

Possible speed limit increase raises concerns

□ The speed limit could be upped to 70 mph by the end of the year, but insurance rates may speed too.

formation Service. Texas Department of Transportation engineers have suggested in a preliminary study that a 70 mph speed limit would be appropriate for stretches of interstate and major highways leading into and out of Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and Waco.

Similar speed limit studies for highways surrounding Austin and San Antonio aren't yet complete.

Any raising of the speed limit would require Congress to repeal the national speed limit for interstates, now 55 mph in urban areas and 65 mph through rural areas.

Officials have said that should Congress and state officials move quickly, speed limits could rise before Christmas.

Engineering studies now arriving at agency headquarters are being prepared by the transportation department's 25 district offices. The studies are designed to help the deliberations of the three-member Texas Transportation Commission should Congress give states the authority to raise speed limits.

"Our commissioners have said that if and when they set these speed limits, they want to have a balance between convenience and safety," Bill Burnett, DOT executive director, told the Austin American-Statesman.

They also would strive for consistency, he said. "We can't have the speed limit change every time someone crosses the county line."

"We will work with cities and DPS (Department of Public Safety) in coming up with speeds that we all are comfortable with and will not put the lives of the traveling Texas public in jeopardy," he said.

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About 61 percent of all traffic in Texas travels on the state's 8,091 miles of interstate and major highways.

Insurance spokesman Johns said many people already drive 3 mph to 5 mph over posted speed limits on Texas highways, so raising the limit to 70 would mean that many people would be driving 75 mph.

"A higher speed limit in Texas will probably mean an increase in traffic accidents and that quite possibly could translate into higher auto insurance rates," Johns said.

"At a time when insurers are actively encouraging safe driving habits to help save lives and reduce insurance costs for their customers, any increase in the speed limit is in direct contrast to those efforts," he said.

HEY YOU!!! LEAH YOU!!!

Did you hear the news?

OCA is having a Dinner Club Friday
Oct. 27 @ 6:30 at the Cow Hop.

Come fire up with us as we prepare to
BEAT THE HELL OUTTA' HOUSTON



JIM'S FOOD MART

University at Texas Ave. 846-5007

Our beer prices are some of the lowest in the area!

18 pk.....\$10.59
12 pk.....\$ 7.49
"and"
The friendliest cashiers in town!!

Our Sorority of the Month, Delta Zeta, will be holding a car wash here on Friday, October 29th, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Come out and support their fundraising activities at.....

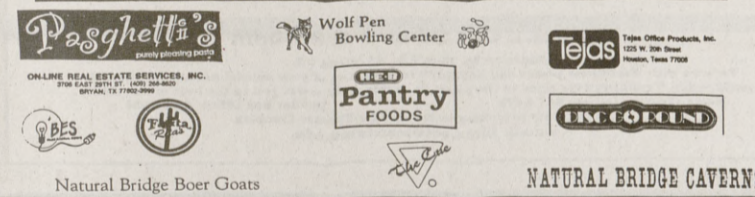
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A New Aggie Tradition.

SIGMA PHI EPSILON Presents Their 2nd Annual

HAUNTED HOUSE

October 27, 28, 29 & 31
behind the WOLF PEN bowling alleys
Doors open at
8:00 p.m.

