Hook 'em up and head 'em out...

Trail boss Pat Halpin rides again
see article page 6
NORTHEAST
Bradley's Cantina
Cocktails Etc.
Copper Dollar
Cootey's
Class Act
Country on the Rocks
Drum City
Eisenhauer Flea Mart
Elbow Room
Etc.
Farmer's Daughter
Ferdie's
Fuggawi Club
410 Diner
Galaxy Billiards
Gin's
Illusions
Iron Skillet
Jack of Clubs
Jerry Dean's
Juan Gringo's
Jus' Country
Kemosabe
Kim's Lounge
Kramer's
Maggie's
Magic Habits
Make My Day Lounge
Marty's
Mickey Finn's
Midnight Rodeo
Mobil Hi-Fi
Mona's
Netta's Tap Room
Ox Tail
Pha'ez
Rascal's
Record Peddler
Reed's Music
(Winsor Park Mall)
Rockers
Rock Wave
Rustic Lounge
Scandal's
Sneaker's
Specht's Store
Sports Page
Taco Cabana #3
Tiffany Billiards
Top 'O The Strip
Wayfarer
White Room
Winchester
Zeigfeld's

NORTHWEST
Baby Doll's
Cactus Club
Click's Billiards
Cold River Cattle Co.
Comedy Club
Cooter Brown's
Court Yard
Dallas
Delta Pawn
The Doll House
Dry Dock
Dungeon Book Store
Fatso's
Floor Store
Galaxy Billiards
Grad's Bar-B-Q
I-10 Diner
Iries
Hidden Shadow
Knights of Olde
La Catcus
Leon Springs Cafe
Meteor Music
Miami
Mickey Finn's
The Office
Oly's Beef & Lobster Co.
Paylon Place
Pressure Cooker
Rapid Rabbit
Recovery Room
Richard's Music
(Ingram Mall)
Scratch
Sneaky Pete's
Sports Pub
Sanova Beach
Taylor's
Texas Ex's
Texas Star Inn
Turtle Creek Tavern
Ventura
Whiskey River

CENTRAL & DOWNTOWN
Alamo Music
Banana's Billiards
Beauregard's
By The Park
Cameo Cabaret
Cris Madrid's
Cloverleaf
Club American
Das Guys
East West Cafe
Goodtime Charlies
Huey's
Josephine Street Cafe
Joseph's Foodliner
Little Hipp's
Luther's Cafe
Nona's
Pearl
Pump House
Players
Tabasco Beach
Trucker's General Store
Tycoon Flats
White House

SOUTHSIDE
Annex
Anthony's
B.J. Southside Music
Backway Inn
Barton's Boozery
Billiard's Palace
Bud Jones
Capt. Jim's
Clown Alley
Chez When
Circle B&R

MAGGIE'S

ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT, ALL RIGHT!!!

February
1-3 .................. Morning
4-6 .................. Cecil, Sylvia & Lynnie
7 ..................... Scott & Monte
8-10 ............... Clark St. Bridge
11-14 ............... Morning
15-17 ............... Cecil, Sylvia & Lynnie
18-20 ............... Scott & Monte
21-22-24 .......... Sojourn
25-28 .......... Clark St. Bridge
29-2 .......... Morning

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ESTABLISHED MCMLXXX

February 1988
Johnny Bush celebrates his birthday Feb. 19 at the Texas Star Inn with a whole new group of Bandoleros backing him up. This will mark Bush's fifth annual birthday celebration at the old club on Bandera Road, the birthplace of his career in the music business.

Bush said he recently parted company with his entire Bandoleros, and hired a new group of Bandoleros headed by Howard Davenport of Magnolia, Texas.

"The old band guys were pissing me off, and I was pissin' them off, so we just decided to call it quits," Bush said. "I'm able to work great with these new guys, and they bring a whole new sound to my show."

Bush acknowledged that there is a good possibility The Eyes of Texas TV production out of Houston will film a segment of his Texas Star Inn show. The birthday will mark Johnny's 53rd year, and his party will be at the site of his very first professional gig. That gig, Bush recalled, was in 1962 when he was hired to play with Texas Star Inn owner Frank Kline's band. Long known in the music industry as a drummer, Bush noted that that first job was as a singer and a guitar player.

