

## Texas town of 12 split over church

MENTONE, Texas (AP) — A Texas town of 12 has almost come to blows over the proposed move of its only church, an occasionally used Western structure that has survived two Pecos River floods.

Most residents of Mentone, misnamed by a homesick French prospector for the Riviera resort of Menton, are upset because the Ranching Heritage Center at Texas Tech University plans to spend \$50,000 to move the one-room country church 200 miles to Lubbock by Christmas.

Wild West buffs could marry within the Heritage Center if the Mentone Community Church is moved to the 20-acre complex, Texas Tech officials say. The Heritage Center has several 1800s-era buildings, but no church, said aide Kelley Brown.

Loving County Commissioner Ann Blair is unsure whether it's wise to move the steepled church, the most famous structure in a shrinking town that primarily survives now from its oil revenues.

"It's a landmark," she said. "The building means a lot to a lot of people."

Blair and the four-member commissioner's court held a public hearing Tuesday in an attempt to calm residents who objected to losing their town's only house of worship.

Mentone is a dry, one gas station town that hauls its drinking water from Pecos and Kermit, and has shrunk steadily since the 1940s, when it had 285 residents. A one-room post office rises from the mesquite shrubland around this arid town, but Mentone has no doctor or hotel.

Sheriff Elgin Jones said the brouhaha over the church is much ado about nothing.

"I'm going to be friends with whomever wins, and friends with whomever loses," he said. "It's just not that big a deal."

But Sissy Keen, who helps run Keen's Cafe, the only cafe in this patch of high Texas desert, says it is.

"They want to take away our only church," she said. "The only way I'd go for it is if they guarantee that the day they take the church away, someone builds us another church."

Such talk irritates Loving County Commissioner Jim Wheat. "They make a fuss out here over some of the smallest things."

Texas Tech says the church would bear a plaque acknowledging its origins.

The controversy over the church could result in a town referendum, Blair said. Either that, or a guarantee that Mentone builds a new church with its own tax money to replace the departed one.

### HEADING FOR LAW SCHOOL?

**CONSIDER HARVARD**

Come ask us questions on Wed., Oct. 5 at 10 am in Room 101, EMU. Everyone welcome. Women and minorities especially.



# INCREASE YOUR

## REACTIVITY

### WITH CORDLESS, AM/FM STEREO HEADPHONES.

Now you can listen to your favorite station—anytime at all—with these go-anywhere, adjustable Stereo Headphones.

Wear them jogging, skating, around the house—even to the game. They're light-weight—only 7 ounces, and totally self-contained—no cords or battery-packs to hassle with.

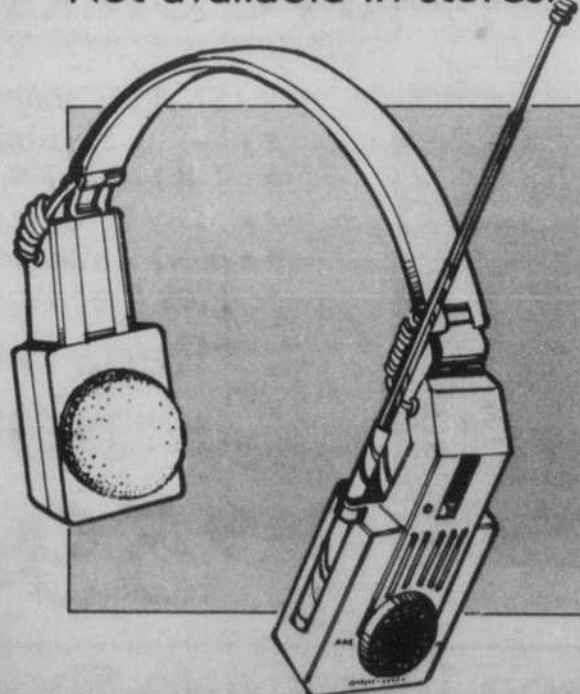
The rich stereo sound also works with your own tape player or music system (connecting wire included).

**Not available in stores.**

**ONLY \$34.95**  
(2 FOR \$65.00)

Includes shipping and handling. 90 day warranty. If not fully satisfied, return within 10 days for a full refund. Requires two AA batteries. Not included.

MasterCard or Visa phone orders call 345-1166 or mail coupon below.



### PLEASE RUSH AM/FM STEREO HEADPHONES

- One pair \$34.95
- Two pairs \$65.00
- Payment enclosed (check or money order only please)

MasterCard Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

▲ ANOTHER FINE PRODUCT FROM  
**Mi-Mar Imports**



2310 Douglas Drive  
Eugene, Oregon 97405