

# Coed prison shows promise

(AP) — "I become somewhat incensed when I hear it said that in some quarters our institution is thought to be the scene of rampant sexual misconduct.

"This is nonsense . . . We are involved in a highly significant social experiment. We are conducting it in a responsible, cautious manner with promising results thus far."

That's how Warden Charles Campbell defended the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) here against criticism over the housing of men and women inmates under the same roof.

Campbell's comments were made about a year after the U.S. Bureau of Prisons opened the experimental facility and he added that a "drastic departure from the conventional is certain to become controversial."

He was right; there was controversy aplenty after FCI opened in 1971. But a recent study suggests the coed, or cocorrectional, concept is sound and workable and could be used elsewhere.

Elizabeth Krippel, an Illinois sociologist who spent 14 months at the prison as part of the study funded by the Bureau of Prisons, calls the mingling of male and female prisoners healthy and humane, though she says it is not without occasional illicit sex and certain problems.

Miss Krippel said the residents, as they are called here, feel that "if you have to do time, this is the place to do it." She interviewed nearly

100 residents and said that though reactions were mixed, less than a third felt FCI was "a bad story all the way."

FCI has innovations going for it other than the coed program. There are no guards as such, just unarmed "correctional employees." The guardhouse is vacant, the gate open and the visiting area park-like and informal.

Living quarters are separate for men and women — sexual contact is prohibited but does exist — and rooms resemble those in modest college dormitories.

Although all inmates are convicted felons, some residents attend college classes or have jobs outside the prison, and others take special vocational training on the inside.

The women's unit is locked at night, but otherwise residents do most things together: eat, work and attend school, church, movies, counseling and supervised recreational activities.

Miss Krippel argued with charges that FCI is a country club for criminals, rife with illicit sex, illegal drugs, smuggled booze and indifferent security.

"There is enough freedom that some of the residents can keep doing their own thing — in a sense they are not doing anything much different than what they had been doing on the outside," she said.

"But this whole thing about drugs, and the sex that goes on, it's pretty low level, all things considered . . ."

And Miss Krippel said the sexual

liaisons that do exist are at least conventional. "It is not the aggressive, predatory homosexuality that tears apart every other prison," she said.

In her study, Miss Krippel identified six different heterosexual relationships ranging from simple companionship to prostitution, the latter "minimal."

She said the most prevalent relationship is what the residents call "walk partner," which she defined as "similar to a dating relationship on the outside."

Such relationships imply emotional involvement and stability, she said, and most sexual activity is confined to this group.

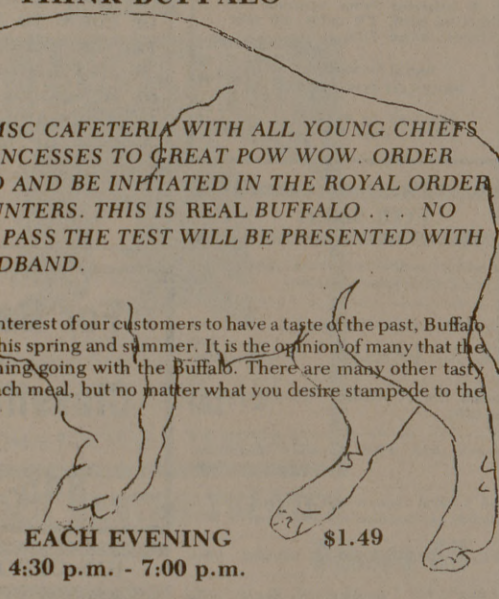
Men outnumber women about 400 to 100, and there is disagreement on the most practical ratio of men to women. Officials intend to narrow it from 4 to 1 to 3 to 2 in the months ahead.

Miss Krippel indicated a decision over a proper ratio is difficult because, while there should be more walk partners for women, an increase in female inmates might cause other problems.

"It would be great to have more women if it is truly a heterogenous group, particularly in the sense of age, so you wouldn't have this concentration of young, bitter girls from the street," she said.

"They're hurt and they're bitter. One of the problems we're struggling within the whole system is that most of the women tend to identify themselves with the men in their life."

