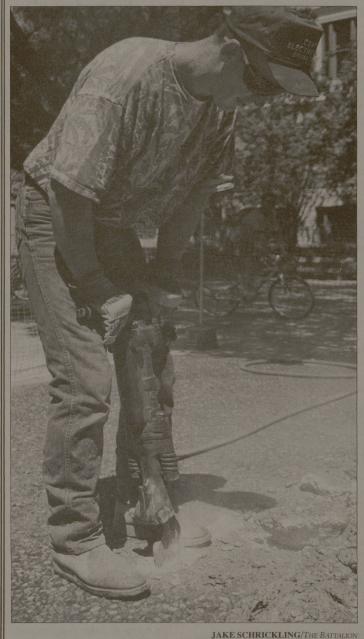
## **Breaking ground**



Mickey Clatt, an employee of Bayer Electric, breaks up a part of the sidewalk outside of the Pavilion Tuesday afternoon. The sidewalk is being operated on in order to allow access to the new phone system being installed in the Pavilion.

## Clinton advocates statistical sampling for next censi

ticipating a showdown with congressional Republicans over the next national census, President Clinton today advocated using statistical sampling to avoid undercounts of minorities and the rural poor. "It's not about politics, it's about people," he said.

CLINTON The president visited a community center in a heavily populated Latino community in Houston to get an idea of how much local govern-

foundations rely on census data to determine the assistance they dispense.

Clinton said severe undercounting of populations such as children, minorities and homeless people is now hurting attempts to funnel federal help to those who need it. He said the experts agree that using statistical sampling, along with 'quality checks" that involve head counts in certain neighborhoods, can reduce the error rate to 1/10 of 1 percent.

ments, community programs and even private

That would mean only about 300,000 Americans may be missed in the next census count, rather than the millions overlooked in the 1990

"It is therefore, I think, quite unfortunate that some in Congress have so vociferously opposed sampling, because improving the Census should not be a partisan issue," Clinton said. about making sure that every American really,

Afterward, Clinton attended a fund-raising luncheon at the home of attorney Richard Mithoff. The luncheon, which drew 120 guests, raised \$800,000 for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. It was Clinton's first fund-raiser for the DCCC in Texas and all the money is to be spent on congressional races

He was expected to pick up another \$500,000 at a fund-raiser in Dallas tonight for the Democratic National Committee

Clinton chose to visit the Magnolia Multi-Service Center in Houston to address ways to keep the serious problems with undercounting experienced in the 1990 census from happening again.

With that tally, an estimated 4 million Americans nationwide were overlooked, with higher rates of undercounting among minorities, said Robert Shapiro, undersecretary for economic affairs at the Commerce Department.

The problem was acute in Texas, where the Census Bureau estimated that 245,286 Hispanics and 83,114 blacks — as well as 226,883 children were missed by census takers. In Houston alone, nearly 67,000 people were left out in 1990.

As a result, the state lost out on \$1 billion in federal funding. That alone should lead lawmakers of any political party to support ways to make the count more accurate, the president said.

"In Texas, I would think, every Republican would be just as interested as every Democrat

"It's not about politics, it's about people. It's in seeing that every Texan is counted a this state does not lose another billio Clinton said.

Census results are a factor in esta boundaries for congressional districts. play a role in determining eligibility for funds for an array of programs from Med roads and bridges.

Acting on a request from then-Pro-Bush, the National Academy of Science ommended after the 1990 census thatsa be used as a means of ensuring accurpling is a technique that uses number characteristics of people who are con census takers to build estimates abou

who cannot be located. In addition to Clinton, sampling is supp by congressional Democrats, who stand areas, where voters traditionally are De

Republicans, however, object to s ers literally count, not guess, how man cans there are. Plus, they say, sampling

Last year, lawmakers comprom agreeing to conduct a test run of thece

mento, Calif.; an 11-county area near C Menominee American Indian Reservati

## Verdict expected Thursday for assault of 3-year old Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Two brothers, ages 7 and 8, testified Tuesday that they and a fourth-grade friend sexually assaulted and beat a 3-year-old girl at a West Dallas creek.

Their testimony came during the trial of the 11-year-old boy, who is charged with three counts of sexual assault and one count of injuring a child. He faces up to 40 years' imprisonment if convicted.

The 8-year-old brother was practically mute on the witness stand, giving only simple yes or no answers in a small voice. Lawyers for both sides repeatedly asked him to pull his hand away from his mouth and use a microphone.

By contrast, his younger brother was smiling and chatty, spoke loudly and clearly into the microphone, giving yes or no answers in a lilting singsong voice. After admitting that he touched the girl's vagina with his penis, he gave a toothy grin and sang a little song.

The brothers can't be charged with the crime because they are younger than age 10.

Both boys said they and the 11year-old on trial engaged in oral sex with the girl and beat her naked body with shoes. There were some inconsistencies, however.

The victim's mother broke into tears when prosecutor Gina Savage

showed her photos taken of the girl at the hospital after the April 9 attack

'She was nude, and she just had big eyes, like she was not knowing what was going on," the 24-year-old woman said, her voice quaking. "When I saw her, I couldn't bear to see her, so I just looked away.

"You're going to hear bravado from a 7- and an 8-year-old trying to be bigger than they are," said Garry Cantrell, maintaining his client's innocence and contending admissions to police were coerced. "You're going to hear inconsistent statements

Officer Gregory Dugger of the Dallas Police Department's Child Ex-

noon that all three boys

him that they took part in The state wrapped upitestimony from detective dale, a 29-year veteran wh the physical evidence sect Dallas Police Department

Martindale said he con shoe of the 8-year-old, and ings on the sole were simil ings on the girl's body afterth

The trial will resume Wednesday, and the state is to rest shortly afterward. Office they now expect the case tob jury's hands by Thursday.

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