

*For Hot Alligator*

# Street Becomes Rest Area

MISSOURI CITY, Texas (UPI) — A 14-foot alligator, apparently looking for a cool wet spot, settled down in the middle of a street, blocked traffic and snapped at several onlookers before he was lassoed and hauled away in a cattle trailer to the Brazos River early Monday.

Motorists encountered the cantankerous reptile Sunday night in this Houston suburb.

"The people had been throwing rocks, trying to

## Sacred Heart Summer Youth Program Axed

get him back into Oyster Creek," said Police Sgt. G.M. Herman. "But that just got him madder. He was hissing and no one wanted to go near him."

The Fire Department tried to drive him into the creek 50 yards away with a strong stream of water. It didn't work.

When the alligator began crawling toward Quail Valley Country Club across the street, a resident brought out a six-foot rope and lassoed the gator's neck.

"About six of us dragged him to the truck and threw him in," Herman said.

After the alligator was dispatched to the river 15

miles away, police had a final scare.

"We got a call from a resident who said there was a wild ape on his roof," Herman said. "Thank goodness we didn't find one."

