



### Non-actor gives great performance

Jazz saxophonist makes screen debut in 'Round Midnight' **Movie review, Page 1D**  
Dexter Gordon



### Carroll lineman signs with LSU Tigers today

Jim Arnold is ranked among the top 100 prospects in Texas **Sports, Page 1B**  
Jim Arnold

## 'Platoon' ties with 8 Oscar nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — "Platoon," the grim saga of a soldier's loss of innocence in Vietnam, and "A Room With a View," a turn-of-the-century comedy of manners and youthful passion, took top honors with eight nominations apiece today in the 59th Academy Awards race. Both were nominated for best picture of 1986, along with "Children of a Lesser God," "Hannah and Her Sisters" and "The Mission."

Scoring seven nominations apiece were "Aliens," the sequel to the space fantasy "Alien"; "Hannah and Her Sisters," about the lives and loves of three women in Manhattan, and "The

Oscar nominees listed, Page 10A

Mission," about the struggle between church and state in colonial Brazil.

Paul Newman was nominated for a seventh time as best actor for his role as a pool hustler in "The Color of Money."

Jazz saxophonist Dexter Gordon, playing a semi-autobiographical role in "Round Midnight," was a nominee for best actor in his film debut. Other nominees were Bob Hoskins in "Mona Lisa," a story of the London underworld; William Hurt in "Children of a Lesser God," about the relationship between a young deaf woman and her teacher, and James Woods, who plays a maverick photojournalist in "Salvador."

Two-time winner Jane Fonda was nominated for best actress for her role as a faded actress in "The Morning After."

Another Oscar winner, Sissy Spacek, was a nominee for "Crimes of the Heart," about three eccentric sisters, along with first-time nominee Marlee Matlin in "Children of a Lesser God"; Kathleen Turner in "Peggy Sue Got Married," the story of a housewife who travels back in time to her high school years; and Sigourney Weaver in "Aliens."

Two actors from "Platoon," Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe, were named for supporting actor, along with four-time nominee Michael Caine in "Hannah and Her Sisters"; Denholm Elliott in "A Room With a View"; and Dennis Hopper in "Hoosiers."

Maggie Smith, previous winner for both lead acting and support, won another nomination as supporting actress for "A Room With a View." Others in the race are Tess Harper in "Crimes of the Heart"; Piper Laurie in "Children of a Lesser God"; Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio in "The Color of Money"; and Dianne Wiest in "Hannah and Her Sisters."

"Blue Velvet," the sex-filled story of small-town America which won many critics' prizes, was given only one nomination by the academy voters, but it was an important one: Best direction, by David Lynch. Other director nominees were Woody Allen ("Hannah and Her Sisters"), Roland Joffe ("The Mission"), Oliver Stone ("Platoon"), James Ivory ("A Room With a View").

The songs nominated for the Oscar: "The Glory of Love," from "The Karate Kid Part II"; "Life in a Looking Glass," from "That's Life"; "Mean, Green Mother from Outer Space," from "The Little Shop of Horrors"; "Somewhere Out There," from "An American Tail"; and "Take My Breath Away" from "Top Gun."

The 59th Oscars will be announced March 30. ABC will televise the show.

## Area colleges could face fund cuts

By Ben Goodwin  
STAFF WRITER

State funding for higher education in South Texas will continue to slide backward if a Senate spending bill is approved by the Legislature.

If the bill is approved, Corpus Christi State University, Texas A&I University and Del Mar College all would receive less state aid for 1988 than they did in 1985, before the state's economy went sour.

Del Mar would be the hardest hit, says college president Ed Biggerstaff.

"We can't run a quality institution with these figures and they know it," said Biggerstaff.

Del Mar would receive \$11.7 million next year as compared to \$15.1 million in 1985 and \$13.8 million this year. Del Mar has requested \$17 million for next year.

The three institutions received a total of more than \$41 million in 1985 while under the Senate version they would receive \$36.1 million in 1988.

CCSU president B. Alan Sugg has said that the legislative session has a long way to go and neither the House nor the Legislative Budget Board have submitted budget proposals.

"The Senate bill is the only one floating around in Austin right now," said Sugg. "It's too early to tell what is going to happen with a \$667 million proposed increase in higher education funding." That funding increase would be statewide.

Sugg said the Senate version is a starting point for discussions on higher education funding.

CCSU received \$9.38 million in state funds for 1985. This dropped to \$9.33 million this year, and the Senate proposes \$9.1 million for next year. The university had

requested \$11.6 million for next year.

The Senate bill has Texas A&I receiving \$15.3 million as compared to \$16.4 million in 1985 and \$15.1 million this year.

The Senate plan would allocate about \$227,000 more next year than in 1987, but A&I president Steven Altman said the university needs more money and requested \$21 million for 1988.

"Faculty and staff salary increases must be addressed if we are to retain our best faculty members," said Altman.

At the same time, he said Texas A&I must receive reimbursement for tuition shortfalls as it did in 1986. These shortfalls resulted from over-estimations of income to be recovered when tuition rates were increased in 1985. The current estimated shortfall is about \$1.2 million.

Please see Funding/4A



ELY MARSH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### Computer adds zest to reading

Joshua Tucker, 4, (left) and Keith Andrews, 5, look turns at one of Bethune-Bernice Leonard Day School's computer stations, where they are learning to read and write with the aid of electronics. The pre-schoolers are part of a learning program that has been in operation since October. In addition to the computer stations the program has typing, writing and reading stations.

