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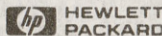
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THE BATTALION



State News Briefs

Soldier receives life in prison

FORT BLISS(AP) - A soldier convicted of stabbing his girlfriend to death, possibly with a bayonet, has been sentenced to life in prison.

Sgt. 1st Class Donald Ray Fletcher was found guilty of premeditated murder in the stabbing death of Josephine Kennon, post spokeswoman Jean Offutt said.

Fletcher was sentenced last week and is in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in Kansas pending an automatic appeal, Offutt said.

Kennon's body was found Aug. 17, 1989, near El Paso with 17 stab wounds on her back and chest.

Fletcher was arrested and charged with murder two days later after he called sheriff's authorities in Dona Ana County, N.M., to say he knew the woman.

it will," said Insurance Board Chairwoman Claire Koriath.

Insurance company spokesmen, however, blasted the proposal, and indicated they would challenge the measure in court.

Mark Toohey, a spokesman for Farmers Insurance Group, said the rule was unnecessary because there are already laws prohibiting discrimination.

S.A. corporation to cut 200 jobs

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - More than 200 full-time jobs, including several high-ranking management positions, are being eliminated at Santa Rosa Health Care Corp., officials have announced.

And more layoffs are to be announced in the next few weeks, Robert J. Nolan, the corporation's president and chief executive officer said at a news conference Monday.

The 215 job cuts are expected to save the company about \$6 million annually.

Nolan said he regrets that the layoffs "will have an adverse impact on some quality people at every level."

Thirty-five percent of senior-level management positions are to be eliminated. In all, the layoffs represent about 7 percent of the work force at Santa Rosa, which has about 2,900 full-time employees, said corporation spokeswoman Linda McClung.

da McClung.

Fourteen of the layoffs took effect Monday and included Dave Bleakney, chief executive officer of Santa Rosa downtown; and Dennis Millirons, who headed Santa Rosa Northwest as well as Villa Rosa and Santa Rosa Rehabilitation hospitals.

Govt. officials to talk to citizens

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Ann Richards, joined by most other Democratic statewide officers, will take the state government show on the road Thursday and make the East Texas town of Carthage "capital for a day."

The daylong trip is the first of what aides say could become monthly stops around the state that Richards hopes will allow citizens to tell their public officials just what's wrong.

"For all the experts, all the policy-makers and bureaucrats who supply me with information and advice in Austin, I learn more when I'm out on the road looking in the faces of real Texans," Richards said of the trip.

"When I talk to people in Muleshoe, Sulphur Springs, Brownsville or Pineland, I know that I am getting the straight story on how government works, or doesn't work," she wrote in a letter to the Houston Chronicle explaining her plan to "take Austin out of Austin."

Judge to get judicial review

GALVESTON(AP) - A judicial conduct commission will review a court's determination that a Galveston County judge conspired to extort money from a defendant and improperly reduced sentences in several other cases.

Retired state District Judge Oliver Kitzman of Brookshire said in a report to the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct that County Court-at-Law Judge John Thoma, 48, conspired to extort money from Hollis Mathews of Houston.

Mathews told state officials at a June hearing that he paid one of the judge's associates \$1,000 in return for favorable treatment in criminal cases.

Thoma also held illegal conversations with defendants in other cases when prosecutors were not present and improperly reduced sentences without notifying prosecutors, Kitzman said.

He heard four days of testimony during the June hearing in Galveston and filed his findings in Austin last week.

Thoma was on vacation this week and could not be reached for comment Tuesday by The Associated Press. His attorney, Bruce Fort of Texas City, did not immediately return a telephone message Tuesday.

Thoma has until Sept. 9 to respond to the findings, said Robert Flowers, the commission's executive director recommend his removal from the bench.

Insurance board OKs price rule

AUSTIN (AP) - On its last day to pass rules, the State Board of Insurance Tuesday adopted a measure prohibiting insurers from discriminating in the price or availability of insurance.

