

B6 Austin American-Statesman Tuesday, March 16, 1993

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# Neighbors want power plant shut

**Continued from B1**  
Urby added a resolution to the City Council agenda for Thursday directing the city manager to investigate options for closing the plant and to report back in 90 days. The measure asks the city staff to develop additional safety procedures for the neighborhood.

The plant, 2199 Bogman Ave., is in a residential area. Houses are on the same block, and Bogman Ave. is a next door.

The 30-year-old plant is too close to people's homes, Garcia and Urby said.

"I wouldn't want that plant next to my house and neither would you," Garcia said.

He called location of the plant an example of environmental racism — imposing lower environmental standards in minority neighborhoods.

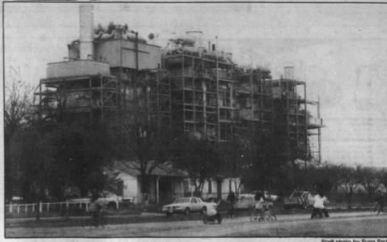
East Austin residents cited environmental racism in their battle against a large gasoline storage facility that is being closed after more than a year of protests and lawsuits.

In Lejin said he asked County Attorney Ken Osh, who was instrumental in getting oil companies to leave the tank farm, to look into the power plant situation.

Holly is one of four natural-gas-powered plants in the city's electric generating system. The diesel had stored on the 22-acre site on the north shore of Town Lake is for emergency backup use, said Laura Doll, chief administrator of the utility.

"We think it's safe... or we wouldn't be operating it," Doll said.

The utility is analyzing the risk to determine if any procedures should be changed, she said, but basic operating safety at the plant is not in question.



The Holy Power Plant, with large fuel storage tanks, a house and next door to a baseball field. It was the site of a residential area. The plant is 900 yards from one a fuel spill and fire over the weekend.

should be changed, she said, but basic operating safety at the plant is not in question. "There's no problem there that would support anything like the need to shut down the plant," Doll said.

However, she said, its location is a problem. "We've been well aware of that for years," Doll said. "It's not a place we would recommend siting a power plant today."

# Officers added to help probe of 4 murders

**Continued from B1**

is optimistic about finding the suspects.

"The only way you can face this is by thinking that someday, somewhere, you'll find information that leads to solving it," he said.

"That's the only way you can face each day. Who knows, with 5,000 tips we may have to try and solve it. All we can do is try."

The six officers assigned Monday to the task force were chosen because they were high scorers on an exam for promotion, Parkinson said. They will be paired with experienced investigators on the report shop killings, and in July they will be transferred to the criminal investigations bureau where they will be promoted to sergeant investigators, Parkinson said.

The officers will add nearly 1,000 hours of work capability to the case already being worked at least 21,000 hours and will spend another 4,000 hours before the task force is disbanded. That would bring the total spent on the case to nearly 30,000 hours.

The Austin police department spent at least \$11,450 sending investigators to Mexico City in September and October to question two suspects in the case, according to police finance records.

The suspects, Alberto Cortez and Fortino Villa Sorreño, were not charged in the slaying of the victim. Cortez was charged in Mexico on charges of kidnapping a woman outside of San Antonio and sexually assaulting her while traveling to San Antonio, where she was released.

An FBI agent and an arvin investigator from the Austin Fire Department have worked part time on the report shop killings. An Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent has investigated the case full time, Parkinson said.

Besides the six additional officers, workers from the Austin Police Department include five sergeant investigators, a senior sergeant, a senior officer, a criminal analyst, an investigator's assistant and a secretary, Parkinson said.

# Local briefs

## UT dental school No. 1 in nation, survey says

**SAN ANTONIO** — Dental schooling at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio is the best in the nation, according to a survey in the March 22 *News & World Report*. The ranking — first on a list of the 13 highest-ranked schools — was based on comments of deans, top administrators and senior faculty of accredited dental schools. Schools were rated by reputation for scholarship, curriculum and the quality of faculty and graduate students. "It's particularly gratifying that this recognition comes from the major 'leadership,'" said dental Dean Kenneth Kalkreuth of UT-San Antonio.

## Killeen of probing cyclist's death

**KILLEEN** — Killeen police are investigating a hit-and-run accident that killed a bicyclist about 6:30 a.m. Monday on Business 135, 100 just west of

## Deaths and funerals

### Sammie Lee Fowler

The family will receive visitors Tuesday, 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Wood-Corley Funeral Home.

