The Newsletter of the National Organization for Women

State Convention Sets ERA Action

ROCK

Lubbock NOW members D'Wanna Whitener, Pat Wikle, Cathie Mc-Whorter, Jane Twyman, Karen Hodges, and Vicki Foster attended the Texas State NOW Convention in Denton on March 23-25.

A variety of resolutions were voted on during the convention, including one to call for pickets to line up along major highways leading into the neighboring un-ratified states of Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas to show support for ERA. (It sounds like great fun!)

There was also a pro-ERA rally proposed for Austin during May. Decisions to enact this resolution will be made at the State Council Meeting.

Executive Vice-President of National NOW, Judy Goldsmith, also spoke to us. She says, "Time is short. There is daily discrimination all around us," citing a recent case in her home state of Wisconsin concerning the suspension of a town's first female police officer. The (continued on page 2)

ACTION/BUSINESS

The May Action/Business Meeting will be held at Cathie McWhorter's house, 3616 59th, Thursday, May 3, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Please make an effort to attend. The monthly action/business meeting makes most of the decisions on the conduct of NOW's local business. Your participation is very important.

You're Not Getting Older You're Getting Poorer

April 1979

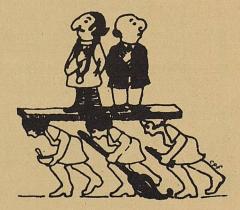
In Lubbock 763-4441

The NOW Program Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation, 2420 15th.

Marietta Morrissey, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Texas Tech, will speak on "The Myth of the Affluent American Family." The talk will concentrate on the changing role of women from consumer to producer and the devaluation of work

brought on by escalating inflation. Our credit card psychology, based on the dream of progressive affluence, is a topic of vital concern to women. We have been led to want far more than we can pay for. The moderately well-off, traditional family spends \$1,000 more a year than it makes -- with both husband and wife working! Something must give, but what?

If you have a family; if you work outside the home; if you work inside the home; if you have a credit card, join us for this timely and informative discussion.



Dues Due

If you have not paid your 1979 NOW dues (\$27.00), you will be receiving a notice shortly. Please pay as promptly as possible so we can meet our financial obligations.

Any questions about your status should be directed to: Cindy Castle, Membership, 744-0794 Joanne Grubbs, Treasurer, 799-6443.

Servant-Wife

"Menial employed servants were available only to a minority of the pre-industrial population; the servant-wife is available democratically, to almost the entire present male population."

John Kenneth Galbraith The Economics of the American Housewife, 1973.



LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

is published monthly by the Lubbock chapter of the National Organization for Women.

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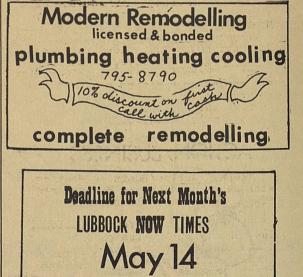
State Convention

(continued from page 1) woman was suspended for allegedly allowing a fellow officer to spend the night with her. <u>He was NOT</u> suspended.

Goldsmith went on to stress that there is a "profound and urgent need for hard work" if the ERA is to be ratified by three more states, and NOW will mobilize on a national scale to encourage its passage. "ERA is not a state issue as long as this is an unratified country," she said. "If the legislature thought they saw a lot of letters during the extension campaign, they ain't seen nothin' yet."

Incidentally, the press coverage of the NOW convention was great! We made the headlines of the Sunday Denton <u>Record Chronicle</u> with a onethird page picture of Helen Kopitka and a half-page follow-up story and picture on 5A.

After the convention adjourned on Sunday afternoon, McWhorter, Whitener and Wikle drove to Dallas, where President Carter was speaking, in order to join several dozen demonstrators picketing for women's rights and the Equal Rights Amendment. --Cathie McWhorter



What's Oscar Trying To Tell Us

The organization's pretentious name is the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Every April it meets to distribute those starkly elegant, gold statuettes known as Oscars.

Some 35 million of us saw at least part of this year's festivities. We saw John Wayne and Sir Lawrence Olivier receive standing ovations. We saw Olivier accept a special Oscar for his "continuing contributions to the medium" and saw him fail to win one for his performance in <u>The Boys</u> <u>from Brazil</u>. We saw awards given to entertainers, artists, businessmen and technicians.