Benefitting
Scotty's House
TICKETS
\$4.00 Advance
\$5.00 At Door
\$1 Off with CAN GOOD
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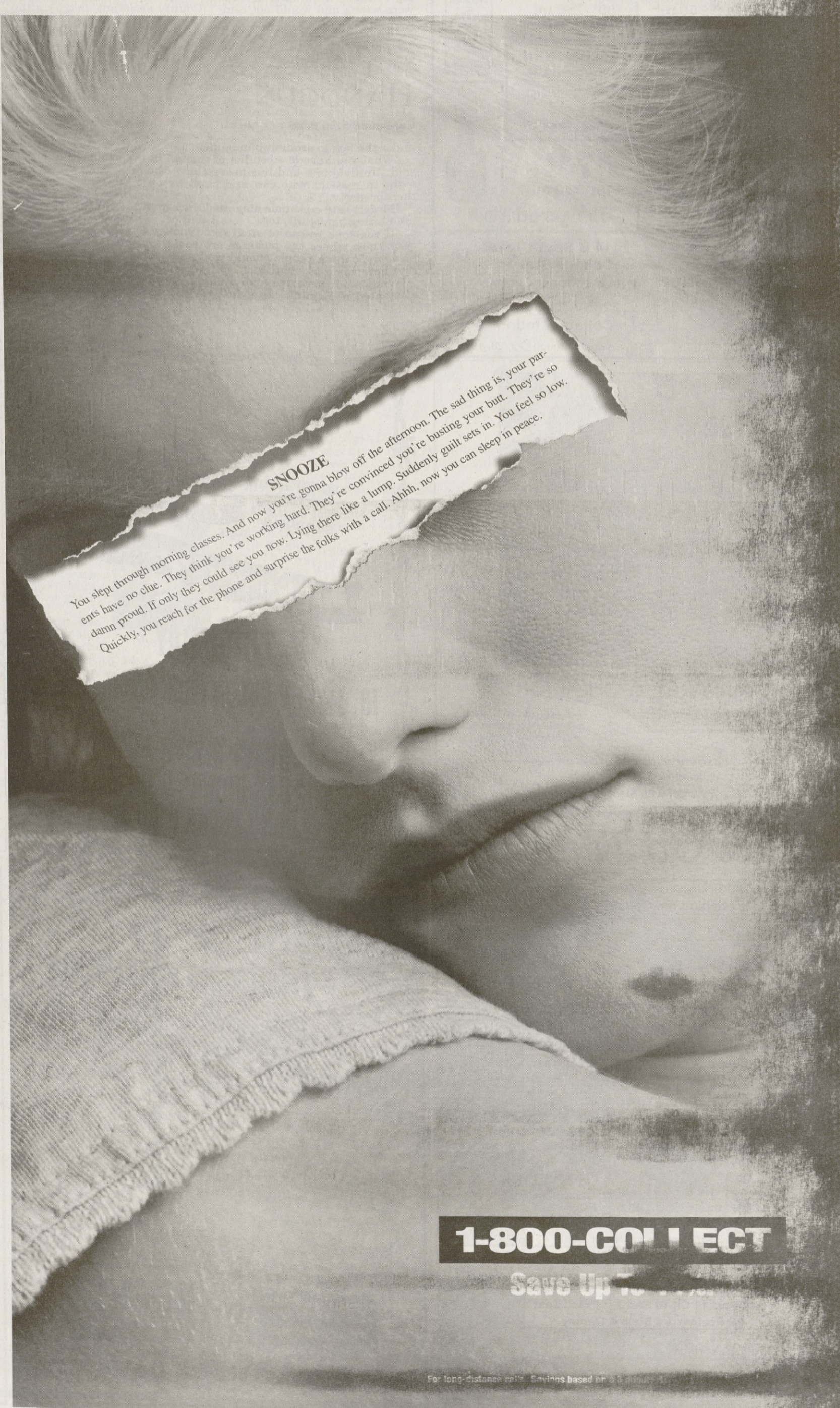
LAP
WOODSTONE CENTER

**THURSDAY
Head West**
2.75 pitchers, .50¢ bar 8-10

**FRIDAY
Reece Whitley**
Featuring members from
Sammy Hagar, Mister Mister, Janet Jackson.

**Saturday
Smashmouth opens for
Push Monkey
Ladies Night**

Houston/ATM
Doors open at noon. Game at 1:00
Food/Drink Specials



SNOOZE

You slept through morning classes. And now you're gonna blow off the afternoon. The sad thing is, your parents have no clue. They think you're working hard. They're convinced you're busting your butt. They're so damn proud. If only they could see you now. Lying there like a lump. Suddenly guilt sets in. You feel so low. Quickly, you reach for the phone and surprise the folks with a call. Ahhh, now you can sleep in peace.

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