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## Spring bike race planned

The Residence Hall Association and the A&M Wheelmen are sponsoring the Spring Bicycle Race this Sunday on the street surrounding the Drill Field.

Events including relays and individual races will begin at 1 p.m.

Riders may register by 4 p.m. Friday in the R.H.A. office in room 216 of the MSC or by 12:30 p.m. the day of the race. Members of relay teams must register individually by Friday's deadline. Entry fees are 50

cents per individual rider and \$1 for 4-person teams.

Trophies will be awarded to 1st place winners, in addition to restaurant gift certificates, Aggie Cinema tickets and more.

The races are open to all A&M students and to teams representing dorms or recognized campus organizations.

Riders are responsible for having their bikes in good mechanical condition and for providing protective

head gear, shoes and shirts which cover the shoulders.

The first event scheduled is a slow race in which the last rider to finish wins. Time trial sprints for individual riders follows as well as the 4-person team race, open individual race, a running, riding and carrying race and a contest for most people on a bike.

## Bulletin board

**TODAY**  
BROWN-BAG SEMINAR features Malon Southern discussing format and development of a personal resume at room in room 616A of the Harrington Education Center.

**GEORGE ELLIOTT JR.** will speak on the need for an accrediting association for graphic arts in colleges and universities at 3 p.m. in room 616A of the Harrington Education Center.

**SAILING CLUB** meets at 7:30 p.m. in room 301 Rudder Tower.

**BRYAN COUNCIL OF STUTTERERS** meets at 8:30 p.m. at the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center, 3300 E. 29th St., Bryan.

**ARAB STUDENTS** will elect officers at 7:30 p.m. in room 401 Rudder Tower.

**THURSDAY**  
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING CLUB presents a slide show on Alaska from 7 to 9 p.m. in room 102 Zachry.

**STUDENTS CONCERNED FOR THE HANDICAPPED** sponsor Wheelchair Awareness Day with a wheelchair basketball game at 7:30 p.m. in De Ware Field House. The Houston Easy Riders play the Dallas Raiders in the first game and the Aggies will take on the winners.

**MARINE BIOLOGY ASSOCIATION** sponsors Cmdr. Bernard Grieson speaking on "Beneath the Sea in a Deep Submersible" in room 107 of the new Biology Building.

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SEMINAR** features Elmer Lignaul of the Frymire Engineering Company speaking on "Engineering Needs in the Air Conditioning Industry" at 10 a.m. in room 203 Zachry.

**FRIDAY**  
BASEMENT COFFEEHOUSE presents "Morning" from San Antonio in concert at 8 p.m. There will be no jam session before the concert. Admission is 50 cents.

**SINGING CADETS** perform in the Rudder Theater at 8 p.m. Tickets available in the box office for \$2 (adults), \$1 (students) and 75 cents (children under 12).

**MSC ART AND CRAFT CENTER** will hold an Art and Craft Fair from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. outside the Library.

**SATURDAY**  
BASEMENT COFFEEHOUSE presents "T&M Express" in concert from 8 until midnight. Admission is 50 cents.

**MSC ART AND CRAFT CENTER** will hold an Art and Craft Fair from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. outside the Library.

**SAILING CLUB** is holding a women's Regatta at Somerville Reservoir. The race determines who will go to the National Women's Regatta.

**A&M WHEELMEN** hold a bicycle auction at 1 p.m. in the Grove.

**HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION** holds the Intercollegiate Horse Show in the Aggie Rodeo Arena.

**SUNDAY**  
SPORTS CAR CLUB holds an Autocross at 9 a.m. in parking areas 59 and 61.


**INTER-SERVICE COUNCIL** holds an organizational meeting at 9 p.m. in room 305 A and B of the Rudder Tower.

**ALPHA PHI OMEGA** meets at 8 p.m. in room 229 of the MSC.

**MONDAY**  
CINEMA LECTURE features Dewey Compton narrating a film on Israeli agriculture at 7:30 p.m. in the Rudder Tower.

**TUESDAY**  
ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT SEMINAR features Robin Winkler of the University of New South Wales in Australia speaking at 3:30 p.m. in room 209 Harrington Center.

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