Cartoonist Walter Lanz, creator of Woody Woodpecker, got a special Oscar. Eastman Kodak had to settle for the ordinary sort.

Advertising Gimmick

It may be the most successful advertising gimmick in history. The <u>Deer Hunter</u>'s five Oscars, including one for Best Picture, will add about ten million dollars to its box office receipts. <u>An Unmarried Woman</u> will gross an extra million or so on the strength of its three nominations. That's nominations; <u>An Unmarried Woman</u> won no awards. <u>However</u>, there's more to the Aca-

However, there's more to the Academy Awards than money. The Oscar presentation provides the public with a chance to observe the American film industry in action, to observe its annual assessment of itself, and, indirectly, of the nation as a whole. But if we are to understand the Academy Awards, we must first come to understand the Academy membership.

Male Dominated

Although it has changed some in recent years, the Academy is still dominated by male, middle aged, politically middle-of-the-road, comfortably entrenched members of the Hollywood film community. It is a group not much given to creative originality, social or political activism, or the esthetics of art for art's sake. Its members have a too healthy appreciation of the power of the box office dollar. They do not much like activists, intellectuals, independent thinkers, or people who live east of Colorado, unless these people are <u>very</u> successful. They also feel guilty about all of these things.

Mainstream, Middle-Class

The Academy, then, reflects the feelings of mainstream, middle-class America. It must, for that is the source of its business. One result is that its nominations, awards, and ceremony are a useful guide to the national consciousness.

The question is what do this year's Oscars tell us. Gross numbers provide our first hints. The Deer <u>Hunter</u> and <u>Heaven Can Wait</u> (with nine nominations each) and <u>Coming</u> <u>Home</u> (with eight) were this year's leaders. This unlikely trio along with the other nominees for Best Picture, <u>An Unmarried Woman</u> and <u>Midnight Express</u> accounted for the staggering total of forty nominations.

In many ways the list is typical of the Academy. All the films have been successful; all are American; (continued on page 4)

NOW Pot-Luck Dinner Friday, May 18, 6:30

We are having a pot-luck fundraising party. There will be good music, fine food, beautiful people, and swimming, too. Bring your friends: \$1.00 per person. Each person should bring a casserole dish to feed two. BYOB. The party will be at the club house and pool of the South Plains Apartment Complex (5520 58th Street) behind the South Plains Mall. Drive west on 57th from Slide, curving onto 58th Street. Drive till the building on your right. RSVP: 793-6168 745-6808

Page 3

What's Oscar Trying to Tell Us?

(continued from page 3) several end happily. If there is too much "significance" in the group (four of the films tackle "important" subjects; all purport to be socially responsible), it is balanced by the genuine light-heartedness of <u>Heaven</u> <u>Can Wait</u>. <u>An Unmarried Woman</u> was even made by a non-establishment sort, Paul Mazursky. That too is to be expected. Such films rarely win, but their nomination allows the Academy to deny any insider bias.

Vietnam War

The clearest message of the list is that people are willing to begin thinking about the Vietnam War. The <u>Deer Hunter</u> and <u>Coming Home</u> are Vietnam pictures, although neither is directly concerned with the war. Rather, they are studies of how the war affected those it touched (that's all of us) and of what we can learn from it.

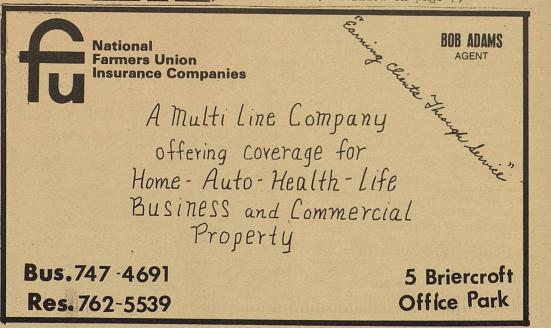
The women's movement, too, has been legitimized by Hollywood. The nomination of <u>An Unmarried Woman</u> (discussed in <u>Lubbock NOW Times</u>, November, 1978) declares women's concerns and problems acceptable to the public.