### Felix Durward (Boots) Melmore

Felix Melmore was born on May 1911 in Ellis County, Texas to James Loren and Emma Spencer (Owens) Melmore. He was united in marriage with Play Altae Row on July 15, 1933, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They had one daughter, their only wedding anniversary last July.

## Texas inmate's execution blocked

**HUNTSVILLE** — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on Monday blocked the execution of Harold Amos Barnard about eight hours before he was to have been put to death for killing a Galveston convenience store clerk.

Attorney for Barnard had instructed he was mentally incapable of understanding his crime.

Barnard, 55, faced lethal injection early today for killing Tamm Nguyen, 46, who was fatally shot during a 1980 robbery.

Earlier in the week, a Galveston judge refused to halt the punishment. Barnard's conviction would have been the first this year.

## Plane crash kills 4 from Houston

**GRANTS, N.M.** — Four Houston residents were found dead Monday on the wreckage of their twin-engine plane on snow-covered Mount Taylor.

The Beechcraft Model 58 was about one-half mile below the mountain's 11,201-foot peak, said Capt. Mike Taylor of the New Mexico State Police.

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## Deaths and funerals

### Jasper Earl McWhorter

Jasper Earl McWhorter, 83, died Monday, March 15, 1993, in Mesita, Texas.

Mr. McWhorter is survived by his wife, Annie McWhorter and children, James D. McWhorter, Jean McWhorter Taylor and Jerry McWhorter Barrett, and his grandson, Brian James Taylor.

Mr. Mc was a deacon at Temple Baptist Church in Mesita, Texas, and joined in 1938. He worked with Texas people all his life, first as a custodian at the school in Paducah, Ky. Scouts in Paducah and Mesita, Texas, and with youth groups in Sunday school in Mesita and Austin.

### Norma L. Swage

Norma L. Swage, age 71, of Austin died Saturday, March 13, 1993.

She was a native of Austin and worked for the City of Austin until her retirement in 1978.

She was preceded in death by her father, J. Earl Swage, and mother, Agnes Swage, and her husband, H.T. Swage. She is survived by her sister, Ava Norwood of Austin and August Burns of Houston; brother, Dale Hart of Houston; many sons, nephews and close friends.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 PM, Wednesday in the Wood-Corley Chapel. Cremation services will be held at 1:00 PM, Wednesday in Fort San Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio.

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## Deaths

### THOMAS EDWARD GRESHAM

Thomas Edward Gresham, age 58 of Austin, died Sunday, March 14, 1993.

He was born October 15, 1935, in Houston, Texas to T.T. and Ethel Bell Gresham. He attended school in Brazos County and Waco. He was in management and sales with radio stations in Waco, Beaumont, and Fort Arthur. He was in the music promotion business for many years in Texas, promoting shows, concerts, and door tickets, and events with Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Merle Haggard, and many other well-known performers. He had produced the Houston Institute Festival of several years and concerts for the Fort Arthur Historical Society.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, and a sister.

He is survived by his loving wife, Barbara of Austin; one daughter, Cathy McLendon of Mesquite, Texas; one sister and brother-in-law, Patsy and Gordon McKee of Waco; one son, Debbie Corcoran of Austin; nephew, Mark McKee of Waco; sister-in-law, Bibbie Gresham of Waco and Ada Gresham of England.

## Deaths

### WILCOX, John W. 65, of 41 George

WILCOX, John W. 65, of 41 George Street, Austin, died Sunday, March 14, 1993.

He was born October 15, 1928, in Houston, Texas to T.T. and Ethel Bell Gresham. He attended school in Brazos County and Waco. He was in management and sales with radio stations in Waco, Beaumont, and Fort Arthur. He was in the music promotion business for many years in Texas, promoting shows, concerts, and door tickets, and events with Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Merle Haggard, and many other well-known performers. He had produced the Houston Institute Festival of several years and concerts for the Fort Arthur Historical Society.

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## Deaths

### HENRY, Norma Lee Flippo, 76, of

HENRY, Norma Lee Flippo, 76, of 1010 West 10th Street, Austin, died Sunday, March 14, 1993.

She was born October 15, 1917, in Houston, Texas to T.T. and Ethel Bell Gresham. She attended school in Brazos County and Waco. She was in management and sales with radio stations in Waco, Beaumont, and Fort Arthur. She was in the music promotion business for many years in Texas, promoting shows, concerts, and door tickets, and events with Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Merle Haggard, and many other well-known performers. She had produced the Houston Institute Festival of several years and concerts for the Fort Arthur Historical Society.

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