## LULAC's June convention gets bigger

By Sandra Forero  
STAFF WRITER

Up to 3,500 people, about 500 more than earlier expected, will attend the June LULAC national convention in Corpus Christi, a local attorney says.

Ede Day, director of public relations for the Convention and Tourist Bureau, said an estimated \$1.25 million will be pumped back into the Corpus Christi economy during the five-day convention.

She said the bureau was told there would be 3,000 delegates attending, but local attorney Ruben Bonilla said the number has risen to 3,500.

Ms. Day said that according to statistics released by the International Association of Convention and Visitors Bureau, the average delegate at a convention spends \$140 per day.

"This is a very big convention for Corpus Christi, and it's significant for Corpus Christi. We're pleased to get a national convention of this size," Ms. Day said today.

Corpus Christi, the home of LULAC, will be sponsoring the meeting for the second time. The first national convention here was in 1964.

Ms. Day said the summer convention might push some of the tourists who wanted to stay in hotels on the Bayfront to inland hotels.

"It might get people to postpone their visits for a week," she said, "but the people that have been coming for years and years certainly are not going to be completely turned off because of this."

Bonilla, who has served as LULAC's national president, said previous national conventions attracted between 1,500 and 2,000 people, but said today 3,500 are expected this year and said one reason could be because of the attractiveness of the city.

He said a second reason may be because the convention is being held in the year before the presidential election, "attracting important statesmen, delegates and guests."

Bonilla said LULAC's goal is to generate revenue in excess of \$100,000 in grants and gifts from the business community for the convention.

To kick off the convention, LULAC today received a \$5,000 check issued by Southwestern Bell that will be used to develop a campaign to ensure the success of the convention.

Bonilla said Southwestern Bell is expected to donate \$15,000 more before the convention.

"We feel that Southwestern Bell has taken the leadership role in serving the Coastal Bend," with the \$5,000 grant to LULAC, "and other business leaders also will offer financial support."

The convention is scheduled for June 24-28.

## Head of aquarium board fears talk by council may hurt drive

By Anne Dodson  
STAFF WRITER

The president of the Texas State Aquarium board said today the City Council discussion of public money for the aquarium will make it difficult for the board to raise money.

Aquarium board president John Dorn said he is "disturbed" about a proposal to speed aquarium construction by use of \$10 million in reinvestment-zone bonds.

The proposal was discussed during yesterday's meeting of the Corpus Christi City Council.

"We have never seen anything in writing from the city so there is no way we can respond," Dorn said today in an interview.

Dorn said he had been asked by council members

what could be done to speed up the construction of the project. "They recognize that this is the No. 1 project to improve tourism here," Dorn said.

Council members, said Dorn, also asked whether the aquarium association could accept public money.

"We told them that, yes, we could accept public city money and that it would take \$11 million to get the aquarium open by 1989, instead of 1991," Dorn said.

"But that was as far as it went," said Dorn. "We don't know what kind of strings would be attached to that money and whether we could accept them."

City Manager Craig McDowell said yesterday that if public bond money is used to build the aquarium the city would own the physical plant and would contract with the association for its operation.

Please see Aquarium/4A

### Too nice to bother with fight

A pooch lounged on a bench yesterday, while a cat watched the dog from a safe perch atop a car parked at a residence in the 1100 block of Sixth Street. It was one of those days that even enemies found it easier to loaf than fight. And today and tomorrow are forecast to be about the same with a few clouds and temperature climbing into the mid-70s. It may not be spring, but it certainly is easy to catch spring fever.



LEE DODDS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Liability case of bar owner to be reviewed

Harto-Hanks Austin Bureau

AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court agreed Wednesday to hear arguments on April 1 on whether a Corpus Christi bar owner was negligent to serve drinks to a driver later charged with the 1983 death of a motorcyclist.

Any ruling on the matter is expected to be controversial because of a split in the state's legal community over whether the Texas Legislature first must adopt a so-called dram-shop law, making bars and bar owners specifically liable in certain cases for the actions of their customers.

According to court records from the Corpus Christi case, Patrick Evans was killed on Nov. 14, 1983, when a car driven by Henry Scott Smith collided with Evans' motorcycle at the intersection of Weber Road and South Staples Street.

The parents, Wendel and Mural Evans, later filed a wrongful death suit against Smith, Jolemo Inc. and Bobby Morris, doing business as Bandy's.

Judge Joaquin Villareal of the 347th District Court dismissed that part of the suit against Morris and his bar.

However, on appeal, the 13th Court of Appeals in Corpus Christi reversed the ruling and ordered a new trial.

In a majority opinion written by Robert J. Seerden, the 13th court said Morris and his employees should

Please see Drinks/4A

## TIMES WEATHER

Partly cloudy and mild tonight and tomorrow. Low tonight, mid-50s. High tomorrow, mid-70s. (Details, Page 16A)

### STOCKS

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market moved somewhat erratically today, following a three-session spell of profit taking.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials eased 4.22 to 2,153.82 halfway through the session.

### OBITUARIES

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Mrs. Josephine Hewitt Fowler  
Achille James Pismaris  
Henry E. Jared  
Janis Marie Martin  
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