<u>Midnight Express</u>, with its racism, attack on American political impotence, and acceptance of the drug culture, assures us that the worst aspects of the American stereotype remain pertinent.

Awards Themselves

When we turn to the awards themselves, the big news is the overwhelming success of <u>The Deer Hunter</u> and <u>Coming Home</u>, but the message is mixed.

<u>Coming Home</u> is good news. Jane Fonda, deservedly recognized as the finest American film actress of our time, will be allowed to continue making important films. People can excuse her politics because of her success. We get to have our cake and eat it, too. Moreover, the choice of John Voight for Best Actor presages a broad-based reconsideration of male roles. Options other than Robert DeNiro's stoic macho and (continued on page 7)



Austin Report: Anti-Abortion Plot

The Political Committee, chaired by Dorothy McLarty, met April 11 to discuss current Texas legislation affecting women.

Rhonda Belt, the Texas NOW lobbyist, is doing a fantastic job keeping us informed on what's happening around the Capitol. She feels fairly confident that we don't have to worry about recission or a null-and-void bill being scheduled this legislative session; however, April 18 and 19 are the dates scheduled for anti-abortion bills to be heard, by the House Health Services Committee and the Senate Committee on Economic Development. These bills will severely restrict a woman's freedom of choice if passed. (See Lubbock NOW Times, March 1979)

Secret Hearings

The dates of these anti-abortion bill hearings were neither posed or publicized in any way, and Belt is lucky she found out about them at all.

At this time we do not know the outcome of these hearings, but the Political Committee wrote letters to the legislators on these committees urging that they not support these bills. Lubbock NOW member, Mary Mauel will report to us after she talks to Belt at the Texas NOW State Council Meeting in Galveston at the end of April.

Progress

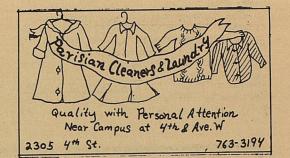
We won in the House! <u>HB1075</u> passed March 22 by a vote of 90 to 30. This bill proposes to provide state aid to community "Shelter Centers" where victims of domestic violence and their families can seek temporary refuge. Supporters of this bill, who lobbied other representatives to gain their support are: Representatives Susan Gurley McBee, Mary Polk, Gerald Hill, Brad Wright, Edward Emmett, Mary Jane Bode, Irma Rangel, Ernestine Glossbrenner.

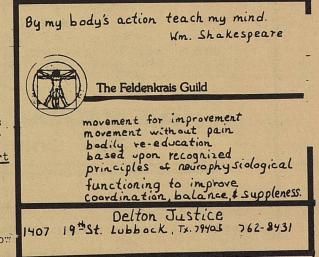
Please write these people and thank them. Legislators need to know

that we are out here if they are going to work for us.

SB594, sponsored by Chet Brooks, is the same as HBL075 in the Senate. It was reported out favorably by the Senate Human Resources Committee. Belt thinks it will pass, but we <u>need to write letters to the Senate!</u> Supporters of this bill, who could lobby other Senators, are: Senators Chet Brooks, Bill Braecklein, Betty Andujar, Ron Clower, Lloyd Doggett, Bill Patman, and Gene Jones. Write these people and thank them for their support. It really can make all the difference.

---Cathie McWhorter







O'Neill, Louise Decker, ed. The <u>Women's Book of World Records and</u> <u>Achievements</u>. New York: Anchor Press, Doubleday, 1979.

From actresses to zoologists, women who have been outstanding in every field throughout this century are at last being recognized in this book. "We are trying to reduce the great anonymity of women," Decker explained in an interview. "Men's records in almost all areas have been so much better preserved," she added, "and it seemed to us the time had come to establish specific identities of specific women in the same fashion."

The book's nearly 900 pages are crammed with notable "firsts" for women plus hundreds of "highests," "fastests," "youngests," "oldests," and other accomplishments of some 5,000 women. (Review from Denton <u>Record-Chronicle</u>,

March 25, 1979.)

