

Knowledge is your best protection.

Cori Bussells  
**DIAMOND ROOM**

3731 E. 29th 846-4708  
Town & Country Center  
MEMBER AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY

CASUAL FASHIONS  
for  
**GUYS & GALS**

**TOP DRAWER**

Culpepper Plaza

**Pizza inn.**

"When better pizzas are made . . . Pizza Inn will make them."

**FAMILY NIGHT**

Tuesday Nights 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
"We've got a feeling you're gonna like us."

**\$1.99**

413 Texas Ave. S.  
Open Sunday 11 A.M.  
846-6164

ART PLASTER  
PLAQUES &  
FIGURINES  
ART & CRAFT  
SUPPLIES

Eddie Dominguez '66  
Joe Arciniega '74

**Pop those who demand the Real Thing!**

If you want the real thing, not frozen or canned . . . We call it "Mexican Food Supreme."

Dallas location:  
3071 Northwest Hwy  
352-8570

**AGGIE PLAQUES**

Finished - \$12.95  
Unfinished - \$ 2.00

Paint your Christmas Gifts and Save \$\$\$\$

**GIFT-A-RAMA**

Redmond Terrace  
693-5016

**Tupinamba**

★ **SPORTS CLUB** ★

(UNIVERSITY SQ. NEXT TO SKAGGS)  
SUN. - CLOSED; OPEN FOR PRIVATE PARTIES (CALL 846-2415)  
MON. - \$1.00 COVER, 25c BEER LESSONS  
TUES. - NO COVER FREE DANCE LESSONS  
WED. - LADIES NIGHT GUYS-1.00 GIRLS-FREE & GIRLS RECEIVE 3 FREE BAR DRINKS.  
THURS. - DRINK & DROWN GUYS-3.50 GIRLS-2.50 FREE BEER, WINE & COKES  
25c BAR 50c CALL  
FRI. & SAT. - BOOGIE TIME

"THE MUNCHIES"  
THURS. FRI. & SAT. 4:30-7:30  
FREE SNACKS, 50c BEER, 1/2 PRICE DRINKS

SOMETHING NEW!  
STAY AFTER HOURS EVERY FRI. & SAT. TILL 3:00 A.M. FOR DANCING (NO LIQUOR)

# College Station dog catcher does more

By KATY KOWIERSCHKE  
Many persons love dogs, some persons lose dogs and dog catchers usually catch dogs. But a dog catcher is really more than just a dog catcher.

At least that's what Billy Rich, College Station humane officer, told me as we got into his 1967 blue pickup with "CSPD" printed on the side, and headed for Southwood Valley to answer a dog call.

We rumbled along for several miles then turned a corner and saw a lady waiting by her front porch. "I've got him in the garage," she said as we stopped.

The officer nodded, going to the back of his truck for a short-looped rope.

"I don't think we'll have any trouble," Rich said, recognizing the animal. "Prince belongs to a family around the corner and they've been trying to keep him penned up."

The black and white terrier greeted Billy joyfully, jumping into his arms and licking his face.

"Hey," I said, "Aren't you afraid of rabies?"

"Naw," was the reply, "he's just friendly."

I couldn't help comparing the scene with like situations in larger cities. Animal control officers in El Paso, for instance, treat all dogs as if they have terminal rabies (which some do.) A jump and a lick isn't allowed—friendly or not. But then,

El Paso is entering its fourth year of a rabies epidemic.

Things are different elsewhere, though, says Edwin Beckcom, executive director of the Dallas SPCA. He finds nothing strange about a small dog jumping into an officer's arms. He says most animal control people have a special empathy for their charges and stretch the rules to keep from destroying someone's pet.

BY THE TIME my thoughts changed, Prince was being pushed gently into the large security cage on the bed of the truck. He stood with his tail between his legs giving us the old shiver trick.

We ignored his ruse and climbed back into the cab, where Billy sat thoughtfully behind the wheel.

"What's the matter?" I asked. "I'm trying to decide which option to take," he replied. "I can either put Prince at my place until the pound opens tomorrow or see of his owner is home."

The College Station pound is located at the Scarmardo Veterinary Hospital and is closed on Wednesday afternoons.

"Let's try the owner," he said, turning the key. We drove around the corner to the dog's home. The owner of both Prince and a new six-foot cedar fence, was astounded his dog was loose again. He showed us the repaired holes Prince had dug at irregular intervals under the fence.

"I'm terribly sorry," he said. I UNDERSTAND, said Billy, taking out his ticket book and beginning to write. "What I'm doing is issuing you a warning. There won't be any fine this time, but I have to write it."

The man was pleased and further surprised when the dog catcher offered to come back on his day off to help him fix the fence so Prince couldn't get out.

"If folks keep their pets on their property or with them, I leave them alone," the officer said. "But if an animal is loose in the street or a city park, I pick it up. If it's tagged I try to find the owner."

Last year 376 tags were sold in College Station and 435 dogs were impounded. Of these, 136 owners were fined and 63 dogs destroyed. Between January and October, 1977, 300 tags have been sold, 412 dogs impounded and 30 destroyed.

Impounded animals are held three days before being destroyed. Most of the time dogs are taken to the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine where students use them for experiments before taking their lives.

"Occasionally I have to kill one myself," Billy said, "because it is unacceptable to the school. Most of the time, though, I try to find homes for those I know they won't take."

