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# Texas Monthly



# Texas Women

[ THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ISSUE ]

A CELEBRATION OF SENATORS AND SINGERS, ACTRESSES AND ACTIVISTS, COWGIRLS AND CHEERLEADERS, AND OF COURSE, MOMS, FEATURING KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, NORAH JONES, SISSY SPACEK, ANN RICHARDS, PRISCILLA OWEN, CYNTHIA ANN PARKER, SUSAN COMBS, COLLEEN BARRETT, LIZZIE MCGUIRE, TEEN BEAUTY QUEENS, THE NEXT GREAT SPRINTER, AND ALL THE GIRLS KINKY FRIEDMAN HASN'T MARRIED.



Who's Next

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San Antonio's Marshevet Hooker (pictured) is not just any old high school sprinter; she's an Olympic gold medalist in the making. Meet her and nine other women we're betting will lead the new Texas—and the world.

Texas Women 92

They shouldn't be messed with. But you knew that already.

BY JAN JARBOE RUSSELL

What Does Kay Want? 94

Good question, and everyone seems to have an answer: To be respected for her accomplishments as a U.S. senator. To help lead the GOP after its Election Day triumph. To be a mom, finally, in her late fifties. To come back home and run for governor—maybe. But, please, no psychobabble.

BY SKIP HOLLANDSWORTH

Queen for a Day 98

At this year's Miss Texas Teen USA pageant, girls from big cities and small towns stuffed their bras, slicked Vaseline across their teeth, and prayed that their thighs were toned enough. Anything for the crown.

BY PAMELA COLLOFF

All About My Mother 106

Widowed at 38, a Mexican citizen with no money and a sixth-grade education, she raised three proud American daughters—and embraced life on her own terms.

BY CECILIA BALLI

The Warrior's Bride 120

Cynthia Ann Parker was nine when a Comanche snatched her from her East Texas home in 1836. Yet throughout her life as her captor's wife she remained strong, brave, and devoted to her husband and children. Which is to say, she was the original Texas woman.

BY JAN REID

Cover Girls 125

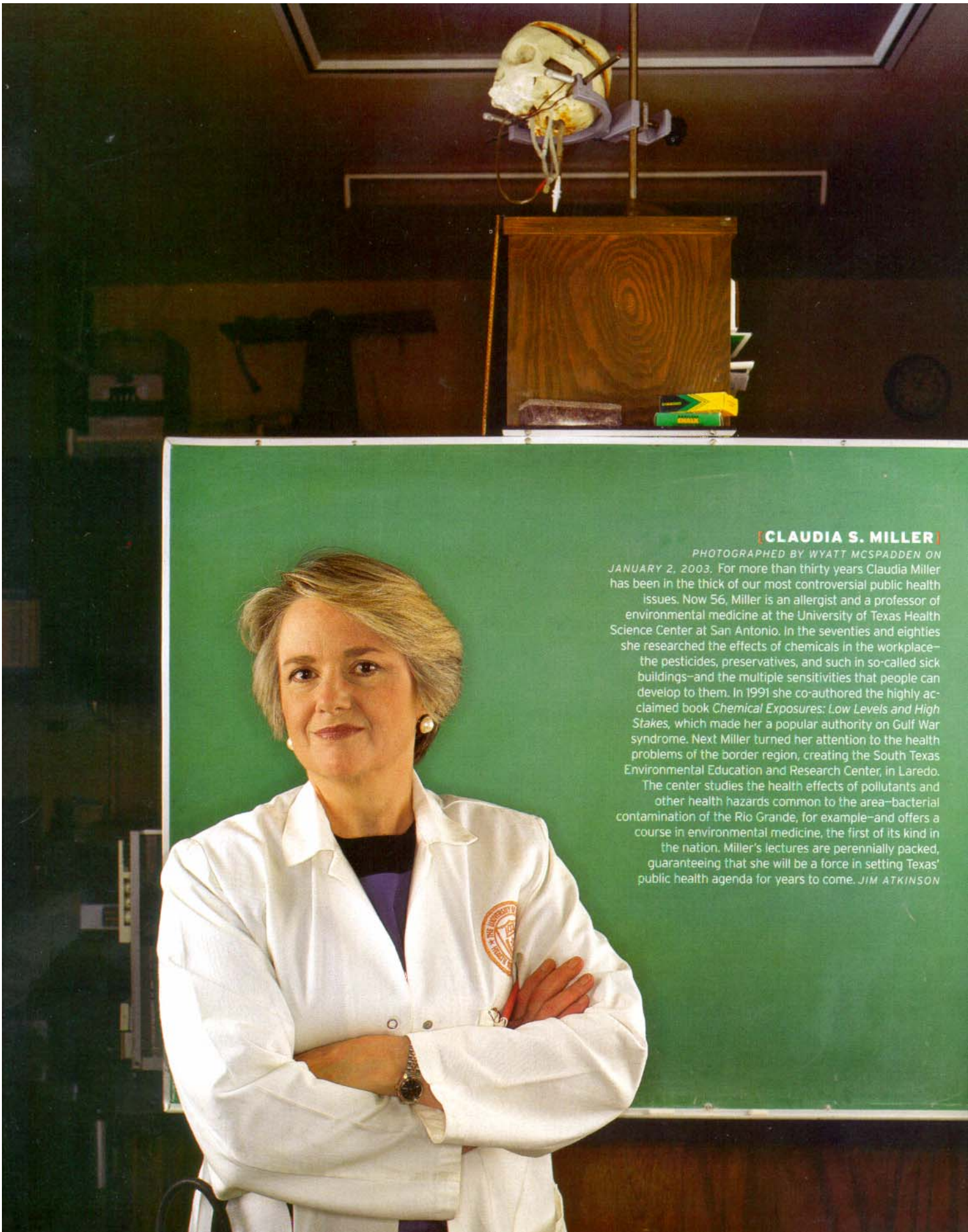
From Ann on a Harley to Anna Nicole on a Bum Steer binge, we present our fifty favorite *Texas Monthly* issues with a female face.

BY ANNE DINGUS



# WHO'S NEXT

A GREAT SPRINTER  
IN THE MAKING.  
A POSSIBLE SUPREME  
COURT JUSTICE.  
OUR FAVORITE NEW  
JAZZ SINGER.  
MEET TEN WOMEN  
WHO REPRESENT  
THE BEST OF  
TEXAS TODAY—  
AND TOMORROW.



**CLAUDIA S. MILLER**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY WYATT MCSPADEN ON JANUARY 2, 2003. For more than thirty years Claudia Miller has been in the thick of our most controversial public health issues. Now 56, Miller is an allergist and a professor of environmental medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. In the seventies and eighties she researched the effects of chemicals in the workplace—the pesticides, preservatives, and such in so-called sick buildings—and the multiple sensitivities that people can develop to them. In 1991 she co-authored the highly acclaimed book *Chemical Exposures; Low Levels and High Stakes*, which made her a popular authority on Gulf War syndrome. Next Miller turned her attention to the health problems of the border region, creating the South Texas Environmental Education and Research Center, in Laredo. The center studies the health effects of pollutants and other health hazards common to the area—bacterial contamination of the Rio Grande, for example—and offers a course in environmental medicine, the first of its kind in the nation. Miller's lectures are perennially packed, guaranteeing that she will be a force in setting Texas' public health agenda for years to come. JIM ATKINSON