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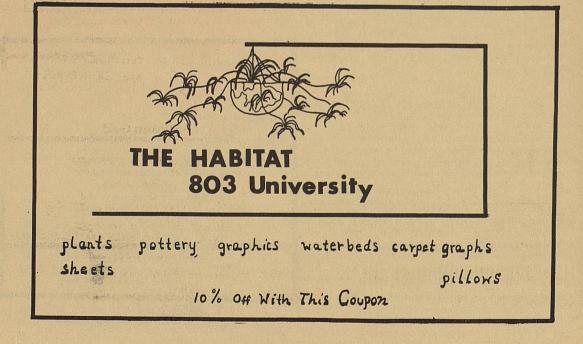
Tufts, Eleanor. <u>Our Hidden Heritage</u>: <u>Five Centuries of Women Artists</u>. New York: Paddington Press, Ltd., 1979. (\$7.50) While gathering material for a doctoral dissertation, Dr. Tufts became more aware of the neglected tends of women artists as a negult

topic of women artists. As a result. she has written this book in which she includes twenty-two lesser . known artists of the past, "since living women artists are coming into their own so encouragingly nowadays.'

The dearth of material on these artists resulted in some chapters being strongly biographical, while others deal more with the work of _ the artists. <u>Our Hidden Heritage</u> is an experience in getting to know our artistic foremothers. -- Cathie McWhorter

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The Louisiana State NOW convention was held recently in Orange, Texas. Louisiana NOW members refused to convene in an unratified state!!!



HARRASSMENT PANEL HARRASSES AUDIENCE

On March 23-25, I attended the Texas NOW Convention with several other Lubbock NOW members, and I found it to be a very enlightening weekend. There were workshops on women in art, local politics, music, and socialism, as well as gay rights, ERA, and abortion rights. However, one workshop, entitled "Sexual Harrassment in Employment," was the center of an extremely heated debate, and the members and audience learned just how far they have to go in educating the public about feminism.

For over an hour, the audience . listened to Dr. Honor Whitney, a Ft. Worth marriage counselor, put blame on women for provoking harrassment on the job. Dr. Whitney explained that "slinky, black dresses" worn to work would always demand attention. She went on to say that after a man insults a woman, she should always be "gracious" and "never embarrass or humiliate a man in front of other employees." Dr. Whitney emphasized that a "woman should never hit a man. That's unladylike."

The workshop was finally interrupted by one woman shouting, "I demand this stop right now." Every-one applauded and several members

Dec Justice

foods & juice bar

(continued on Page 8)

Oscar's Telling Us

(continued from page 4) Warren Beatty's suave hipness are becoming available. Voight's decency, compassion, and humanity in the film provide the touchstones of that reappraisal, while his performance $\nu\,{\rm and}\,$ Fonda's acceptance speech remind us of the rights and dignity of the handicapped.

Coming Home offers an affirmative, passionate commitment to human respect, dignity, and growth. Along the way it offers a firm and clear statement on one of the war's lessons: we were all victims. However, this is a moral Hollywood is not quite ready to embrace.

The Deer Hunter, too, is a power-ful film which would like to find the lessons of the war, and its failure to do so may well account for its selection as Best Picture and for Michael Cimino's Oscar for Best Direction.

The Deer Hunter is a muddle. It has been accused of being both for and against the war, for and against macho and male bud, dyism as desirable roles. It has been reviled as racist and praised for its sensitive respect for all life. The film is deeply moving and emotionally wrenching. But it goes nowhere. It is simply not susceptible to cogent analysis. (continued on page 8)

mmmmm Sea Horse Swim School Connie Gregory NOW 3602 Slide Rd. Security Park Lubback, Tx. 79414

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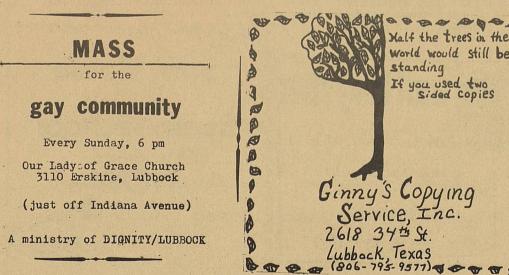
Oscars Tellina

(continued from Page 7) Of course, that means it offers something for everyone. A film which effectively takes all positions is assured of a good response. It

is, however, irresponsible. At the ceremony <u>The Deer Hunter</u> was picketed for being racist. Jane Fonda endorsed the picket line. Michael Camino said the pickets were wrong. "It's not racist," he said. "It's a film."

