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Feazell may get 'Racehorse' to argue case

By **FRANCINE PARKER**
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Houston attorney Richard (Racehorse) Haynes said Saturday that friends of McLennan

County District Attorney Vic Feazell have contacted him about representing Feazell at his February trial.

Feazell was indicted on two

counts of racketeering and 10 counts of mail fraud by a federal grand jury on Sept. 16.

"I haven't had a chance to talk to him (Feazell)," Haynes said. "I would like to talk to him."

Haynes spoke to about 125 people at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Moody Texas Ranger Library in Knox Hall at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame.

His theme — "due process under the law" — met with applause.

"No person should be deprived of his rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without due process. It's the cornerstone of this country," Haynes said.

Haynes, president of Haynes & Fullenweidere, a professional legal corporation in Houston, said no matter how "repulsive" the crime might be, every person has a right to due process under the law.

And that right is being threatened by courts and legislators, Haynes said.

"We're so concerned about drugs that we're permitting our

courts and legislators to enact laws that our children will regret. It's taking from us invaluable rights," Haynes said.

He said lawyers may face life imprisonment or a \$1 million fine for accepting money from clients who may be involved in illegal drugs.

"Lawyers are feeling a chilling effect," Haynes said.

"There are so many laws and so much pressure. We're slowly doing away with the Fourth Amendment," he said.

The U.S. Supreme Court is moving against the exclusionary rule that says evidence obtained in an unlawful search is inadmissible in court, Haynes said.

"We cannot permit the courts to be a part of any acquisition of unlawful evidence," he said.

The opinions of newly appointed U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist probably will reflect his conservative philosophy in regard to the rights of the accused, Haynes said.