



John Anders

Dillo Dither

THE 'DILLO' is in a pickle.

Armadillo World Headquarters, that funky Austin nightclub which has booked everything from ballet to hard rock, has filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding in federal court.

The top showcase for pop and rock music in this part of the country will remain open only if a majority of its creditors so choose.

'Dillo President Hank Aldrich says mounting pressure from creditors caused the filing, although he said the club managed to come within \$100,000 of breaking even last year and that the 1977 budget calls for a reduction in expenses of \$165,000.

He added that 75 per cent of the club's net profits will go into an escrow account to repay back debts, some of which are three and four years old.

In recent months, there have been large cutbacks in expenditures and personnel. Now there are 81 persons on the staff when there once were as many as 143.

An ambitious concert of last season, designed to save the Armadillo, sold a lot less of the \$100-a-pop tickets than were anticipated, and the club has been fighting red ink for several years.

Should Armadillo close, Austin will be without a showcase for the particular brand of Austin Sound which has made the Capital City a major outpost of outlaw country.

O HAPPY DAY: Retired Soda Jerk Supreme Charlie Day, who for 50 years dispensed wonderful fountain drinks at the Highland Park Pharmacy, reports that life in Arkansas is splendid.

"I live about a mile from the White River where it divides this city (Batesville, Ark.)," he writes. "It's kind of like the Trinity divides Oak Cliff from the rest of the city. I am enjoying good health, but I miss all of the fine folks in Dallas."

The feeling is mutual, Charlie.

ALUMINUM THROAT: Local freelance sports journalist Norm Hitzges will be represented in this season's Best Sports Stories anthology.

Norm's selection was "the Other Game in Town," a penetrating look into gambling on football in the Dallas area, published in the December issue of D Magazine.

LA TRIVIATA: Teddy Harper, here with the Coasters at Granny's recently, was an original member of the Penguins, who in 1954 recorded the immortal "Earth Angel."

WELL, I GOT THE STATE RIGHT, DIDN'T I?: Yes, Farrah Fawcett-Majors follows, I erred grievously recently in listing that the sexy star of "Charlie's Angels" is from Beaumont.



FAWCETT-MAJORS

Miss Fawcett-Majors is a native of Corpus Christi, a city she once represented in the Miss Astro Contest — and didn't win.

MISSING LINK: In response to the widespread use of "Ms" by American women, the U.S. Civil Service Commission has announced that it is revising all of its personnel forms — including job application forms — to make "Ms" available to those who prefer it. The change will be incorporated in all commission forms which require a title.

Who says the women's movement is dead?

GUEST STARS: The U.S.A. Film Festival is hoping to get Jennifer Jones ("Duel in the Sun"), Robert Young ("Northwest Passage"), and Jackie Cooper ("The Champ") as guests for this year's Great Director Retrospective honoring King Vidor.

Miss Jones, whose father Phil Isley recently died here after a longtime career in local movie theaters, has thus far been discouraging.

DON'T TELL THE ENDING: "Vanities," the off-Broadway hit comedy written by Corsicana native Jack Heifner, caused a Dallas woman some nervous moments recently during intermission.

The play follows the lives of women who started out as cheerleaders in a small Texas town and moved on to SMU. The third act re-examines their lives at 30.

"The first act was me," the former SMU student was overheard to say. "The second act was me ... and I'm scared to see the third act."