

Battalion photo by Hurlie Collier

Students at Texas A&M University were given an opportunity to see what it is like to be handicapped Wednesday during Mobility Awareness Day, sponsored by the Students Con-

cerned for the Handicapped. Robert Trevino, left, and Keith Chumley wait for able-bodied students to take a ride in the wheelchair.

Able Aags ride chairs

By PATTI SHOQUIST
Battalion Reporter

Twelve students at Texas A&M University see the campus from a different angle than other students everyday — sitting three feet off the ground in a wheelchair.

Most able-bodied people never have such an experience, but the Students Concerned for the Handicapped at Texas A&M gave everyone a chance, by sponsoring "Mobility Awareness Day."

I experienced my first wheelchair ride along with a group of deans and representatives from the various colleges. Robert Trevino, coordinator of the event, led us on a campus tour via wheelchair.

Trevino and all students in the organization are confined to wheelchairs.

Most of us had difficulty in maneuvering the vehicles at first, and then we found that most of the walkways on campus were not designed to accommodate wheels. The potholes, prairie film and bricks gave us some problems, but the

curbs and tree trunks were greater threats.

Since so many obstacles got in the way, most of us lagged far behind Trevino who said he has picked up a lot of speed over time.

"I can get from the plant sciences building to my class across the railroad tracks in 14 minutes," he said, "where it would probably take one of you 45 minutes."

It would take me forever. I never thought that it takes a bit of effort to move a wheelchair, but my arm muscles felt the pain. I found some relief, however, when a few friends came by and gave me a push.

On the other hand, the handicapped do not always find someone to push them around campus. Trevino said that of the 12 students in wheelchairs at A&M, he knows that at least nine of them ride motorized ones.

"The campus is just too spread out to get across it on your own," he said.

Following the excursion, Ted Elliott, a counselor from the Texas Re-

habilitation Commission presented a slide program to the group.

The TRC commission was set up in 1969 and is both state and federally funded. It concentrates on finding jobs for the disabled. Elliott said that Texas now leads the nation in the number of rehabilitation centers.

Steve Currier, coordinator of services for handicapped students at the University of Texas, and Sherry Allen, a nurse from the school, gave a presentation on the services for the handicapped on their campus which included awareness sessions, exercise classes, tutors, note takers, guides, maps and pamphlets.

"We are bringing U.T.'s program to the attention of our deans because it would be beneficial to have a similar service at A&M," said Jim Magdalenski, a member of the Students Concerned for the Handicapped.

After the program, wheelchairs were set up in front of the Rudder Tower fountain so students and faculty could ride them.

Horses more versatile for traffic control

United Press International
DETROIT — Police scout cars may have several gears, but they can't compete with the horses of the Detroit Police Mounted Division. They have all the regular moves, plus sideways and pivot capability.

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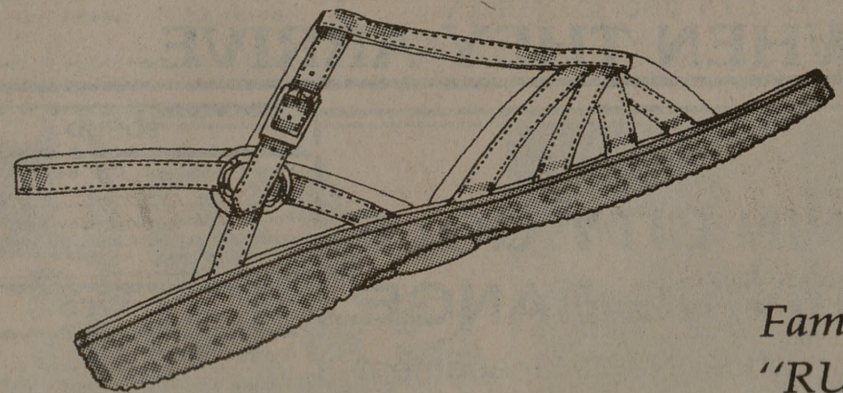


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Cuevas found guilty again; 2nd death penalty possible

United Press International
HOUSTON — Convict Ignacio Cuevas, the only rebel survivor of the bloody 1974 Huntsville prison break attempt, appeared unconcerned at being found guilty of capital murder a second time.

But Cuevas, a follower of Fred Gomez Carrasco, could also face the death penalty for the second time for his part in an 11-day siege of the Walls Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections that ended in the deaths of four persons Aug. 3, 1974, including Carrasco and two hostages.

Cuevas, 47, was convicted Tuesday in the death of prison librarian Julia Standley. The Mexican national showed no emotion as the verdict was read. As his wife and four children departed the courtroom moments later, he waved and smiled at each one.

The jury began today to decide punishment, and prosecutors said they would again seek the death penalty.

Convicted of murdering Standley in 1975 and sentenced to die for the crime, Cuevas was given a new trial by a Texas appeals court because of improper jury selection. Others killed in the 1974 shootout in the yard of the Walls Unit included Carrasco's other follower, Rudolfo Dominguez, and another TDC employee, Elizabeth Beseda.

Cuevas, who fainted during the shooting, was believed dead by Texas Rangers first on the scene.

Although he did not shoot Standley, Cuevas was tried under a Texas statute that can make complicity a capital murder offense. During more than four hours of jury deliberations Tuesday, it appeared at least one juror questioned Cuevas' guilt.

In the 1975 trial, a jury deliberated two hours to reach a verdict and 20 hours to return the death sentence.

Notes to the judge from the six-man, six-woman jury Tuesday asked for review of testimony of three hos-

tages regarding the arrangement of escapees and hostages in a makeshift shield used by the inmates to try to reach an armored car from the prison library where they hid for 11 days.

Water from fire hoses and then a hail of bullets from Texas Rangers and prison guards stopped the escape and defense attorneys contended possibly caused the deaths.

Texas Rangers testified they heard muffled shots coming from inside the shield before they fired.

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