"That's what I was doing at first," Bush said. "Then one day, the drummer failed to show. Frank didn't play anything. He would hold a guitar or a bass while on the stage, but he didn't really play anything. So I went back that night and played the drums, or I played 'em."

With Frank Kline, Bush worked Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, and they had a live TV show Mondays on Channel 5.

A year later, Bush met Willie Nelson on San Antonio's South Side and the two of them went to work for Ben Parker at Radio KBOP in Pleasanton.

While playing a recent gig in Magnolia, Bush threw in with the group, while retaining his regular piano player, Dana Smith, and The Last Roundup became the new Bandoleros.

(continued on page 18)
The devil didn’t make them do it

The only thing satanic about Lucifer’s Legacy was the name, for this rock band preached against the old devil at every opportunity.

Members of the group had rightly figured that a name like Lucifer’s Legacy would attract attention, but they hadn’t bargained for the type of attention they got and the human burnouts they attracted.

They dropped the devil from their logo two years ago, and with the positive power of strong lyrics and a overriding theme of good over evil, the group Legacy has developed as one of the rock bands to watch on the San Antonio scene for bigger and better things to come.

Founders and only original members of old Lucifer’s Legacy, guitarist Bob Schmueckle and lead vocalist Mike Stevens have carefully guided the group into a good position for a possible United States tour with the headline act Nasty Savage of Florida.

The Legacy has twice opened for Nasty Savage, once at the Cameo Theater and once at Alberto’s Rock Palace on the South Side. They also opened for Helstar of California at the Cameo.

The group works two or three times monthly. They play only original material, but insist that their refusal to play copy songs has in no way hindered their ability to land gigs or diminished their number of fans.

Stevens said, “The lyrics speak for themselves. We say only our Holy Father will set us free... not holy mortals selling tickets to Heaven on TV...This, of course, refers to such television evangelists as Jim Bakker.”

L.R Bob (The Gate) Schmueckle, Mike Stevens, Rene Medellin, Jerry Castoreno

The band identifies their sound as "melodic metal," and they do a variety of songs which edge away from politics. She’s Deceptive is a sex song. It would be hypocritical to call it a love song. The chick is hot to trot, and she’ll devour the first man who plays into her trap.

Members of the group come from varied backgrounds. Bob Schmueckle is from Chicago where he grew up in a musical family. His mother played piano and his uncle played guitar and sang live on Chicago radio stations. Bob was influenced greatly by the greats of classical guitar such as Al DiMeola and Alan Holdsworth. Stevens the vocalist says his influences range from King Diamond to Frank Sinatra, and says he was also influenced by the females such as Linda Ronstadt and Liza Minnelli. Legacy has a demo tape, and they hope to (continued on page 15)
A country music recording artist who will remain anonymous here said he asked George Strait about the Moe Bandy-George Strait story which has been making the rounds in Nashville, and was assured by Strait that the story is true.

Moe is a friend of mine and one of the nicer guys in the music business, so I must assume that he was having a bad day if there is anything to the story which starts when Strait was in the military and stationed in Hawaii.

George had a band while in the service, and Bandy had hired the group to back him on a tour of Hawaii. And it was during their association there, according to the story, and Bandy agreed to help George get started in the music business when Strait’s military duty was finished.

As the story goes, George called Moe upon his release from military service, and Bandy supposedly told him he didn’t have time to bother with it.

The story resurfaced, of course, while Bandy was recently opening for Strait in Las Vegas.

All of which brings to mind a saying that Willie Nelson was fond of reciting. It was something about paying recognition to people on your way up because those same people might be waiting to wave at you on your way down.

The message could be amended for musicians to be especially applicable in situations like the Bandy-Straight embarrassment, i.e.: Help the young pickers out when you can, Hoss, because you might be opening for them one of these days.

In Moe’s defense, I’m going to venture that there were some stressful circumstances involved for him to tell George he didn’t have time to mess with it when Strait called for help. Moe might have been undergoing a pain attack. Or, maybe the neighbor’s pit bull had his haunches in a jaw lock. Or it could be that the friendly neighborhood IRS agent had just stopped by for tea.

One thing is for sure. If Moe was having an appendicitis attack at the time, he’s kicking himself in the ass now for not jumping out to help Strait no matter what the circumstances.

Young Jody Tullos is making a name for herself fast as a criminal attorney.

