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## Bike-related complaints, accidents on the increase

By LAURA CORTEZ  
Battalion Reporter

The sound of screeching bicycle brakes has become one of the most dreaded sounds on the Texas A&M University campus.

As the number of students attending the University increases, so does the number of bicycles — and bicycle-related accidents.

George D. Parker III, chairman of the University traffic panel, said he is receiving more complaints now than during previous years from students, faculty and staff who are fed up with having to dodge bicycles on campus sidewalks.

And Dr. C.B. Goswick, director of student health services, said he receives more patients than ever before who have been involved in this type of accident.

"We treat maybe a dozen people a day for injuries caused by bicycle-related accidents," he said.

Most of the accidents patients are treated for at the health center are head-on or side-to-side bicycle collisions involving bicycles and automobiles or bicycles and pedestrians, Goswick said.

He said that although the most of the injuries are minor, such as cuts, bruises and gravel embedded in the skin, some have involved broken bones.

Parker, who said he volunteered to serve on the traffic panel three years ago

after having been hit from behind and knocked to the ground by a speeding bicycle, referred to the current situation as "horrible."

He said the main reason for the problem is simply that there are more bicycles on campus now than ever before.

Parker said he believes "bikes have been on campus forever," but said 1973 was a boom year for them.

"In 1973, due to the energy crisis, bicycles were really pushed by the University because they serve a darn good purpose. Parking fees were doubled in the hopes that there would be less cars and more bikes on campus," he said.

Although the Texas Motor Vehicles Laws specifies that bicycles are to be ridden only in bicycle paths and on roadways, Parker said the University allows them on sidewalks and in the mall areas.

"I imagine we've just looked the other way as far as this is concerned," he said.

Although it is the responsibility of the traffic panel, which is made up of students, faculty and staff, to make recommendations concerning traffic regulations to the vice president for student services, it is the responsibility of the University Police to enforce these regulations.

"We realize that it is a dangerous situation," Police Chief Russ McDonald said, "but there's not a lot we can do about it." Although bicycles are considered vehi-

cles and must adhere to the same rules which pertain to cars, bicyclists seem to consider the themselves pedestrians, McDonald said.

He gave an example in which a student rode a bike across a pedestrian crosswalk and was struck by a car.

"A bicycle has no rights when in a pedestrian crosswalk; therefore the student on the bike was wrong," he said. Had the student gotten off the bike and walked it across, then the pedestrian rights would have applied to him, he said.

Capt. Elmer Schneider of the University Police said when operating in the mall areas and on sidewalks, bicycles should travel at a safe speed, ride single file in with the traffic flow, stop at all stop signs and yield to all motor vehicles at intersections or other traffic junctures where no stop sign or other traffic control sign or signal is posted. And most importantly, they must give the right-of-way to pedestrian traffic at all times.

He said in areas where bike lanes or bike paths are available, bicycles are prohibited from riding in mall areas and on sidewalks.

There are also problems with bicycles being parked where they are prohibited.

Schneider said many people park their bikes in areas which obstruct the normal flow of traffic, such as in doorways, passageways and ramps for the disabled.

"This is a very dangerous situation if a building has to be evacuated," Schneider said. "These ramps are not bicycle ramps. They were placed there for the handicapped and not for the use bicycles."

But both Schneider and McDonald agree that enforcement of bicycle regulations is difficult because it is almost impossible to catch the offenders.

An officer on foot or in a car usually cannot catch a bicycle — it can easily cut between buildings and get away, McDonald said.

He said it is almost useless to give tickets to parked bicycles because few students register their bikes with the University.

But McDonald said citations for moving violations are occasionally issued to bicycle riders caught breaking the rules.

The officer also has the right to issue a Justice of the Peace citation if he feels that the situation merits being recorded on the violator's permanent driving record (such as in the case of a serious accident.)

Parker said he could see the banning of bicycles from University mall areas and sidewalks if the problem continues to get worse.

"How could we really enforce something like that, though?" he said. "It's going to have to be a self-policing type thing."



Aw, Mom!

With Halloween here, buying a suitable costume for trick-or-treating is a matter of pressing importance. Tammy Burgess stands impatiently as her mother, Mrs. Faye Burgess, passes judgment on the fit of Tammy's Bugs Bunny costume.

Battalion photo by Sam Stroder

## Korean presidential aide arrested in connection with assassination

United Press International

SEOUL, South Korea — Army investigators arrested a top presidential aide who escaped unhurt from President Park Chung-hee's assassination and dozens of other officials also suspected of being involved, sources close to the investigation said Tuesday.

