

The Ladies of Alpha Phi invite you to be a part of
A New Millennium of Sisterhood

Event Schedule:
Monday, January 24th-Informational Meeting
 7:00 Rudder 308

Tuesday, January 25th-Interviews* 9am-5pm
 MSC 138
 Informational Meeting 8:30 MSC 292 B

Wednesday, January 26th-Interviews* 12pm-9pm
 MSC 138

Thursday, January 27th-Invitation Only Party

Monday, January 31st-Bid Day

Tables with information will be in the MSC Hallway January 18th through the 21st and January 24th and 25th. A table will also be at the MSC Open House Sunday, January 23rd.

*You must attend an Informational Meeting before you sign up for an interview.

Flames scorch building

VAN ALSTYNE(AP) — An early-morning fire destroyed a historic downtown building in this North Texas town Tuesday.

More than 25 firefighters tried to extinguish flames at the Cannon Building. Fire shot from the upstairs windows and threatened a restaurant, a drug store and the city hall next door.

"It looks like the fire started with a space heater on the second floor of the building, where a man was living," Van Alstyne Fire Chief Robert Lewis told the *Herald-Democrat* of Sherman-Denison.

"There was a lot of paper in there, from the floor to the ceiling. It went very quickly."

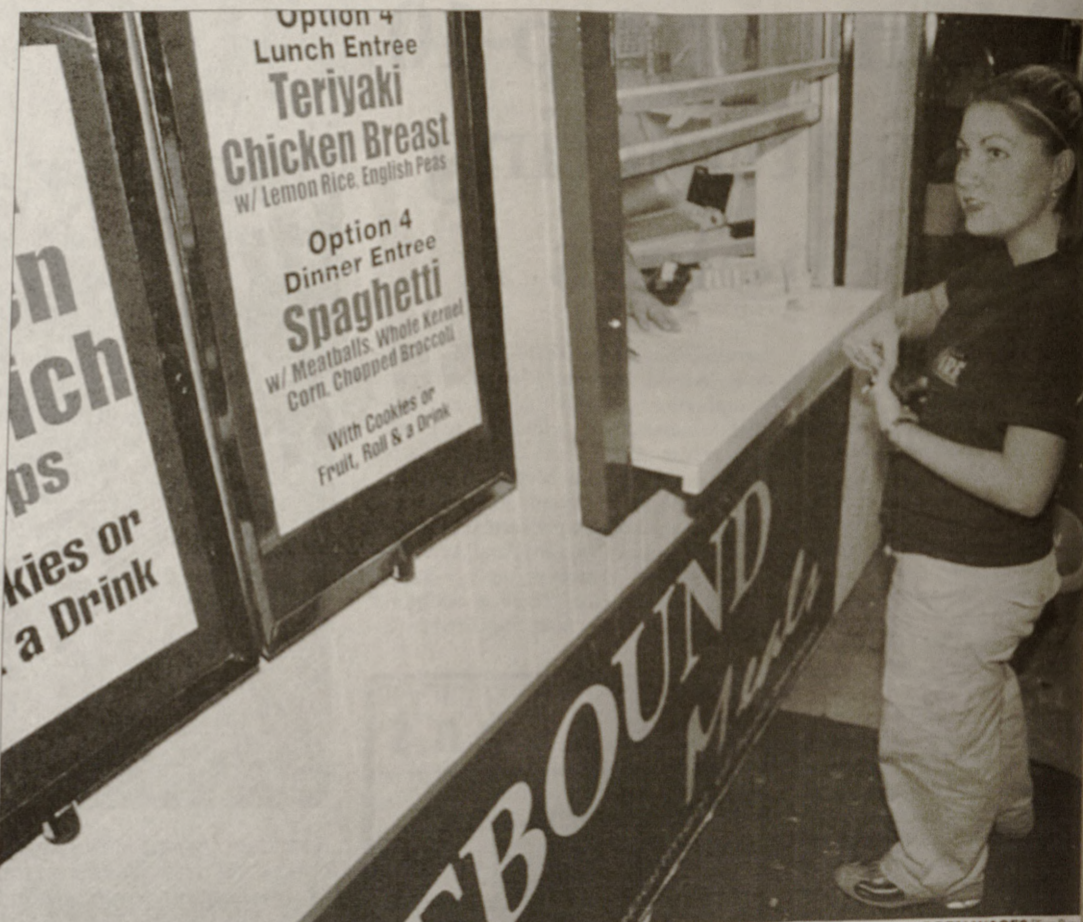
Lewis estimated the fire caused \$650,000 in damage.

Betty Norwood, who runs the Van Alstyne Historical Museum, said the fire will change the downtown landscape forever. Built in 1890, the building is one of the oldest in town. It has housed drug stores and doctor's offices but has been vacant lately.

"The historical buildings, that's one of the town's biggest draws," she said, shaking her head.