Her landmark defense in the Harold Tackett “involuntary intoxication” case got her the kind of exposure that makes high-dollar mouthpieces almost overnight.

She was then retained to represent Kevin James Veschi, the whippersnapper burglary ring mastermind who reminds us of a junior version of Charles Harrelson.

Tullos is appealing Veschi’s life sentence on grounds that she didn’t have enough time to study the case before it went to trial.

If she gets him back on the streets and manages to keep him walking around for any reasonable amount of time, her stock could zoom up in the range of a Percy Foreman or Warren Burnett.

But Ms. Tullos reveals her green edges by yielding to the natural temptation of writing an answer to Paul Thompson.

To borrow a couple of Thompson’s favorite expressions, the old warhorse was japing and flaring at what he considered a major jury screwup when Tackett was acquitted of armed robbery on grounds that someone spiked his drink with a substance which rendered him incapable of straight thought.

A great number of battle-scarred politicians and public officials could have warned young Ms. Tullos about taking pen in hand to dispute Thompson. Thompson may have mellowed a bit since the 1960s, but the years have had little effect on his steel trap brain and merciless ability to gill and gut a word game opponent who dares to challenge him by mail.

(continued on page 18)
When talk turns to trail rides
Pat’s the boss

When the trail rides begin their trek toward San Antonio this month in commemoration of the 39th annual Stock Show and Rodeo, it’ll be Christmas, New Year’s and the Fourth of July all rolled into one for that unique group of horsemen and horsewomen who gear their yearly schedules in order to make the rides.

Down the highways from all points they come—12 separates rides featuring big ones, little ones, fat ones, skinny ones, old ones, young ones, ugly ones, and pretty ones of both sexes—braving blisters, saddle sores, and anything Old Man Winter happens to throw their way in a festive test of nature and their own physical stamina, all of which falls under the heading of pleasure.

The trail riders and trail bosses hail from all walks of life, and a number of the riders pull horse trailers religiously each year from such far-flung states as Oklahoma, Georgia, Florida, and Illinois. Some of the riders have been repeating for years, but the friendly face of trail boss Pat Halpin is the one recognized by most when the trail rides converge and merge.

A 41-year-old native of Helotes, Pat Halpin hasn’t missed a trail ride in 20 straight years, and he has served without compensation as organizer and boss of between 80 and 90 rides. And as always before the approaching rides, Halpin’s adrenaline is pumping with anticipation as he completes pre-ride arrangements such as the hiring of bands to entertain at dances along the way, renting portable toilets, hiring caterers, and lining up security personnel to guard the campsites and maintain a high standard of safety for participants and visitors alike.

Halpin serves as president and organizer of the annual Kerr County Trail Ride which originates in Kerrville, and he assists Peggy Coleman, secretary of the timeless and helpful ambassador for the sport of trail riding in general who has never sought personal gain or acclaim for yeoman duty he donates freely and without reservation. He wasn’t old enough to join the very first trail ride some 34 years ago, but he has been bossing the rides since age 21, and if ever there was an individual who deserves the title of Mr. Trail Ride it’s Pat Halpin.

So how does one go about becoming a modern-day trail boss? The requirements are (continued on page 16)

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Action Magazine, February 1988
Law gives club owners liability protection

While the vast majority of nightclub and restaurant owners probably don’t even know it, there is now protection available from the so-called ‘dram-shop law’ which originally held the owners responsible for the actions of drunks leaving their property. Employees who serve the drinks may now be held responsible for the behavior of drunks they serve—provided they are licensed by special servers schools set up and sanctioned by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Cognizant of the relief legislation when took effect Sept. 1, a few progressives within the local retail liquor and beer industry are already sending their employees to one of the two TABC-sanctioned schools in San Antonio—Alcohol Sellers Advisory Program (ASAP) and the United Bartenders School.

This program is the escape hatch from the dram shop law that some believe will save the retail drink industry. By transferring the burden of responsibility for drunk patrons from the owner to the employee, the legislature has legally killed the incentive for gargantuan damage suits which some barracuda lawyers would file against a restaurateur or nightclub owner. Suing a broke bartender or waitress is a far less lucrative project, and drink industry owners are hoping that this fact alone will result in more accessible and affordable liability insurance for the owners of clubs and restaurants.

