



Wirephotos

Hatred

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BATES. A divorcee and an Army veteran who served in Germany in 1962 and part of 1963, continued: "I can't say I'm not glad it happened — they needed a new courthouse anyway. But I'm not proud of it."

"People in that town thrive on doing nothing, they thrive on talking about other people. I gave them something to talk about," he said.

He said that Madisonville city officials, the sheriff's office, the highway patrolmen and Ranger Luther "have been more than considerate. I appreciate this and realize they are trying to help me."

HE SAID he hoped that his parents and what "few friends I have can find forgiveness, although I may not be deserving it."

"Most of all," he said, "I wish for the people of that town not to hold this against my parents. It wasn't because of their lack of discipline. You couldn't ask for better parents. They tried to raise me in a Christian way — it didn't work out that way."

Obviously nervous, Bates concluded the interview by saying: "May God forgive me."

If tried and convicted of arson, according to state law, Bates could receive a sentence of not less than two nor more than 20 years in the state penitentiary.

THE MAJESTIC, red-brick courthouse was built in 1896 at a cost of \$22,500. It included three floors and a tall clock and stood on the town square in the center of the town of 2,400 persons.

Firemen from Bryan, Huntsville, Centerville, Navasota and North Zulich helped Madisonville firemen contain the fire. Buildings around the square were threatened when high winds blew embers onto downtown businesses.

Most of the records of the county clerk, county treasurer and district clerk were saved. They were protected by two steel vaults surrounded by 18-inch thick concrete. The tax records of the county tax assessor-collector were lost.

COUNTY JUDGE J. C. Wells said that plans are to rebuild at the same downtown site.

Firemen fought the fire most of Sunday night. Workmen with winch trucks Monday morning began the job of razing the bare brick walls left standing after the blaze had completely gutted the interior.

er, Charnille Bridge, valuable trackster, Wick; most valuable player, Mike Mills; mable golfer, Tom Shelt.

Other awards included Fran Haugen, out junior English student; Anne Darroch, out sophomore English student; Debra Olson, out freshman English student; Clark, poetry; Bill Price, outstanding; Janet Callham, out actress; Bob Donald; Fran Haugen, German language awards.

Other awards:

BIOLOGY, GARY National Mathematical Award, Wayne Betty Crocker Home Award, Deborah Schaefer, standing commercial; Donna Young; business certificate, Joe Foster; certificate, Paul T. bookkeeping certificate, my Shelton; economics, Jimmy Alexander.

Mike Thilgen was Future Farmers of State Chapter Farmer; son Loupot was named Green Hand.

Kathy Litterst was outstanding senior Homemaker and Cune land was selected out Junior Kerry Fisher clothing construction.

Karen Thompson the Co-Ed Award.

Also awarded were: Arion National Music Sharon Skrivaneck and Henry; Lions Club Award, Jimmy Bradley; Music award, Eddie Heftis; Teachers Award, Schatte; office assistant, Anne Boykin.

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