This kind of comment is the Academy at its worst, and from Johnny Carson's opening monologue. with its attempts to turn away any social comment to the standing ovation for John Wayne's health, the Oscar presentation tried to create a romantic illusion. All those stars in formal gowns and tuxedos telling bad jokes and leering at each other are of some world other than our own. It's a generally peaceful place, because most have agreed not to think. It's the world of the status quo, the same old world of Hollywood

During the last few Academy Award shows that world has been challenged a bit, but it remains intact. We'll know we're making progress when they ask Jane Fonda to host.



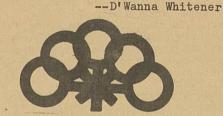
HARRASSMENT

(continued from Page 7) shouted back at the speaker. Another woman pointed out that she was a steelworker who wore overalls, steeltoed boots, and a hard hat and still received sexual harrassment.

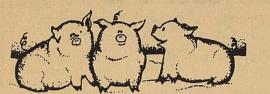
Dr. Whitney, wearing backless spiked heels and a skirt with a slit up the back, told the audience that for a woman to have respect, she should not wear clothes "that detract from what's coming out of your mouth."

After the workshop, Dr. Whitney was quoted as saying it was obvious to her that "I'm far too sophisticated for them. If I ever spoke to this group again, I would lower it about five levels, then maybe they could understand it."

Members of the audience hope that Dr. Whitney raises her consciousness about five levels before speaking again!!



HOGWASH



The following is an excerpt from a sheet of applicants' qualifications provided to potential employers by Williams Personnel Services of Lubbock:

- 1. GOOD LOOKING, DIVORCED AND WILLING AND READY. Has real estate license.
- 2. GORGEOUS AND SINGLE. Looking for a challenge
- 3. BLONDE HAIR, GREEN EYES TURN YOU ON? Has worked in real estate.

From Williams Personnel Services, owned by Nelda Williams, submitted by Cathie McWhorter.

Dear Helen:

Christmas is long over and Santa put away for another year, but I'm writing "ahead."

Santa Claus is not a woman; he is a man! I strongly resent stores hiring females to play the role. It really burns me when I take my youngster to see Santa and they hear a feminine voice.

Are women so insecure that they must even destroy this bit of childhood fantasy in the name of liberation?

--Frank

Dear Frank: I must be behind the times as I've never seen a female Santa. But in an "equality" era that pushes for "Unisex Sam," not Uncle, anything's possible.

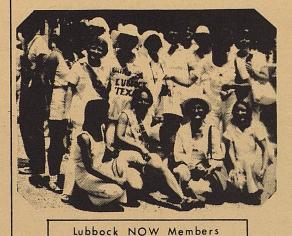
Your complaint duly noted. Springfield Daily, 3/30/1979, sub-mitted by Maydelle Seaver.

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pleased by word of prices-

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WOMEN ALSO MARCH TO CROSSED KEYS 60% of our customers are women! Why?

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*wide selection

*knowledgeable staff

*a wine drinker's paradise

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Dr. Walt Menninger on the ERA

(From <u>The Wichita Eagle</u>, January 1979)

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is one topic which can be counted on to provoke some emotion. And it's hard to keep a clear sense of what it is all about, what with the claims and counter-claims and placards and rallies.



Personally, I support the amendment, for many of the same reasons that are outlined in a recent statement on ERA issued by the United States Commission on Civil Rights (Clearinghouse Publication No. 56, available from the Supt. of Documents, U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402).

The report quotes the Senate Judiciary Committee majority report, which first put forward the amendment: "The basic principle...: Sex should not be a factor in determining the legal rights of men or of women."

And the Civil Rights Commission observes that "discrimination on



the basis of sex continues to be a major national problem almost seven years after Congress proposed the Equal Rights Amendment."

In federal statutes alone, there are yet over 800 sections of the U.S. Code which contain examples "of substantive sex bias or sexbased terminology that are inconsistent with a national commitment to equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities."

As a result, notes Civil Rights Commissioner Frankie M. Freeman, "the cumulative effect is to assign women, solely on the basis of their sex, to a subordinate or dependent role."