San Antonio has two of the 16 accredited servers schools in the state which will accommodate an estimated 50,000 students this year. Included in the curriculum is follow-up advice from lawyers on the board. The servers course is 4½ hours long. The cost is $35 for individuals, and $20 each for groups. Renewal courses are required every two years.

It will behoove all club and restaurant owners to have their employees licensed, and it is hoped that licensing will eventually become a mandatory requirement for employment in the retail alcohol business. Gold River Cattle Company was the first San Antonio club to send its employees to the servers school, quickly followed by Jerry Barton, who owns five small clubs across the city. To get the ball rolling, Barton footed the entire tuition bill for his employees. Barton said he will split the cost with any employees hired after Feb. 1.

It’s Barton’s great hope that the licensing requirements may someday bring liability insurance protection against off-premise accidents within the realm of reason. Those with on-premise liability have no protection in dram law cases, and of the 467 liquor license holders in San Antonio proper, Barton said the minimum insurance is $1.21 per $100 run on the register. The new servers liability law has yet to withstand a court test, but its the best buffer now available for the club and restaurant owner.

(continued on page 18)
Jus' Country selected four sweethearts last month at a gala windup to one of the most successful promotions ever witnessed in these parts.

Participation in the 13-week fox hunt was nothing short of phenomenal with upwards of 20 young women vying for two finalist positions weekly before packed house galleries.

Almost every finalist was on hand for the grand finale Jan. 28 where the four belles of the ball were announced shortly after midnight before a roaring capacity crowd.

The four winners were Lena Rossman, Sandie King, Leslye Mozisek, and Yvette Lewis. As their names were called out, the girls squealed, sobbed, and hollered like Miss America Contestants.

Live music for the big windup party was provided by Jay Eric and his band.

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Live music for the big windup party was provided by Jay Eric and his band.

Jus’ Country Sweetheart winners (L-R) are Lena Rossman, Sandie King, Leslye Mozisek, and Yvette Lewis.

The Judges

and the Finalists....
Detective might as well join the band

Richard Shaw
The insurance company detective who tails Mando Almaraz has covered some rough terrain and heard a lot of music from two bands over the last four years.

If the insurance sleuth isn't a fan of the Texas Scratch Band and/or Conrad Gater Roadhouse, he still probably knows every tune they do by heart, for Almaraz plays drums with both outfits.

Almaraz is suing for some $70,000 in workmans' comp for time lost after he injured his back while working for a local air-conditioning company. The insurance company is less than thrilled at the prospect of shucking out this much money, but the company detective has yet to catch Mando lifting anything heavier than drumsticks.

Only minutes after

Diane Shaw
Almaraz stopped by Action's offices to talk about this article, an insurance bird dog was on the line asking all sorts of questions. And he freely admitted tailing the musician.

Chances of the insurance company getting photographs of Almaraz bustin' rock or dancing the Cotton-Eyed Joe are all but nil, but the big drummer's bad back doesn't curtail his tireless activities as the coordinator and drummer for two bands.

Mando and bass player Conrad Gates, musical running mates for more than 16 years, play in both The Texas Scratch Band and the group Roadhouse. Joining them in Roadhouse is Steve (continued on page 15)
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February
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12 ..................... Freddie & The 4 Players
13 ..................... High Lonesome Country
19-20 ..................... Walker Colt
20-27 ..................... Night Train w/Lana Reese

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Flash is back

Allen (The Flash) Grimm, former program director of old KEXL who became a born again Christian and entered religious radio, has left an Austin job and is looking for work here while considering a radio job in Colorado.

Married now and with one son and a baby due in early February, Grimm remains drug-free and dedicated to the religion he found while watching Jimmy Swaggart on TV in a motel room where he was contemplating suicide because of a speed habit.

Grimm said he quit a religious radio job in Austin when he found that the station management was of a more commercial than religious persuasion.

Nobody’s perfect

The Redheaded Stranger would probably get a honk out of the above photograph. But Willie Nelson wasn’t pickin’ and grinnin’ when they snapped the picture 28 years ago in the Pasadena Police Station. Willie has an uncanny memory for both faces and names of his fans across the world, but his old friend and running mate Johnny Bush says traffic tickets would slip Willie’s mind almost as fast as the cops could write them. The above photograph is result of a batch of old traffic warrants in Pasadena. The photo, naturally, was supplied by Bush.

