

Officials allocate funds for dump

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Authority on Monday authorized spending about \$900,000 to buy a West Texas ranch that could become home to a low-level nuclear waste dump.

The authority's board also voted to conduct extensive studies at an 1,800-acre site on the approximately 16,000-acre Faskin Ranch in Hudspeth County for possible location of the dump.

Rick Jacobi, general manager of the authority, said that officials hope to quickly conclude purchase negotiations with the ranch owner, Statewide Capital of Houston.

Further board action would be required to finally designate the proposed dump location, which is off of Interstate 10 about seven miles southeast of Sierra Blanca

Board purchases West Texas ranch for nuclear waste site

and 90 miles southeast of El Paso. There will be a Hudspeth County public hearing, likely in April, before the board makes a final site designation.

Because a Texas Water Commission license is required to build the dump, the board also voted to submit an application to the commission with an application fee of \$415,000.

Jacobi said that the Water Commission must conduct an administrative review to make sure the license application is complete.

The commission probably will not formally accept the application until May, he said, and the

authority's staff said the commission likely will not decide on a license until June 1995.

Environmentalists and Hudspeth County residents protested the board action. Some said the process was moving too fast, since a number of site studies have yet to be done, and without proper public input. They also expressed concerns about environmental safety.

"I'm very dismayed and upset," said Bill Addington of Alert Citizens for Environmental Safety in Hudspeth County.

He said after the board action, "We're concerned with it (the

dump) being placed anywhere in Hudspeth County or the West Texas region. We are concerned with it being placed anywhere in Texas." He said that it means more waste will be transported on state roads, increasing accident chances.

A prominent Mexican environmental organization called the Group of 100 said the planned dump violates the spirit of international agreements to protect the border environment.

Board Chairman Milton Guiberteau of Houston said, "We're not trying to contaminate West Texas. We're basically trying to provide a safe method for disposal where waste can be regulated, rather than being stored in multiple unregulated sites throughout the state."



KARL A. STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Miss TAMU

Junior Jill McClure won the Miss Texas A&M crown Saturday night. McClure, an English major from Woodville, received \$1500 in cash, \$500 for wardrobe and the opportunity to represent A&M in the Miss Scholarship Pageant in July.

Open adoption includes birth mothers

Editor's note: This is the second in a five-part series in The Battalion on adoption in Texas and how it has changed over the years. Today's article focuses on

By Jayme Blaschke
The Battalion

When closed adoptions were commonplace, the birth mother was often a shadowy threat to the adoptive parents, but as adoptions have opened, her role has expanded beyond the birth.

Marya Brieg became pregnant in 1969. Because the father

denied responsibility and she already had a two-year-old daughter to support, she made the decision to place her second child up for adoption through DePelchin Children's Center in Houston.

"The hospital put a sheet up at the birth, so I couldn't tell if my baby was a girl or a boy — I never got to see it," she said. "They told me nothing, not even if it lived. Once I signed the final papers, I was told not to try to find out anything about the baby, and to never contact the agency again. No contact, ever."

The DePelchin of today is radi-

cally different from the one Brieg dealt with 20 years ago. Not only do they offer extensive counseling, but the birth mother is allowed much more control over the actual placement of the child.

Melinda Perry, director of post-adoption at DePelchin, said although the center still does not offer totally open adoptions, the birth mother is supplied with much more information about the adoptive family, and vice versa.

"Many years ago these women were told to go away, and they find it hard to come back and ask 'Was he placed?'" Perry said.

"Openness is healthier. The birth mother is more secure with her decision when she has an idea of the type of people that have become her baby's parents. It helps with the grief process.

"The children get more information about their history," she said. "Years ago we didn't give reasons why the child was put up for adoption, and now we give that and more. This way's a lot more honest."

If the agency had the types of post-placement therapy then as

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Crime Stoppers

On Sunday, Feb. 2 at 1 a.m. a young woman was walking alone along Dartmouth Street near the intersection of Harvey Road in College Station. As she passed a group of young white males, they verbally jeered and harassed her.

