

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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**Lawmakers Hear About Texas Youth Commission Abuses**

AUSTIN — Reports of sex abuse, beatings and allegations of official cover-ups in the Texas Youth Commission surfaced in late February, dominated the news in early March, and are expected to continue.

Seventy law enforcement officers and other officials under the direction of special master Jay Kimbrough fanned out to the 23 TYC facilities across the state. Their mission is to gather information about the goings-on

at those facilities and to gather reports alleging abuse of inmates.

The Joint Committee on Operation and Management of the Texas Youth Commission summoned TYC board members to the Capitol to testify in a March 8 public hearing.

This special committee of seven state representatives and seven state senators heard testimony and asked questions to pinpoint wrongdoing, to identify and remove wrongdoers, to correct problems and to prevent future wrongdoing.

One widely reported finding aired at the four-hour hearing was that the TYC hired a convicted sex offender as a guard, and that agency policy allows the hiring of a convicted felon if a top TYC official approves. Another finding regarded a former TYC official living with a 16-year-old inmate.

The committee also heard about a TYC official who, against a recent order by Kimbrough, shredded official documents.

Committee members took a vote expressing "no confidence" in the TYC board of directors.

Kimbrough, appointed in early March by Gov. Rick Perry to oversee the TYC and manage the investigation, told the panel

of lawmakers that he is building a file of complaints from former TYC employees and inmates.

The TYC activated 866-477-8354, a 24-hour, toll-free hotline for people to report allegations of mistreatment of youth in TYC. The number is available to youth in TYC using dormitory phones.

More than 750 complaints have already been filed.

**Bill filing deadline arrives**

Day 60 of the 140-day regular session of the 80th Texas Legislature, the bill-filing deadline, was March 9. The totals of legislation filed this session are in: 3,977 House bills and 1,944 Senate bills, for a combined total of 5,921 bills. This is a 13 percent increase over the 2005 bill count.

The session ends May 28.

**CHIP bill may alter re-qual rules**

Families that get insurance for their children under the state Children's Health Insurance Program would have to re-qualify once a year instead of every six months under pending legislation.

And, the present 90-day waiting period to receive benefits would be done away with.

Houston Reps. Sylvester

Turner, a Democrat, and John Davis, a Republican, and House Human Services committee chairman Patrick Rose, D-Dripping Springs, pooled their skills in a compromise bill that was voted favorably from the committee and soon may be scheduled for House floor debate.

Points of contention may arise over level of family income and other factors.

**Senators file casino legislation**

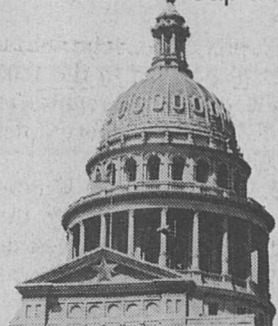
The Lone Star State someday might be home to as many as a dozen gambling casinos under a proposed constitutional amendment and enabling legislation filed by Sens. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, and John Carona, R-Dallas.

The voters of Texas ultimately would decide. The constitutional amendment, if passed by the Legislature, would be on the ballot next fall.

Casino opponents have said gambling establishments attract crime. Proponents say Texas casinos would lure back home Texan residents who patronize casinos in Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana and other states. Ellis and Carona estimate the casinos could bring as much

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
 By Ed Sterling

as \$45 billion a year in new economic activity.

The legislation has an education "carrot." Casinos would contribute \$1 billion a year to hold tuition costs down at Texas public colleges and universities.

And, the legislation would allow currently illegal video lottery terminals at horse and dog racing tracks.

**Senator files tuition freeze bill**

Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Dallas, filed Senate Bill 100, legislation that would freeze tuition for an incoming freshman enrolled in a four-year degree program at a public university.

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*Let's Look Back...*

**24 & 48 YEARS AGO**

**March 17, 1983**  
 Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> class Wayne B. Barnes, Sr. of Houston and son-in-law of Lucille Roy of Eagle Lake has

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STEERS	#1	#2
200-300 lbs	165-200	135-158
300-400 lbs	135-158	120-133
400-500 lbs	128-142	110-123
500-600 lbs	114-127	100-111
600-700 lbs	104-118	94-103
700-800 lbs	94-104	86-93

HEIFERS	#1	#2
200-300 lbs	135-185	115-150
300-400 lbs	115-128	105-114
400-500 lbs	110-122	100-109
500-600 lbs	100-110	90-99
600-700 lbs	92-102	84-91
700-800 lbs	84-94	77-85

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 Common Cow/calf Pairs 525-620  
 Good Stocker Cows & Heifers 700-800  
 Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers 475-675

been decorated with the third award of the Army Commendation Medal in West Germany...

David Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Arthur received the annual Colorado County Texas Exes Scholarship on Wednesday, March 2 at the yearly meeting of the Texas-exes...

Mrs. William S. Johnson of Louise announced the engagement of her daughter, Jeanette Marie to Thomas Charles Franek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis V. Cranek, Jr. of Garwood. The couple will be married on April 23 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada...

E.W. Patteson, District Judge of the second 25<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has announced his retirement from that office effective April 15...

Jeff Frnka and Jack Grammer spent last weekend at the State Basketball Tournament, while there Jeff said he saw David Cordosa, former basketball coach in Eagle Lake, who is now working as job placement coordinator for the Austin Independent School District...

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Thomas, Linda and Steve Balas, Rene and Brian recently spent seven days skiing the slopes of Snowmass. They are now back home intact with no broken bones...

Kristi Klockman was honored by her parents, and grandmother, Ethel Balusek, with a slumber party on the occasion of her eleventh birthday...

John and Jeannine Fearing, publishers of the Headlight, returned Sunday night after a very enjoyable four-day vacation trip out west...

Lillian K. Hansen, 68, passed away Sunday, March 6 at St. Jude Hospital in Brenham after a lengthy illness. Burial was in Somerville Cemetery under the direction of Strickland Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 8...

Funeral services were held last Wednesday for Selma Ora Burger, 76, who died at her home on March 6. Services were held from the Mill-Bauer Chapel at 3 p.m. with the Rev. Roy Botard officiating. Interment followed at Lakeside Cemetery...

Last rites were held last Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. for Eusebio Ebarra, a lifetime resident of Eagle Lake. Services were conducted from Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Rev. Ray Widacki officiating. Ebarra died March 7 at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston...

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Maude Miculka last Saturday at 2 p.m. from the Mill-Bauer Chapel. Rev. Ron Ebert of the Bonus Baptist Church officiated. Interment followed at Lakeside Cemetery...

Relatives and friends in the area were saddened last week when Mrs. Willie Rhodes, 78, of Matthews departed this life Sunday, March 6 at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital after three weeks of illness. Funeral services were held from the Mt. Zion Baptist Church at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 10 with the Rev. Collie Williams officiating...

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Pfeffer of Garwood are proud to announce the birth of twin baby girls. They arrived on March 5 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. The first born arrived at 10:21 p.m. and weighed six pounds, six ounces. She was named Amber Leigh. The second born arrived at 10:25 p.m. and weighed seven pounds. She was given the name Amanda Heather...

Brent Ryan Nelson was born February 24 in the Bellville Hospital. He weighed eight pounds and six and a half ounces and was 19 inches at birth...

Debra Lynn Cooper, bride-elect of Robert Sheppard, was honored by Mesdames Michael

Grigar and William Farris with a luncheon and bridal shower Tuesday, March 8 at the Farris 1912...

**March 12, 1959**  
 R.P. Wilcox of Wilcox was appointed as chairman of the Eagle Lake Chapter of the National Federation of Independent business...

Three new candidates filed for the council positions before the midnight deadline Saturday night. They are Lorell Dye, Jack Grieves and Fred R. Frnka. The three incumbents, A.H. Seaholm, a member of the Council for eight years, H.E. Tate, six years and A.F. Wiese, six years on the council declined to file for reelection...

Eleven couples surprised Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Kohleffel with a housewarming party in their new home Tuesday evening, March 3. They recently purchased the former Melvin Hayden home at 500 E. Post Office St. those enjoying the social were Messers and Mesdames Dale Cassady, Charles Smith, R.J. Campbell, A.W. Kohleffel, Ray Malina, Rueben Muench, J.B. Westson, R.E. Altman, Frank Pidgeon, A.V. Wilkinson and Melvin Hayden...

Mrs. J.R. Laughlin was first in the driving contest at the club's family dinner and scotch golf tournament held at the Eagle Lake Recreation Center Sunday. Mrs. John Carroll topped the ladies in the pitching contest and Mrs. Ray Nash proved to be the best putter. Fred R. Frnka won the men's driving contest, Roscoe Fountain made the best pitch to the green, and Ray Nash won first in the putting contest. Clyde Brown and Mrs. J.T. Pilkington won first place in the low gross division with a 46. Dr. J.R. Laughlin and Mrs. Fred R. Frnka were second with a 49 and E.J. Parma and Mrs. Laughlin won third with a 51.

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