Ransom in video

Al Ransom, who took early retirement from the San Antonio Light less than a year ago, made the Light’s front...
which won the photography about as spiffy as they make Williams.

Club Awards, the state's most prestigious journalistic honor, was given to Dorothy Williams, a former club called Texas Ex's Club on Wurzbach.

"I've been trying around with video equipment for some time," Ransom said. "I'm into it whole hog and then some."

Al has teamed up with Gene Allen, a friend of 10 years, to form Video Services, a company geared to film everything and anything. Allen is a Vietnam combat veteran who took up video work as a hobby while recovering from serious wounds he got for his time and trouble in Vietnam. By combining their knowledge and equipment, the two found that they are equipped to handle most any film job that might crop up.

"We are doing all sorts of jobs," Ransom said. "We do work for insurance companies, film weddings, or whatever. And our prices are right."

Gene may be reached at 653-0933. Al's number is 698-0732.

"I'm into it whole hog and then some."

Gardendale and Wurzbach; a combination of both, has been completely remodeled by Stebbins and crew to include a slick new dance floor surrounded by huge mirrors, a new DJ box, subdued lighting, a separate game area, and plush sofas.

"I've been toying around with ideas," Ransom said. "We do everything and anything, and we're doing all sorts of jobs."

Gary Stebbins and partners opened the Texas Ex's Club on Wurzbach.

"We do have an open policy," Ransom said. "We love the idea that we are doing something new for everyone."

"We are trying to offer music that seems to have gained a choke hold on the nightlife scene."

"It's going to be a law unto us," Ransom said. "We are doing all sorts of jobs."

"We are doing all sorts of jobs."

Texas Ex's

Gary Stebbins and partners opened the Texas Ex's Club on Wurzbach.

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finally opened to mixed reviews, good music and an unpleasant visit from the TABC. Springtime and Kevin with his giant backyard concert area. Remember to BYOB if you don’t like beer/wine.

cream donuts, great noodles, they sprouted edible clams growing — back; last year banana trees. But, Juan little naked without bananas. (Albeit, green _)

The Austin Highway was hoping for a January. Behind Closed Doors finally opened to mixed reviews, good music and an unpleasant visit from the TABC. Springtime and Kevin with his giant backyard concert area. Remember to BYOB if you don’t like beer/wine. Try Waitz Model Market in Terrell Plaza for yummy sour cream donuts, great produce, and excellent meat from “off the rack.”

Juan Gringo’s still looks a little naked without it’s banana trees, but Juan claims they are already growing back; last year they sprouted edible bananas. (Albeit, green and small.) Celebs seen at Juan’s recently; Mark Beno, Linda Ronstadt, and Johnny Rodrigues. Juan G’s has a couple new uncomplicated menu items, cheesy fries — fresh cut fries covered with queso sauce and “el Taco del Town” burger — a burger on a giant burrito, flour tortillas with queso and pico de gallo. Real hunger stoppers, but not easy on the old cholesterol level. Look at Juan! (just kidding, OK?)

The Tee-Pee Bar & Grill will keep your wigwam. They need to beat their tom-toms louder to let folks know that they’re there. (1116 Austin Hwy.)

remember taking a pee-pee behind the stucco teepee (gone now) at the Wise age of 4.

Claude Morgan’s movable circus of luny insanity is camped out at Rasca’s. You oughta see Claude’s house, a museum to the campaign to “stamp out mental health.” His dog is named “psycho” for a reason.

The grave Knave still lies a smouldering. They knew when to “call in the dogs,” but forgot to “piss on the fire.”

Try the Bun & Barrel’s sliced BBQ beef, fresh lemonade, and onion rings, a highway tradition. Get your version, turkeys etc. over to the B&B Smokehouse for custom smoking, behind the drive-in. Say hello to Courtney and Carlos (owners); they’ve been there 35 years.

Speaking of smoking, Magic Habitats, the last “real head shop” in S.A. (next to the flea market) may soon says Mike Forbes. Don’t go looking for drug paraphernalia, strictly herbal grinders, snuff containers & tobacco accessories. Right, Mike?