THOUGH HUMANE, these actions mean stretching rules, Rich told me as he drove to the city dump. There was a neat tin shed where he keeps dogs whose time has run out at the pound. The sole occupant was a gold labrador male with a wagging tail and friendly disposition.

"He's so well-trained I know he belongs to someone," Billy said.

We left the dump to cruise some more and Rich said Wednesdays were always light. The number of calls he gets depends on the day of the week, the weather and "whether the Aggies are in town."

Students bring pets with them and desert them when they leave.

"Pickups are greatest right after semester ends, Rich said.

I couldn't argue the point since I knew three other campuses with the same problem.

However, Capt. Edgar Feldman, College Station Police Department, says his experience is different. Billy's. "I find most students take extremely good care of their animals."

Besides, most students want to avoid paying the pound-fee which is \$7.50 per head plus a dollar for city tag. This is the price if an owner can prove the animal has been vaccinated for rabies. Otherwise bills are given and that cost is added to the bill.

Billy chuckled when he mentioned the per-head figure, because he says the price can get pretty high if a farmer or rancher is fined for 30 animals.

"I had a situation like that recently," he explained. "There was a hole in a fence that the rancher wouldn't fix. The cows kept getting on the highway, posing a traffic menace. Each time I came out to help him fix the fence and he refused. The last time I said if I came again, I'd issue a citation for each cow individually and it would be a fine to pay. I haven't had any more complaints so I guess he repaired it."

Besides cows and dogs, Rich also chases cats. College Station has an ordinance against cats running loose, so the city has traps in trouble areas. But felines are harder to control than canines. In 1976 only 82 cats were impounded and 20 destroyed. January to October 1977 already shows 63 cats and 13 killed.

The officer believes College Station has few animal control problems. So does Capt. Feldman.

However, Dr. A.I. Flowers, head of Public Health at the College Station Veterinary Medicine, is not so optimistic. He believes College Station residents are the type who will then let them out to roam after p.m. He further believes the animal control officer should work even more times instead of days.

But what's so dangerous about after-five releases? Animals let loose in the evenings quickly run together to form packs, he said.

And pack animals can cause a problem. One rural resident has nine lambs killed by such a pack last April. She saw the attack and said most of the pack were obvious pets wearing tags.

In a rural atmosphere, said Flowers, the chance is great that a wild animal may give rabies to a domestic stray animal, which in turn takes to a pet. Flowers says a high percentage of animal-dumping occurs at the city's outskirts.



Battalion photo by Katy Kowierschke

Twenty-year-old Billy Rich, College Station humane officer, finds animals are easy to work with if treated correctly. He doesn't plan to keep this job forever, though, because he wants to attend college and pursue a degree in sociology. He believes that will lead him to a future in law enforcement.

**Handy Burger**

Monday thru Saturday  
4 p.m.-11 p.m.

**Jumbo Burger & Onion Rings**

**99c**

with this coupon  
Coupon Expires Nov. 26

Call in your order  
**846-7466** 203 University

Hours  
9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Texas A&M University Town Hall  
PRESENTS  
SERIES PERFORMANCE #3

**FIRE FALL**

WITH  
SANFORD & TOWNSEND BAND

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2, 1977 8:00 P.M.  
G. ROLLIE WHITE COLISEUM  
TICKETS AND INFORMATION MSC BOX OFFICE  
845-2916

Student	General Admission	RESERVED
Non-Student Date	FREE With Ticket	\$4.50
General Public	\$3.00	\$4.50
	\$4.00	\$6.50

MSC

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
TOWN HALL presents  
SPECIAL ATTRACTION #4

**Ronnie Milsap**

WITH  
**ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL**

Tuesday, November 22, 1977  
8:15 p.m. G. Rollie White Coliseum

Tickets:	Reserved	General Admission
A&M Student/Date	\$4.00	\$2.00
General Public	\$4.00	\$3.00

Tickets and information at  
MSC Box Office 845-2916

MSC

Now Better Than Ever. You Will Be Pleased With These Carefully Prepared and Taste Tempting Foods. Each Daily Special Only \$1.59 Plus Tax. "Open Daily"

Dining: 11 AM to 1:30 PM — 4:00 PM to 7 PM

**MSC Cafeteria**

<b>MONDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy Whipped Potatoes Your Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea	<b>TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w/chili Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter	<b>WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Chicken Fried Beef Steak w/cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea
<b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee		
<b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SATURDAY NOON AND EVENING SPECIAL</b> "Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style" Tossed Salad Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON AND EVENING</b> ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable Tea or Coffee

"Quality First"

**Tower Dining Room**

Serving Luncheon Buffet Sunday through Friday 11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. \$3.00

Top Floor of Tower Dining Room Sandwich & Soup Mon. thru Fri. \$1.75 plus drink extra

**Open to the Public**

"QUALITY FIRST"

**ATTENTION AGGIES**

The New Sports Club with its newly enlarged dance floor invites all students and football players to a special (BEAT THE HELL OUT OF tu PARTY) Tuesday evening November 22. All beer is only 25c and 1/2 price drinks. A special beer drinking contest with 1st prize \$25 and a bottle of champagne will take place. Also the New Sports Club is now open until 3 AM for dancing each and every Friday and Saturday.

"See You After Bonfire"