"It should be able to work. Hopefully

Meza arrested after family dispute

The Associated Press

UVALDE, Texas (AP) - The Uvalde County Sheriff's Department took child killer Raul Meza into custody on Tuesday, officers said.

"They're taking statements and doing the investigation," a Uvalde County jailer who declined to identify himself told the San Antonio Express-News.

Meza was taken into custody for pushing his grandmother during a family disturbance, Deputy Bob Price told KTSA in San Antonio.

Officials with the Sheriff's Department told The Associated Press they could not comment. They referred comment to Chief Deputy Arnulfo Alonzo, who could not be reached Tuesday night.

Sheriff Beaumont Watkins was returning from Virginia and also

could not be reached for comment.

Uvalde County Judge William Mitchell said deputies picked up Meza at his grandparents' home because of a possible violation of the Texas Family Violence Code.

Mitchell said he did not expect Meza to be charged with any crime before early Wednesday. The county can hold a prisoner for 24 hours without pressing charges, he said.

The judge said the latest incident confirmed the fears of county residents.

"If what has been alleged to have happened did happen, our fears have come true that people in Uvalde County were not safe with Mr. Meza living in the area," Mitchell said.

Meza, 32, pleaded guilty in 1982 to the rape-slaying of an 8-year-old Austin girl. The killing occurred while Meza was on parole for a robbery in which a convenience store clerk was shot.

Meza was denied parole seven times, but was released June 21 because his time served plus "good time" equaled his sentence.

He is now on mandatory supervision, and must wear an electronic monitoring bracelet which prison officials say will notify them if he goes outside a 150-foot radius of a phone in a relative's house in Uvalde County.

His release from prison has sparked outrage in the six places he has tried to live in Texas.

Judge asks Tilton to retrieve files again

The Associated Press

DALLAS - District Judge Eric Moyer once again Monday commanded televangelist Robert Tilton's attorneys to produce ministry records by 9 a.m. Friday.

Moyer then set for two hours later a contempt hearing in which Tilton could face both jail and fines if he does not comply.

The minister of the Dallas-area Word of Faith World Outreach Center Church already had been ordered to either reveal the identities of the people who say they've experienced miracles or face possible jail time.

Tilton tried to get Moyer removed from hearing the \$50 million lawsuit against him, saying the judge was biased.

A visiting judge ruled last week that Moyer had not compromised him objectivity and may remain on the case.

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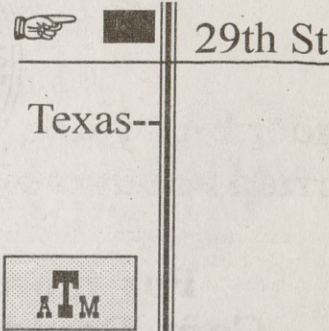
...a weekly Bible study fellowship for student couples.

Sunday Mornings

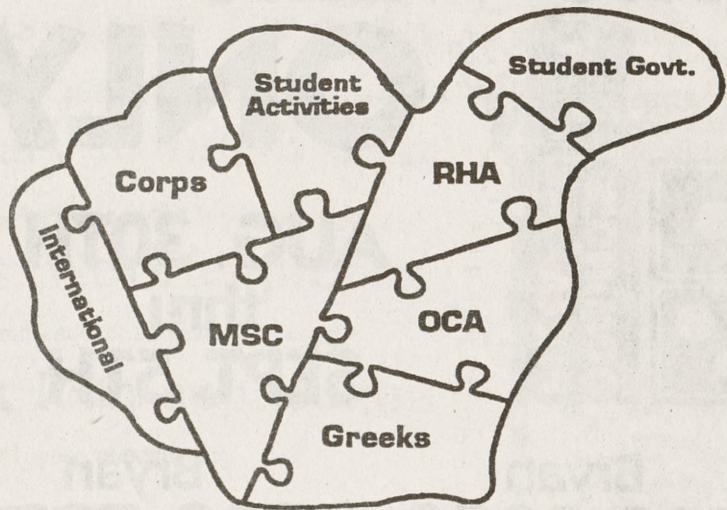
- 9:30 a.m. Student Worship Service
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