The Austin Hwy. Flea Market is a classic with a lot of memories for ye olde Highwayman. It is on the sight of the old Alamo Drive-In, all that’s left is the original snack-bar and ghosts of thousands of Northside girls virginity. It was called “the passion pit,” “the petting palace” and (my favorite) “the finger bowl”. Ah, sweet memories.

Renown Western artist Clinton (Sonny) Boereman just completed another masterpiece mural, (30 ft. x 31 ft.) in the bar of the Rialto Grill. His last great bar mural was at Ernie Hopesley’s Budro’s on Perin Beitel. (now sight of the Class Act). Clint also painted the ceiling with able assistance from Johnny (Spoon) Winterspoon, Willie (Wibbit) Vials and Ides free rum and Lone Stars provided by the old “Rialto Ranger” himself, J.B. Gouger III. Say hello to Perney Chavez, wife of Caesar Chavez of wine fame, she’s “the straw that stirs the drink” at the Rialto. Try their “Duck Enchiladas” (last time, I heard that was a food fight) But don’t leave home without it, since it’s casual but still a little costly, it’s a good place to impress your Valentine.

Overheard at the bar... “What happens if a black groundhog sees its shadow?...”

Six more weeks of baseball! That’s what is the Greek says... Send your juicy highway gossip/hate mail and/or love letters to...

The Highwayman c/o Action Magazine (hey, it’s free advertising!)

Rialto to be closed, and head out on the highway...

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The Closest Club to the Coliseum

Feb. 12 ................ Billy Matta
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Tex. Top Hands
14 ............. 2-6 San Antonians
7-11 Denim & Diamonds
15 ................ Special Monday Session
Pfiel Bros.
16 ............. Special Tuesday Session
Dock Heals
17 . ................. Free Dance
Inside Straight
18 ............. Clifton Jansky
Tex. Top Hands
19 ............. Billy Matta
20 ............. Curtis Porter
Tex. Top Hands
21 ............. Bubba Littrell
7-11 Pfiel Bros.

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Yoakum of Brenham, an accomplished vocalist and writer.

Almaraz, Yoakum, and Gates play nothing but original rock, boogie and blues with Roadhouse. They will book into most any place on week nights.

On weekends, Conrad Gates and Manda Almaraz switch over to The Texas Scratch Band which features lead vocalist Diane Shaw and D.D. Flores, plus Diane's husband, Richard, who plays lead guitar.

Almaraz and Flores have been playing together off-and-on for some 18 years, and with Danny Madrid and Lester Hill, they formed the original Texas Scratch Band 13 years ago when they played old Kelly's Ice House on Basse Road.

Legacy members consider their close contact with group Nasty Savage to be their best bet for the eventual recognition which could propel them into the big leagues. Stevens says there is a very good possibility that Nasty Savage may take them on a U.S. tour as soon as the group returns from a tour of Europe.

"We would do it for expenses," the lead vocalist said. "We need exposure more than anything else at this stage of our careers. The money will come in time."

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**Action Magazine, February 1988**

"Guiding light behind Legacy..."

"Scratch Bd. cont...

"Yoakum of Brenham, an accomplished vocalist and writer."

"Almaraz, Yoakum, and Gates play nothing but original rock, boogie and blues with Roadhouse. They will book into most any place on week nights."

"On weekends, Conrad Gates and Manda Almaraz switch over to The Texas Scratch Band which features lead vocalist Diane Shaw and D.D. Flores, plus Diane's husband, Richard, who plays lead guitar."

"Almaraz and Flores have been playing together off-and-on for some 18 years, and with Danny Madrid and Lester Hill, they formed the original Texas Scratch Band 13 years ago when they played old Kelly's Ice House on Basse Road."

"There are a lot of fine musicians out there who need a break," Almaraz said. "D.D. Flores is a prime example. He has a unique singing style that kinda reminds you of the old Ray Price numbers."

"Almaraz foresees a settlement in his suit for workman's comp in the near future. And if he collects on this one, you can expect Roadhouse and the Texas Scratch Band to be around for a long time."

"Legacy members consider their close contact with group Nasty Savage to be their best bet for the eventual recognition which could propel them into the big leagues. Stevens says there is a very good possibility that Nasty Savage may take them on a U.S. tour as soon as the group returns from a tour of Europe."

