



ANTHONY DISALVO/THE BATTALION

The city of Bryan is among the 30 finalists for the All-American City Award. Representatives for the city will head to Philadelphia later this month for the competition.

## Bryan among finalists for All-American City

BY SAMEH FAHMY  
The Battalion

This month, the city of Bryan will compete for the nation's oldest and most prestigious civic recognition award — All-American City.

This is the second consecutive year Bryan has been named one of the 30 finalists in the competition. Community representatives for the city will travel to Philadelphia June 24 for a three-day competition. Representatives will be judged on a 10-minute presentation and a 10-minute question-and-answer session about the city.

The 10 winners of the All-American City honor will be announced June 26.

Joe Brown, public information officer for the city of Bryan, said the award brings many benefits to a city.

"What you really can't place a price tag on is the civic pride it generates in the community," he said. "It creates an atmosphere of unity."

Brown said the award can boost the recruitment of industry, jobs and investment to the city.

Brown said the city is more prepared than it was last year and has a good chance at winning the award.

"We're going in a little more confident this year," he said. "It's like going to the Super Bowl for the first time — you're just happy to be there and blinded by the lights. This year we know what to expect and we're going there to win, not just to compete."

For a community to be named an All-American City, it must be able to demonstrate successful resolution of community issues through collaborative effort. Communities must list three projects where local business, government and nonprofit organizations have worked together to tangibly improve the lives of their community's residents.

The three projects Bryan has highlighted in its application are Health For All Inc., Project Unity and

Bryan Independent School District's Helping Our Students to Succeed (HOSTS) programs.

Health for All Inc. is a nonprofit volunteer clinic offering free health care to people without insurance who do not qualify for government medical assistance.

Mary DeVaul, clinic volunteer and past president of the board of directors of Health for All Inc. said these people are often overlooked by more conventional health-care providers.

Started 12 years ago by Dr. Karim Haji, Health for All Inc. now has 50 physician volunteers and more than 100 non-medical volunteers. The clinic treated 5,000 patients last year.

Project Unity is an organization that directs disadvantaged people to services that can benefit them. The organization acts as a clearinghouse for social and human agencies in Bryan-College Station.

The HOSTS program is a mentoring program started in 1991 which recruits community volunteers to mentor students once a week in spelling and reading.

Brown said the program has been instrumental in lowering the high-school dropout rate in Bryan from 6 percent to .5 percent. He said students involved in the program have had their reading ability increase by an average of two-and-a-half grade levels.

Brown said an intangible benefit of the program is its effect on children.

"It shows that there are people other than their immediate family that care about them," he said.

Brown said these programs have been successful because of citizen involvement.

"These weren't government enacted programs," he said. "They were enacted by the people."

A community pep-rally will be held June 22 at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Bryan Municipal building. A final rehearsal for the presentation will be held June 21 at Bryan City Hall at 6:30 p.m.

## Fingerprints lead police to suspect

Six-month string of Texas, Kentucky slayings linked to rail-line trans

HOUSTON (AP) — The fingerprints of a man wanted for questioning in as many as six Texas slayings and one killing in Kentucky were found inside the home and car of two victims, police say.

Law enforcement officials from around southeast Texas gathered in Houston on Tuesday to discuss other possible links between a six-month string of slayings and suspect Rafael Resendez-Ramirez.

Resendez-Ramirez's fingerprints were found inside the Fayette County home of 73-year-old Josephine Konvicka, who was found bludgeoned to death Friday evening, Fayette County Sheriff Rick Vandel said.

"I'd certainly say (Resendez-Ramirez) is a suspect in the case," Vandel said. "He'd be hard-pressed to explain how his fingerprints got inside Mrs. Konvicka's house."

Police said his fingerprints also were found inside a Jeep Cherokee stolen from the Houston-area home of Dr. Claudia Benton, who was slain Dec. 17, 1998.

The Jeep Cherokee and a car belonging to two other people Resendez-Ramirez is suspected of killing were found in San Antonio. Those victims, the Rev. Norman "Skip" Sircic and his wife, Karen, were found dead May 2 in the parsonage behind the

Weimar United Church of Christ.

Resendez-Ramirez also is wanted for questioning in connection with Friday's slaying of Dominguez, 26, at her Houston home and the killing of a University of Kentucky student.

Additionally, Austin County Sheriff's Dept. officials are attempting to determine if the man found early Friday in Stephen F. Austin State is connected to the other killings.

Authorities say Resendez-Ramirez has a criminal history spanning 20 years and is known to live as a transient, sometimes hitchhiking on cars.

All of the victims lived or were killed near a highway. The only charges filed against the suspect, stemming from the Benton case.

FBI officials said Resendez-Ramirez has drivers' licenses in California and Florida, given at least four different birth dates and at least six aliases that include Jose Angel Carlos Reyes-Jaramillo, Pedro Angel Jaramillo, Angel Reyes-Resendez, Antonio Martinez and Mangle Konig.

## Treading water



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

Vehicles at the corner of Wellborn Drive and Joe Routt Boulevard encountered flooded streets as a result of water drainage problems that occurred when the city was hit with three-tenths of an inch of rain yesterday. Scattered showers are expected today.

## Overtime goal leads Buffalo past Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Jason Woolley came off the bench, grabbed the puck and scored the winning goal at 15:30 of overtime and the Buffalo Sabres, kept in the game by Dominik Hasek's brilliance, seized home-ice advantage by beating the Dallas Stars 3-2 in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals Tuesday night.

Hasek stopped 35 of 37 shots and kept the Stars to only one power-play conversion in 10 opportunities in the Sabres' first Stanley Cup game in 24 years.

Woolley had just come off the bench when Curtis Brown spotted him skating down the slot and put the puck on his stick to beat Ed Belfour, whom Hasek once backed up while with the Chicago Blackhawks.

Game 2 will be Thursday night in Dallas before the series shifts to Buffalo on Saturday.

The arena went eerily quiet as Woolley scored the kind of op-

portunistic goal that often decides such games.

Woolley's goal was his fourth of the playoffs and resulted not just from the Dallas defense's negligence in picking him up, but



Brown's ability to see him skating into scoring position.

The Sabres now can win the first Stanley Cup in their history by winning all of their games in Marine Midland Arena, where they are 7-0 in the playoffs.

Tuesday's setting seemed unusual for a Stanley Cup finals — deep in

the heart and heat of Texas in June, with an outside temperature of 90 — but the first goal came from one of hockey's familiar faces.

Brett Hull, a renowned scorer who at age 34 has transitioned from a stubborn one-way player into one who willingly checks and hits, beat Hasek between the pads with a slap shot from high slot at 10:17 of the first period.

The power-play goal came with one second left in Mike Santan's boarding penalty. Scouting report on Hasek's only way to beat him consistently is up high, but this shot sailed through a tiny gap between Hasek's red-and-white pads.

The Stars, despite eight power plays in regulation and two more in overtime, beat him only once more in a minute game that was one of the most thrilling, and unpredictable, openers in recent Stanley Cup history.

## NUTZ

BY R. DELUNA



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