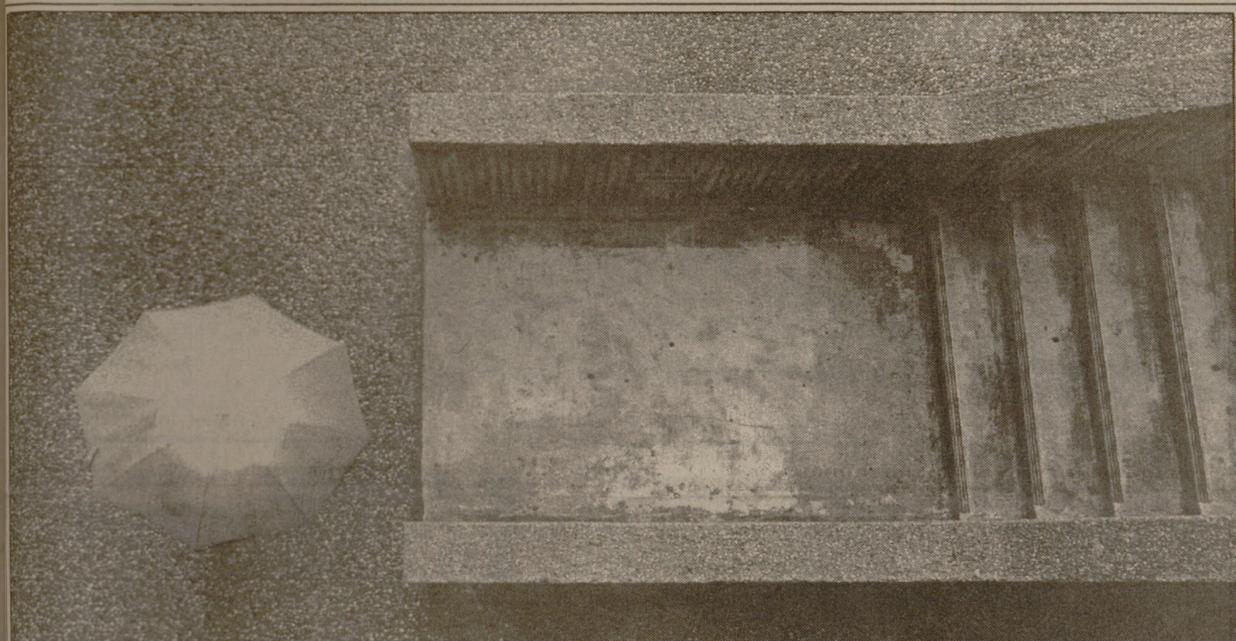
McKinney told jurors Holloway be-

lieved initially that her former brother-in-law, Terry Harper, was joking about having Heath killed.

"Never, anywhere on those tapes does she say, 'Terry, please go do this for me or go find someone to do this,'" McKinney said.

Nearly 80 spectators crowded into a cramped annex courtroom to hear the final arguments in the week-old trial. More than half of the seats were filled with friends and family of the Heaths and Hol-

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Raindrops keep falling on my head
A brief thunderstorm Tuesday afternoon caused students to bring out the umbrellas. This umbrella belongs to a student walking between the Harrington Tower and the Harrington Classroom Building. The scattered showers should continue through the end of the week, with highs in the high 80s.

Gorbachev supports reforms

MOSCOW (AP) — Mikhail S. Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin on Tuesday urged lawmakers to approve sweeping changes in the Soviet government — and Yeltsin said Russia should keep its finger on the nuclear button.

While maintaining he favored elimination of nuclear weapons, and calling for an end to underground nuclear tests, Yeltsin said nuclear missiles from the Ukraine and Kazakstan would soon be moved inside the borders of his giant Russian re-

public.

He also pushed for elimination of the KGB department he said was responsible for bugging the telephones of millions of Soviets, including his own.

"This is illegal," said Yeltsin. "This is unconstitutional."

Gorbachev, Yeltsin and the leaders of nine other republics on Monday put before the Congress of Deputies a broad proposal to strip the Kremlin of most powers and transfer them to the republics.

In speeches Tuesday, Gorbachev and Yeltsin sought speedy approval of the plan.

Gorbachev acknowledged some could find fault with the proposals. He said:



Boris Yeltsin

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Clashes in Yugoslavia threaten European Community peace plan

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — A renewal of fierce fighting involving Yugoslav soldiers, Croatian forces and Serb militants threatened on Tuesday to scuttle a new European Community peace plan in Yugoslavia.

The Croatian stronghold of Osijek and surrounding villages in the ethnically-mixed Slavonia region saw some of the heaviest clashes Tuesday. At least 16 people were killed.

Associated Press photographer Franz Pammer reported that Osijek, 140 miles east of Zagreb, echoed with constant submachine-gun and light artillery fire Tuesday. The army blocked a road to Vukovar, 18 miles to the south-

east, he said.