"We would do it for expenses," the lead vocalist said. "We need exposure more than anything else at this stage of our careers. The money will come in time."
The Stockman's Hat Shop was first opened in 1978 at 5416 Rigsby in San Antonio, Texas, and remained there for three years. The owner and sole-proprietor, Mr. Marion 'Herb' Carroll, chose to begin a new business instead of purchasing an established one, since none was available in the general area. The store was on a major thoroughfare servicing the Southeast side of town. Rigsby Ave. becomes Highway 87 to LaVernia, Stockdale, etc. This area, until recently, consisted of large farms and cattle ranches. Currently some residential development has occurred, however, quite a few new horse breeders have developed businesses in the area. The store is also near a large feed store and a grain mill which increases the store's exposure to those individuals most likely to need its products.

The store's original products were primarily hats, boots, shirts, jeans, and accessories. Since competition from large chain stores made the cost of inventory to be unprofitable, the owner began to concentrate on items that these stores did not provide: repair and cleaning services on the hats and boots. Accessories were still available to complement the lines. Sales and Rentals

 Trailer Repairs (replace boards, lights, brakes, welding)

PAT HALPIN, cont... a weak mind and a lot of free time," Halpin grinned.

Halpin says that most of them are smaller and more commercial affairs held during summer months because of inclement weather conditions.

"I guess you could call South Texas the trail ride capital of the world," Halpin muses.

Halpin agreed with the assessment of trail rides being a token re-creation of the frontier cattle drives which pushed from the rough hinterlands into the more populated market places of the frontier. The arrival of a trail drive in olden days was an event and a thrill happening which kept lawmen busy and money boxes jingling, for the drivers hit town with a winter's worth of wages in their poky and wine, women, and song on their minds.

With statistical backup from Trail Ride Association secretary Peggy Coleman, Halpin is a walking encyclopedia on the trail rides of Texas.

These trail rides are fun, but they sure ain't what they used to be.

The first ride, he said, was put together 34 years ago by Ed Johnson, Aubrey Kline of Pearl Brewing Co., and Ham Harrison of Lone Star Brewing Co. It traveled from Altair near Houston to the stock show and rodeo hire, and was called the Texas Trail Ride.

Five or six rides followed that first one before formation of the Alamo Trail Ride while John Wayne was filming the movie Alamo near Bracketville in 1963. That ride was put together by Jimmy Coleman, Stanley DeWalt, Bill Hall, and the late County Com. A.J. Ploch. The Alamo Trail Ride originated in Bracketville, and now it originates at the Rafter-7 Ranch near Montell, 30 miles north of Uvalde.

Halpin listed the other 10 rides that will converge on the stock show and rodeo as follows: The Alamo Trail Ride, the San Antonio Trail Ride, the Six Flags Trail Ride from Victoria, the Old Chisolm Trail, the Laredo Trail Ride from Laredo, and the Hill Country Trail.

In September 1987, a previously untapped out-of-town market has been reached. Many of the small towns in a 150 mile radius of San Antonio have a pick-up location at a local business (cleaners, supermarkets, feed stores, etc.) that these stores did not provide: repair and cleaning services on the hats and boots. Accessories were still available to compliment the lines. As expansion occurred, tack and saddle repairs (and some sales) have been added. These services were not available in this area prior to this time. With the additional space provided by the recent move to a larger building across the street, additional hat sales, tack and horse products, and some farm and ranch supplies can be added.

Pat Halpin is a walking encyclopedia on the trail rides of Texas.
the Mesquite Trail Ride from Austin area.

The rides include participants who really rough it, sleeping on the ground or in the bed of a pickup truck. Others go in high style with vans and travel trailers, and the size of his bankroll is big factors in this area," Halpin laughed. "When I started out, I really paid my dues. The applicant must own a horse or have access to one, and kids must be accompanied by an adult.

It may seem surprising to some, but Halpin said the sexes are about equal on the rides. For some, the rides are a family affair.

Riders probably average 25 miles per day, Halpin explained, and these can be miserable miles if the horse has a sorry gait or an ill-fitting saddle. One rodeo parade was cancelled because of bad weather, but never a trail ride. Halpin recalls riding out of Kerrville one morning when the temperature was 2 degrees above zero.

Requirements for joining the trail ride association are simple. The applicant must own a horse or have access to one, and kids must be accompanied by an adult.

