

State briefs

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Gay alumni form group

WACO - A gay and lesbian alumni association probably will not be officially recognized at Baylor University, a school official said.

The new Baylor University Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association has been formed by Donald W. Long, a Los Angeles physician who graduated from Baylor in 1970. Long announced the new group's existence in an Oct. 4 letter to Baylor President Herbert H. Reynolds.

Long said the group is accepting current students as members, as well as gay and lesbian Baylor alumni. The formation of the organization is meant to coincide with national Coming Out Day, Oct. 15, Long wrote.

The new group already has ``about 100 formal and informal members," Long said. A special assistant to Reynolds, Eugene Baker, said the general guidelines spelled out in the university handbook probably will prohibit recognition of the group. KIDS files bankruptcy

EL PASO - KIDS of El Paso County, a controversial rehabilitation center under state investigation of allegations of abusing clients, is filing for bankruptcy.

KIDS board chairman Rob Hovious said the center, opened in 1985, was forced into bankruptcy, in part, by the cost of defending its license.

Last year, the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse recommended revoking the center's license after finding the center had abused clients and violated state regulations. But a state judge in Austin allowed KIDS to continue operating until an administrative hearing on the matter was completed.

This spring, the state commission agreed to reinstate KIDS' license for a year, provided it complied with state standards. Tyler hero honored

TYLER - A Tyler man has won a citizen's recognition award from the Tyler police department for helping officers drag a driver out of his burning car, officials said.

Michael A. Jasper was given a framed certificate by police Chief Larry Robinson for his actions following a head-on collision on July 29 that killed two people.

Officials said Jasper saw the crash, stopped his vehicle and tried to put out a fire under the hood of one car with his own extinguisher. As flames began to leap into the cab of the car, Jasper and police officers dragged Larry Brooks, 38, from the seat of the burning car.

Brooks was released Sunday from Tyler Medical Center after more than two months of treatment for injuries suffered in the crash. University chief to retire NACOGDOCHES - The president of Stephen F. Austin State University, Dr. William Johnson, announced his retirement Tuesday after 13 years as leader of the 12,000-student school.

Johnson said he will retire July 15, 1990, the 14th anniversary of his arrival at Stephen F. Austin.

The university's board of regents will meet next week to begin the search for a new president.

Johnson, 56, received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Houston and a doctorate from the University of Oklahoma.

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