

4D • Thursday, December 5, 1996 • THE MONITOR, McAllen, Texas

TEXAS NOTES

Families of murdered girls produce safety in workplace manual

The Associated Press
AUSTIN — The families of four girls killed at a yogurt shop five years ago have published a manual on personal safety in the workplace.

On Dec. 6, 1991, Jennifer Harrison and Eliza Thomas, both 17, were closing the "I Can't Believe It's Yogurt" shop around 11 p.m. while Sarah Harrison, 15, and Amy Ayers, 13, waited for them inside.

Two men apparently robbed the store and set it on fire with the four girls lined up inside. They have not been caught.

The girls' deaths, referred to as

the yogurt-shop murders, shocked the city, which had before then maintained a small-town sense of security.

To honor the memory of their daughters, the families formed Will Not Forget SAFE. The group's initials stand for the girls' first names.

In addition to the manual, entitled *How to Survive and Thrive at Work*, the families are producing videos for use in schools and at making personal appearances.

Former officer arrested on robbery charges
SEVEN POINTS — A former Dallas Police officer was arrested

Wednesday on charges of robbing the First National Bank in this rural East Texas town.

News County sheriff's deputies arrested 29-year-old Troy Simpson near Covington, about 25 miles southwest of the bank, shortly after the early morning robbery.

The deputies pulled him over because his car matched the description of one that fled the bank.

Simpson, who left the Dallas police force last summer after five years, had cash stuffed into his pants when he was apprehended, authorities said.

Judge hears appeal of water ruling
AUSTIN — A three-judge panel heard arguments between the Sierra Club and people who pump water from the Edwards Aquifer system, who are appealing a federal court ruling that imposed limits on their use of the aquifer.

U.S. District Judge Lucius Benton III ruled in August that water pumping from the aquifer be limited after the Sierra Club filed a class-action lawsuit targeting municipal and industrial purifiers as well as military bases that draw on the underground water reservoir.

The Sierra Club contended that low aquifer levels could wipe out endangered plants and animals living in aquifer-fed springs in New Braunfels and San Marcos.

The defendants, including the city of San Antonio, appealed the decision, arguing that the Edwar-

ded Species Act is overreclusive and unconstitutional and that Benton misinterpreted parts of the act.

Girl can't be found in sexual assault case
DALLAS — A Dallas mother accused of helping her husband sexually assault her oldest daughter will be released from jail because prosecutors cannot find the 15-year-old girl.

The case drew publicity when the victim told authorities that her parents had the Noplast contraceptive device implanted in her arm so that she wouldn't get pregnant.

Prosecutor Patricia Hogue said District Judge Mike Keister on Monday that he was not ready for trial because her key witness, the victim, was not available to testify.

Hogue said prosecutors and police are trying to find the girl. Authorities have acknowledged that they cannot prosecute the woman

without her daughter's testimony and have said they might be forced to drop the charges if the girl cannot be found.

Boy in critical condition after pit bull attack
ARLINGTON — A 5-year-old boy suffered massive facial injuries after he was attacked by a pit bull in his back yard, authorities say.

Daniles Cer was listed in critical condition late Tuesday at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth.

Clara Taylor, the boy's grandmother, managed to sub the dog to death, but suffered hand injuries and was treated at Harris Methodist Fort Worth hospital and released.

Police said the boy was playing unattended in Taylor's back yard at the time of the attack.

An official said Arlington animal control officials planned to test the dog's body for rabies.

HOLIDAY ARTISANS FAIR
25 ARTISANS FROM MEXICO, FROM THE STATES OF CHIHUAHUA, MICHOACAN, ESTADO DE MEXICO, OAXACA, PUEBLA, GUERRERO, DISTRITO FEDERAL, MORELOS, CHIAPAS, GUANAJUATO, JALISCO Y QUERETARO WILL DISPLAY AND SELL NUMEROUS GIFT ITEMS UNIQUE TO EACH STATE
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9:00 AM TO 5:30 PM
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PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL EVENT
SPONSORED BY
CANTU CONSTRUCTION
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CONSULADO DE MEXICO
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MCALLER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CENTRO CULTURAL MEXICANO
IMPERIAL NOVELTY
LANAC
MCALLER DOWNTOWN COALITION P.L.D.

HECTOR OLIVERA RETURNS!
Thanks to many requests, Hector returns to the Valley for one more ORGAN CONCERT
FREE ADMISSION
FRIDAY, DEC. 6th at 7:00 pm
South Texas Community College Auditorium
3201 W. Pecan, (at 29th St.) McAllen
Valley Keyboards
686-4863

REYNOSA: City
Random drug testing results in suspensions

By LEONARDO ANDRADE
Special To The Monitor

REYNOSA — Nine city employees, including six police officers, were suspended from their duties this week after allegedly testing positive for drugs, officials said.

This marks the first time city employees, other than police officers, have been tested for drugs, officials here said Wednesday.

The Tamaulipas state attorney general's office carried out auditing, or drug testing, of 280 police officers and 75 city employees.

"It's in the interest of city government to give continuity to this type of drug testing," Reynosa Mayor Oscar Lucchetti Guierrez said. Lucchetti also said the city will continue random drug testing of city and police officers during his administration.

The objective of this drug testing is to remove any employees who are working under the influence of illegal drugs, Lucchetti said.

"The community demands it and we believe it is very important," Lucchetti said.

Lucchetti said the drug testing was done seven months ago on police officers and now city and state officials want to broaden the testing. More than 10 police officers were released after that drug testing.

Toofonso Molina, a city councilman, said police officers who tested positive will be fired immediately from the police department.

Molina said he was not allowed to release the names of the city employees who tested positive.

State officials said drug testing is taking place in other cities across Tamaulipas.

"It is important that all city employees undergo this type of drug testing," City Councilman Martin Ayala Flores said.

Ayala suggested that city council members also should undergo drug testing.

"This is important to show Reynosa that officials who are in charge of the city are honest people," Ayala said.

EDINBURG: Crime
Suspect jailed after chase

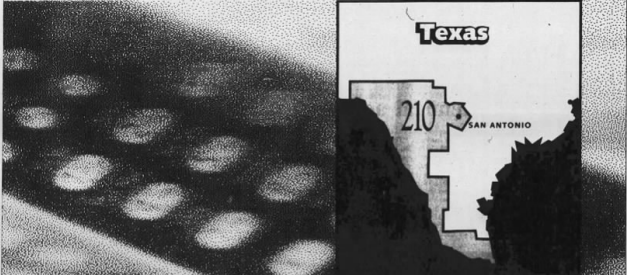
The Monitor

EDINBURG — A suspect was behind bars here Wednesday night after a high-speed chase with authorities.

Just before 2 p.m. Wednesday, Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department officials attempted to arrest a man in connection with a robbery. When confronted at a location between Mile 29 North and Franco-Market Road 493 in Edinburg, the suspect got into a vehicle and fled from the officers, officials said.

Edinburg police and Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department officials chased the suspect at about 100 miles per hour for about 20 minutes, officials said. The chase ended at the intersection of Broadway and FM 2812 roads near San Carlos. The suspect was booked into Hidalgo County Jail. Authorities will charge him with evading arrest and robbery, said Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Mary Ann Martinez.

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