"I think the main attraction of the rides is that they provide an opportunity for one to get away from the telephones and all," Halpin said. "There is a lot of camaraderie while the riders get to rough it with a lot of partying thrown in. Just about everybody knows everybody else, so fellowship is a big thing on the rides. And a lot of different types of people are all drawn together on the rides. We have doctors, lawyers, blue collar workers, secretaries and nurses from Texas and numerous other states. We have hunters who wait all year to go hunting in Colorado, and there are some Colorado people who wait all year to come join our trail rides."

Most of the trail riders are experienced with horses, but there is an occasional greenhorn who decides to take up horseback riding and trail riding at the same time. "We all watch out for these beginners," Halpin said. "If they stick with it during the rough early going, they usually help themselves solve most of their riding problem.

The trail rides are strictly non-profit fun excursions. Halpin said, "Money taken in by caterers is used by the association to foot other bills such as security, toilets, and band expenses. And all of the riders pay their individual way.

Rosed with horses on a hundred acres owned by his grandparents near Helotes, Halpin has been riding as long as he can recall. He is single, and owns Halgent, Inc. Fleet Service, a truck maintenance service off East Houston Street. He keeps his horse on acreage near his business, and he can be ready to ride quicker than you can say trail ride.

In addition to his annual livestock show ride, Pat Halpin puts on some half a dozen other rides throughout the year, including one in March to benefit the Santa Rosa Childrens Hospital. And when one wants to put on a one-shot trail ride for some worthy cause, they usually call Halpin. His last special event ride was jointly requested by the sheriff's department, the Secret Service, and the Catholic Church. This one was the Papal Mass Trail Ride to help welcome the Pope to Texas and San Antonio. "That was a real experience," Halpin said. "We didn't ride near the Altar, but the Pope came within about 30 feet of us on his way to the Altar and we all got to exchange waves with him at close range."

A broken arm is the most serious injury ever sustained on one of the trail rides, and Halpin says great pains to keep everything orderly and safe. The trail boss is a natural for the job because he has a genuine love for people. And if anyone ever says a bad thing about Pat Halpin, you can make book on the fact that the one who said it was lying through his teeth.
Johnny Bush cont...

“They are young boys with a lot of energy,” Bush said. “They have a tenor sax and can play anything from Stardust to ZZ Top. And when I play fiddle, that makes four fiddles in the group.”

Bush still talks faltering at times, but his singing voice has been growing stronger by the day since University of Texas Athletic Director, Darrell Royal introduced him to an Austin opera coach.

Although he no longer goes for therapy sessions, Bush said he talks often by telephone with the voice coach. Although he’s out in California now and working with rich people, Bush said.

Next month, Bush said, he will record an album on the Step One Records label. This is the label that carried the duet album with Bush and Darrell McCall called Hot Texas Country. Ray Price is also on Step One, the largest independent label in the country.

“I guess we did okay with the duet album,” Bush smiled. “The company wanted another.”

The columnist had initially taken issue with the bizarre jury verdict which, if anything, served as a testament to Tullos’s expertise as a criminal defender. She should have left it at that, for writing Thompson to defend the great American system of jurisprudence did nothing but put Tullos directly in the line of fire.

Thompson gets the final word, and as he has done with so many unwary detractors in the past, he printed Tullos’s self-serving letter in full before doing what he does best. With a couple of decapitating paragraphs, he reduced the attorney to plucked chicken defenselessness, and he hasn’t lightened up on the subject since.

The Environmental Protection Agency can’t do anything about the juniper cedar pollination that is choking us half to death, but the EPA might look into these artificial fog machines being used by the discos, rock music clubs, and titty bars. People with allergies walk unsuspecting into these joints to be smitten with a great burst of eyeball-burning vapor which is used for dramatic effect with music and naked bodies.

I am told that the obnoxious fog effect is brought on by a fine mist of oil which is sprayed on some sort of heating element. And people who don’t want to be gassed in such fashion should at least be forewarned.

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Jerry Barton cont...

In the interest of real fairness, Jerry Barton said without smiling that he would like to see mandatory licensing for drunks. In order to buy drinks, the drunk would be required to carry his license card at all times. To get the license, he said, the state would have to assume all liability for the drunk’s actions.

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Jeff McMillan Says it's great stuff!!

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