He saw two air force planes dropping bombs on neighboring Bilje village, a last Croat stronghold in the Baranja area stretching north of Osijek toward Hungary.

In the town of Beli Manastir, Serbs claimed to have taken Bilje and Mece, the last two Croat-held villages in Baranja.

"Cease-fire, what cease-fire?" said Zdravko Mrdza, a Serbian defense force officer in Beli Manastir. "Our Baranja is definitely free. Baranja is Yugoslavia," he said, as a big Yugoslav flag fluttered over his head.

Pammer said he saw the bodies of 10 people killed in Bilje be-

ing delivered to the Osijek hospital, and six more bodies of people killed in fighting in and around Osijek.

Lt. Gen. Marko Negovanovic, the assistant federal defense minister, said Croatian forces had fired on an army base near Osijek, wounding one soldier. He said barracks in Osijek also came under attack. He accused Croatian forces of "flagrantly and crudely" violating the cease-fire and denied the army provoked incidents.

The 12-nation EC called an urgent international peace conference on Yugoslavia in The Hague for Saturday. It named Lord Car-

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Phase I of CS park begins

By Mark Evans
The Battalion

Tractors are clearing land along Wolf Pen Creek as work begins on Phase I of a plan which will provide College Station with 14 acres of new park areas.

The L-shaped tract of land, near the intersection of Dartmouth and Holleman drives, backs up to Colgate Drive in College Station. Wolf Pen Creek flows through the center of the park.

The plans include concrete trails, a playground and an outdoor amphitheater with seating for 5,000 people. The amphitheater will serve as host to a variety of outdoor concerts.

Stephen Beachy, director of College Station Parks and Recreation, said Tuesday the cost of Phase I will amount to almost \$2 million.



JAY JANNER/The Battalion

Funds for the project will come from existing bond programs, a grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Astin Trust and hotel/motel funds.

In the past, Wolf Pen Creek has been plagued by drainage problems. The creek often overflows its banks and floods nearby business and residential properties.

The portion of the creek on the western side of Texas Avenue has proven a liability to the area, Beachy said. Developers backed buildings right up to the channel, he said, making maintenance difficult.

Beachy said College Station hopes to head off similar problems which could occur around the less-developed eastern portion of the creek.

"The idea of the master plan was to take the creek downstream from Texas Avenue in an area that is at this point essentially undeveloped and try to plan out how that development should occur over the next several years," Beachy said.

The park also will become home to the various festivals and concerts normally held in Central Park. Both the Jazz Festival and the Folk Festival will move to the outdoor amphitheater which borders on the creek.

In addition, the facility will house a symphony orchestra and provide a stage for theatrical groups.

Buddy Riley, a construction worker with Aztex Construction of Houston, clears the way for a drainage pipe at Wolf Pen Creek on Tuesday.

"It's going to provide a facility for outdoor concerts and performances that we don't have now," Beachy said. "Anytime we do that now (hold outdoor events), we have to put up a tent and a stage."

Beachy said College Station would like the completed project to entice businesses to invest money in the eastern section of the city.

"Hopefully, it will stimulate economic development in that particular area of town that has been vacant and encourage businesses to build there," Beachy said.

If Phase I is successful, College Station will look into developing a Phase II further down the creek with some ideas suggesting additional lakes, trails, a museum, a library and a botanical gardens, Beachy said.

No further plans, however, have been decided on, he said. Future plans depend upon the support of the City Council and voter approval.

Bids for construction of the project will open on Sept. 17. College Station will consider submitted bids Sept. 26. Workers presently are rerouting sewage and electrical lines to make room for the lake.

Beachy said completion of Phase I is expected sometime during the spring or summer of 1992.

Secretary of State plans trip to Moscow Baker will assess U.S.S.R.'s stability

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III will fly to Moscow next week to gauge the dramatic changes sweeping the Soviet Union and Mikhail S. Gorbachev's chances of holding the turbulent country together, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

He also is pondering a visit to one or all of the three newly independent Baltic Republics

with which the United States is re-establishing ties after more than a half-century, the officials told The Associated Press.

Baker also is likely to go to the Middle East to try to advance preparations for an Arab-Israeli peace conference cosponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union, said the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

An announcement is expected Wednesday, after Baker confers with President Bush at the White House.

The trip to Moscow will be centered on a 35-nation human rights conference that opens

Tuesday and runs through Oct. 4. Baker is expected to spend three days at the meeting and to hold talks with the new Soviet foreign minister, Boris Pankin.

The country is in the midst of changes that Gorbachev said Monday put it "on the brink of catastrophe." He has urged the national Congress to approve a reorganization plan that he worked out with leaders of 10 republics.

It would establish an interim government and pave the way for a new kind of union in which

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James Baker