What are the inequalities? One finds them in civil law, criminal law, employment and education. For example:

Does it make sense that a married couple's home belongs only to the husband, even when it has been paid for by the wife? That's the way it is, by law, in Georgia.

Does it make sense that the (continued on page 12)



Menninger on ERA

(continued from page 11) earnings of a married woman employed by her husband are not considered her separate property and are subject to her husband's control? That's the way it is, by law, in Wisconsin.

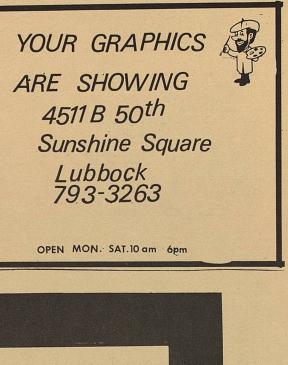
Does it make sense that a woman's contributions to a marriage are without substantial value? After her husband died, the federal government charged a Nebraska farm woman an inheritance tax as if the property belonged entirely to the deceased husband--despite 33 years of joint operation and a joint title to the property. If she had died first, her husband would have been charged nothing.

Does it make sense that if a husband finds his wife in the act of adultery and immediately kills her, he is guilty of manslaughter; but if the woman does the same, she's guilty of murder? That's the way it is in Alabama.

(continued on Page 13)



Save everything from your spring cleaning efforts for our Back-to-School Rummage Sale in September. Call Alison Seidel for information-797-6593





Menninger

(continued from page 12)

Does it make sense that the average earnings of women should be 60 percent of men's earnings? And that this figure is even lower than it was 20 years ago, when it was 63 percent?

Does it make sense for high school counselors to counsel bright girls away from professional pursuits?

Susan Vorchheimer was a ninth grade girl in Philadelphia who had received awards in geometry and science. She wanted to go to a ' public high school which offered advanced courses and superior facilities in these fields. Although qualified by all objective standards, her transfer to the superior school was denied, because the school was for boys only! She appealed that denial all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where only 18 months ago her appeal was rejected.

So I agree with the Civil Rights Commission that the need for the Equal Rights Amendment is even more clear today than it was in 1972 when Congress first approved the Amendment and sent it to the states for ratification.



New Members

The names, addresses and phone numbers of new Lubbock NOW members are printed each month. Please clip and add to your call list.



Robert C. Adams

Karen Krout 1510 Avenue R #5 1918 B 8th Lubbock 79401 Lubbock 79401 762-5539 747-9367 Lynn Clark Kathryn Saupp 4007 37th 2111 22nd, Box 5401 Lubbock 79417 Lubbock 79413 741-2724 762-8039 Karen Hodges Jane Winer 3011 25th 7010 Nashville Dr. Lubbock 79410 Lubbock 79413 797-0752 742-3732 NEW ADDRESS NEW PHONE NUMBER Debi Barnes Mary Mauel 3115 29th 762-5889 Lubbock 79410 797-0061 If you do not have a call list. copies will be available to members at the May Program Meeting. This One's On Us The holder of this coupon is entitled to choice of a free Frosty Draw, or half price Towndraw Pitcher! Between 9:00pm - 2:00am, TOWNDRAW The Amusement Bar" 19th of R Joe & Dannell Copeland

Page 14 Lusk's Boot Shop OVER 300 DESIGNS TO CHOOSE FROM Main 5, (5) (5) (5) 3019 34th St. Lubbock, Tx. OOLL 》 ※ TWO Custom Imprints available on T-shirts, Caps, and Windbreakers Street 1009 University 744-5965 Sororilles and Fraternilles Clubs, Buainers, Church Political Campaigns Sorber Teams Sorbol Tubas School Clubs School Bands School Bands School Bands 3602 Slide Security Park 792-1199 Boots Shoe HAIR SALON Repair 1/2 "A Standard of Excellence for over 30 years" 6 Many Beautiful Glitter Designs -2419/ MAIN :/7626034

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I want to join but can only afford \$		
I am not a member but would like to receive Lubbock NOW Times (\$4/year		
I would like to join Fr	iends of NOW (\$5 and up) (call 763-4441).	
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