Van Alstyne, which is home to about 2,200 people, is 45 miles northeast of Dallas.

Meal on Wheels



Angela Painter, a freshman business administration major, gazes at an outbound dining menu on the Northside. Outbound dining has been put in place to help out over population at other dining areas due to the closure of Sbsia.

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Government fails to meet evidence deadline in Branch Davidian case

WACO(AP) — Government attorneys failed to meet a deadline to turn over all evidence sought by relatives suing for wrongful death in the Branch Davidian inferno.

U.S. Attorney Michael Bradford said the government sent 50 boxes of materials to plaintiffs' attorneys over the holiday weekend, beating Tuesday's deadline.

But he said an additional 2,500 pages of documents must be declassified first.

He said government attorneys also must reproduce and hand over items from 31 boxes of materials, including photographs and computer disks, which were surrendered to the Waco federal court last fall at the direction of U.S. District Judge Walter Smith.

A private contractor the government hired had overlooked the materials and was making copies for delivery today, Bradford said.

The Justice Department had sought a two-week delay, but Smith rejected their request last week.

Smith has set a May 15 trial date.

Lead plaintiffs' attorney Michael Caddell has asked Smith to compel government lawyers to answer more completely the question of whether any government personnel — military or civilian — fired shots during the deadly siege's final hours.

The Justice Department and FBI long have denied that federal agents fired shots on April 19, 1993.

But the government's sworn answer to the plaintiffs' question of whether "any person under the employment, agency, control or direction of the U.S. or any other government, agency or organization" fired shots is incomplete, Caddell wrote.

The deadly standoff began Feb. 28, 1993, when federal agents raided the rural compound of Branch Davidian leader David Koresh and his followers.

The siege ended in a fire that killed Koresh and about 80 followers, some of whom were shot.

The government said the Davidians died by their own hands.

Fires burn through small Texas town

RANGER (AP) — Eight houses and a hay barn burned during the night around this old boom town in what authorities may relate to a protest over a crackdown.

Three grass fires also burned around Ranger, and authorities suspect all 12 fires were deliberately set.

Police Chief Tom Million said there's a "good possibility" that the fires are related to a protest Monday night at City Hall. There, he said, "several known criminals and known felons" called for the resignation.

Million said that since he became chief about a year ago, his department has tried to rid the town of a drug problem.

Several people were questioned about the fires, but Million said one had been arrested.

Fire Chief Darrell Fox said some of the buildings were total losses. Some of them were abandoned and dilapidated.

The town of 2,800, about 85 miles west of Fort Worth, has about 100 vacant buildings, including businesses and houses, Fox said.

The barn, packed with more than 1,000 large bales of hay, continued burning today and firefighters decided they wouldn't be able to extinguish it. The bales are each valued at about \$150, Fox said.

"It may burn for a week," Fox said. "The guy had just built it and filled it with hay."

Fifty-three firefighters from eight fire departments joined the battle.

An approaching cold front was expected to bring increased winds threatening to spread any remaining flames.

Officials try to ban arrested student from school

BLANCO, Texas (AP) — School officials vowed to fight to keep the students arrested in connection with a pipe bomb found at Blanco High School banned from coming back to the school.

"I met with the principal and superintendent and tried to elicit a guarantee about that, and I think I did," said school board president Jim Pepper, about the ban.

His comments came Monday night, as some 250 people filled Blanco High's cafeteria to discuss school safety with the board, prosecutors and police officials.

"Those students under arrest at this time will not be allowed to enter our building. I don't know if that's legal, but we will find out if we have to," Pepper told the San Antonio Express-News.

Superintendent Mike Adkins said he would stand behind the ban, even though the district may be on shaky legal ground. As of yet, a conviction had not been handed down against the pupils.

"We will still fight it," Adkins said. "We will pressure as much as we can to keep these children out of our school."

The school's 300 students have been evacuated three times in the past two weeks because of bomb scares.

"Those students under arrest at this time will not be allowed to enter our building."

— Jim Pepper
 school board president

In the second incident, a small pipe bomb was found in a bathroom Jan. 10, and three students were arrested, according to the Express-News.

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2000 WOMEN'S WEEK

Texas A&M University Women's Week Awards Nomination

Women's Week 2000 Committee is accepting nominations for Women's Week Awards. The awards are designed to honor Texas A&M University students, staff, faculty, and administrators who encourage and promote the sensitivity to and awareness of issues that relate to women. Award recipients will receive public recognition, an award piece and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond. The awards will be presented at the Women's Week Awards Luncheon on March 21 at the Bush Conference Center.

For more information and nomination forms, check the Women's Week website at womensweek.tamu.edu. Send nomination letters and nomination forms to: Nicole Pottberg, Chair, TAMU Women's Week Awards Committee, Engineering Program Office - MS 3126. Nomination deadline is February 7.

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THE BATTALION

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