One of the males left the group, ran up behind the woman, grabbed her and dragged her into the alleyway behind the strip shopping center on the southeast corner of the intersection.

Once they were hidden from view, the suspect assaulted the woman and left her lying on the ground as he ran off along Dartmouth Street.

The suspect is described as a 20 to 22-year-old white male, approximately 200 pounds, with short brown hair parted on the

side. He was last seen wearing a white oxford shirt with stripes, slightly faded blue jeans, wine colored rope belt, and brown boots.

This week the College Station Police Department and Crime Stoppers need your help to identify the person(s) responsible for this sexual assault.

If you have information that could be helpful, call Crime Stoppers at 775-TIPS. When you call, Crime Stoppers will assign you a special coded number that will protect your identity.

If your call leads to an arrest and grand jury indictment, Crime Stoppers will pay you up to \$1,000 in cash. Crime Stoppers also pays cash for information on any felony crime or the location of any wanted fugitive.

What's Up

TUESDAY

THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMALS AND ANIMAL RESEARCH AND THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION: Dr. John Kochevar will be speaking on "Autologous Growth Promotion Mechanisms in Cancer Cells." 7:30 p.m. in 201 VMS.

CENTER FOR ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT: Free review session for the TASP writing section. Will include skills necessary to succeed on the test, types of questions likely to be on the test and general test taking strategies. Register in advance in 243 Blocker. 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in 246A Blocker. Call Pat or Venesa at 845-2724 for more information.

PRO-CHOICE AGGIES: General meeting. 8:30 p.m. in 231 MSC. Call John at 847-0993 for more information.

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATIONAL SPORTS: Entries will be closing for Free Throw, Squash Singles and Slam Dunk. 5:30 p.m. in 159 Read. Call 845-7826 for more information.

ORTHODOX STUDENT ORGANIZATION: OSO is a group of Eastern Orthodox Christians from various ethnic backgrounds. Discussion group. 5:15 p.m. in 230 MSC. Call Paul Comits at 847-4667 for more information.

ASSOCIATION OF A&M GUITARISTS: Organizational meeting - elect officers - plan future events. Guitar and Bass Workshops: bring your guitar! 8:30 p.m.

at Rumours in the MSC. Call Kelly Shatzer at 696-3522 for more information.

STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICE: Final week for screenings for therapy group for Lesbians and Gay men titled, "Coming Out and Relationships" on the 3rd floor of the YMCA Building. Call Mr. Chris Maglio or Mr. Brian Reinhardt at 845-4427 for more information.

RPTS UNDERGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE: General meeting to discuss upcoming Graduate study opportunity, Job Fair, etc. 5:30 p.m. in 151 Francis.

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12TH MAN FOUNDATION

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

General Meeting

Tues., Feb. 18 8:30 p.m.

308 Rudder

Guest Speakers will be Track & Tennis Coaches

Plans for our "infamous" football trip to New Orleans are being made.

Don't Miss Out!!

Any questions call 846-8193

GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER STUDY

Individuals are being recruited for a research study on Generalized Anxiety Disorder. If you experience anxiety or would like to find out more about this study, call VIP Research. \$200.00 will be paid to qualified volunteers who enroll and complete this study.

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ULCERATIVE COLITIS

VIP Research is seeking individuals with ulcerative colitis. If you've been diagnosed with ulcerative colitis and you're 12 years of age or older, you may qualify for a five month study of a currently available medication. \$200.00 will be paid to those who complete this study.

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ACNE STUDY

VIP Research is seeking individuals, 12 years and older, with mild-to-moderate acne for a 12-week research study of an anti-acne medication. \$100.00 will be paid to those who complete this study.

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GENITAL HERPES INFECTION

Individuals with genital herpes infection are being recruited for a research study of an investigational antiviral medication. If you would like to find out more about this study, call VIP Research. A monetary incentive will be paid to qualified volunteers who enroll and complete this study.

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Department of Speech Communication and TAMU Debate Society

presents

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Resolved: The press has been irresponsible in its coverage of the private lives of public figures.

DATE: Wednesday, February 19, 1992

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: 701 Rudder

Come and Voice your opinion!