

Free bicycle registration for students now available

By PAT DAVIDSON
Battalion Reporter
Students are taking advantage of the free bicycle registration offered by the University Police this year at Texas A&M University.

Tom Parsons, director of security and traffic for the University said although it is too early to see just how big the increase in registration will be, there are definitely more students registering their bikes. He said in the past, fewer than half of the bicycles on campus were registered.

The purpose of the registration, Parsons said, is to help police identify lost or stolen bicycles so they can locate the owners. Parsons said about 100 bicycles were picked up by University police last December while students were on vacation.

Of these, approximately one-third were registered, he said. Letters were sent to the owners of the registered bikes. Parsons said about one-third of the owners recovered their bicycles. He added there is little chance of return to the owner for an unregistered bike.

Until this year, registration was required and cost \$1.50. The long lines and inconvenience involved in registering bikes at the police station probably discouraged some students from getting a permit, Parsons said.

Another possible reason for not registering bikes, Parsons said, was that some students felt a registered bike would be more likely to get a ticket than one without a permit.

"If there were no permit, it would be unlikely for an officer to wait until the offender appeared to issue the citation," Parsons said.

Although authorized by the Texas A&M Bicycle Traffic and Parking Regulations to "impound any bicycle operated or parked in violation of the regulations," Parsons said his department does not attempt to catch every offender.

"We are not in the business of chasing violators," he said. The money collected from registration fees was used mainly for the construction of bicycle parking areas. Parsons said he did not expect the income loss to be made up by issuing more tickets.

"The money would have to come from some other source," Parsons said.

Parsons encourages cyclists to avoid blocking ramps or sidewalks with their bikes. He also stressed the importance of locking bikes to racks around campus.

Police seek alleged rapist

By ANDREA VALLS
Battalion Staff

College Station police are continuing the search for a black male who allegedly raped two women and attacked seven others during the summer.

Dick Gullledge, College Station police detective, said all the women described the man as being in his early twenties, about 5 feet 11 inches tall with a medium build of approximately 160 pounds. The man is usually identified wearing a baseball or sailor cap, he said.

College Station police received two assault reports before the first rape occurred on June 19, Gullledge said. According to police reports,

the victim was sunbathing in her backyard when the man allegedly forced a towel over her face and raped her.

A month later, another woman was attacked while returning from Bee Creek swimming pool. The woman said she was riding along a bike trail when a man pushed her off of her bicycle and allegedly raped her, said Gullledge.

Although the victims ranged from "youth to middle-age," Gullledge said all were dressed in either shorts and a halter-top or T-shirt, or in a swimming suit.

All attacks occurred during daylight hours and the man reportedly ran away, preventing any thorough

identification by the victim, Gullledge said.

Most of the attacks occurred in the Northgate area, Jones and the southern portions of the city, he said.

Although reports of attacks peaked in mid-July, police are searching for the man, "to know if he's moved or been incarcerated for any offense or what," said Gullledge.

Many citizens of Bryan College Station responded locally to help identify the man, but the descriptions were inadequate to identify the rapist, Gullledge said.

Ehrlichman likes new life

United Press International
SANTA FE, N.M. — Once a top-level White House aide, John Ehrlichman now finds more appealing the relatively easy-going life of an author and radio commentator.

"I move at my own speed," he said. "I make my own decisions, my own choices. I have my own set of values and priorities. I don't have to make excuses for anybody else."

Ehrlichman, domestic affairs advisor for President Richard Nixon before being ousted in 1973 during the Watergate scandals, moved to Santa Fe in 1975.

He returned to the city earlier this year after spending 18 months in federal prison for his Watergate-related convictions.

As a White House aide, Ehrlichman said he "was a very uptight individual and I'm sure not very pleasant to be around a lot of the time."

He said he was preparing to write memoirs of his years with Nixon, awaiting publication of his second novel, working on a magazine article about illegal aliens and will soon begin taping radio commentaries for the Mutual Radio Network.

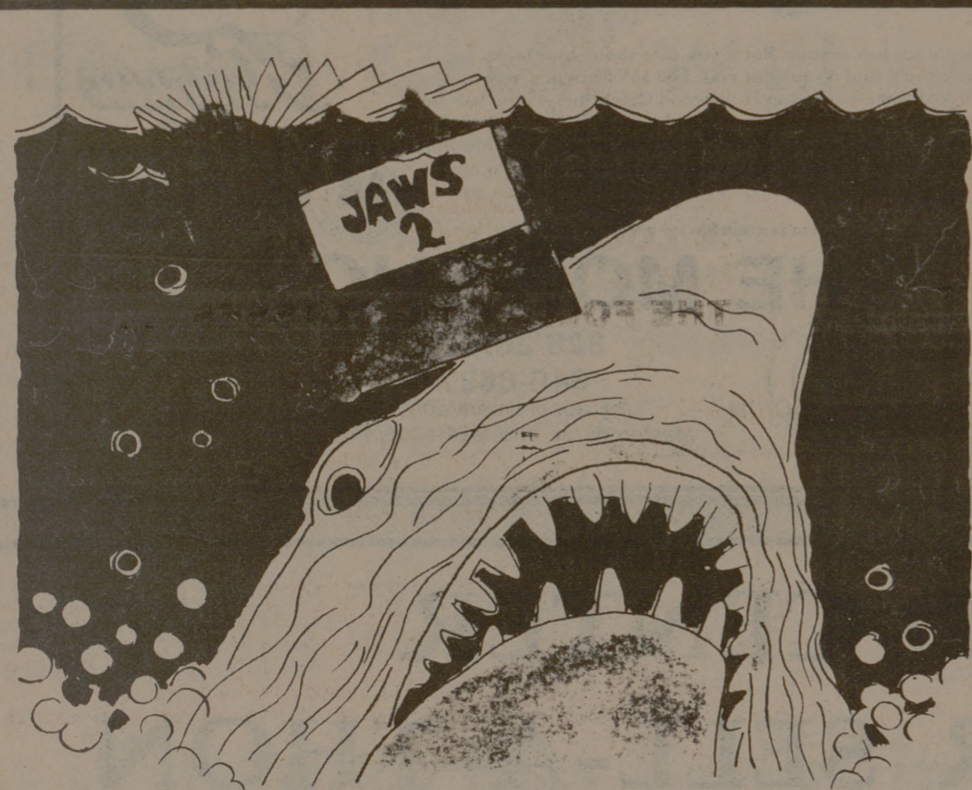
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EVELYN WOOD READING DYNAMICS

Poll shows Kennedy way ahead of Carter

United Press International

NEW YORK — Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., consistently has denied any intention of running for the presidency, but the latest Harris poll might inspire second thoughts.

The Louis Harris-ABC News survey polled 1,484 adults on Aug. 11, and found 40 percent of them would support Kennedy over President Carter for the 1980 presidential nomination. Carter drew only 21

percent of the support, and Gov. Edmund G. Brown led 18 percent.

In a two-way race in the survey, Kennedy led Carter 51-25 percent. In an 11-way race, Kennedy still was the first choice of Democrats and Independents, 32 percent showing. Carter was second in that race with 17 percent, and Brown drew 14 percent.

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