The arrests suggested far wider involvement in the slaying than originally suspected.

The Martial Law Command announced the arrest of Park's chief secretary, who was the fourth man seated at a dinner table with Park when intelligence chief Kim Jae-Kyu opened fire with a pistol on Friday, killing Park and a bodyguard.

Agents of Kim's Korean CIA, allegedly

acting on his orders, then killed four other presidential bodyguards and wounded a fifth.

There was no official announcement about the other arrests, but the sources placed the number of suspects in detention at between 30 and 50. Most, if not all, are senior members of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, the sources said.

In a related development, other sources said Kim left the KCIA annex where the slayings took place and met with Army Chief of Staff Gen. Chung Sung-Hwa.

The sources said Kim and Chung then met with top cabinet officials before the intelligence chief was finally arrested, hours after the murder of Park and five bodyguards.

In other developments:

— Acting President Choi Kyuhah named an acting KCIA head and held what will become a daily meeting to discuss internal and external security matters and the nation's economy, actions seen as attempts to show Choi's control of the post-assassination situation.

— U.S. Ambassador to Korea William Gleysteen labeled as "baloney and rubbish" a report by communist North Korea's official radio that Gleysteen met Kim Jae-Kyu shortly before the assassination.

— U.S. officials said Washington has "a very major interest in seeing this thing hang together, for security reasons, for economic reasons" and hopes whatever Seoul government emerges from the

post-assassination crisis is as broadly based as possible.

Earlier in the day, Choi named Lt. Gen. Lee Hui-sung, 55, acting director of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

In the waters off Korea, a U.S. Navy task force led by an aircraft carrier patrolled the sea in a signal to communist North Korea not to take any actions against the south, where martial law is in force.

Gen. Chung Sung-hwa, the commander responsible for enforcing the country's martial law, said in a statement his forces will do their best to strengthen defenses against communist North Korea, maintain order at home and take all measures needed to assure smooth daily life for the nation.

## Federal judge appointed as 1st education secretary

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Shirley Hufstедler, 54, a Los Angeles federal appeals court judge, has been chosen by President Carter to become the first secretary of the Department of Education. The appointment was approved Tuesday.

Often mentioned for posts in several Democratic administrations, Hufstедler said Monday, "I have intense concern about the quality of education for all Americans, particularly those in primary and secondary schools."

"I have devoted a great deal of my life to education and have a great commitment to education," she said, adding she must learn more about the agency before deciding what ideas to promote.

Created by Congress at the request of Carter, the department was formed from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. HEW becomes the Department of Health and Human Services. The new agency takes effect in about five months.

Hufstедler became a state superior court judge in 1961, and was named as an associate justice of the state Court of Appeals in 1966. Two years later, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed her to a U.S. Circuit Court vacancy. In 1970 she was named to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. She holds a law degree from Stan-

ford University.

Her name has surfaced as a candidate to become the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court, but she said Monday her commitment was "to put every bit of energy into trying to achieve the administration's objectives in education."

"That's enough to do without worrying about a job I might have if it is offered, which is something that hasn't occurred."

While a number of persons were mentioned for the job, the list was cut to five names and finally to the judge and former New Mexico Gov. Jerry Apodaca.

One source said Carter was dissatisfied with Apodaca, a Democrat, after a meeting in which they discussed the new department's role.

The Los Angeles Times quoted an unidentified Carter campaign official as saying the White House got "very positive feedback" on choosing Hufstедler from the Southern California liberal Democrat establishment.

"Her liberal decisions over the years have been popular among civil rights types — blacks, other minorities and women — that make up the Democratic constituency, and they are likely to be pleased by the appointment," the campaign source said.

## Law requires jail for Torres felony

# Civil rights violators resentenced

United Press International

HOUSTON — A federal judge, acting under an appeals court order forbidding probation, Tuesday resentenced three former policemen to a year and a day in prison for felony civil rights violations in the drowning of a Mexican-American prisoner.

Originally, the judge had ordered the three former officers placed on probation for conviction on the felony civil rights charge.

U.S. District Judge Ross Sterling ordered the sentences to run concurrently with one-year sentences he gave them for

misdeanor civil rights violations in the May 5, 1977 death of Joe Campos Torres.

On Oct. 4, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals told Sterling the law required that Terry Denson, 29, Steven Orlando, 24, and Joseph Janish, 25, spend some time in prison for the felony violations.

Sterling rejected an appeal by Justice Department civil rights lawyer Brian McDonald for "substantial periods of incarceration," which McDonald argued would help prevent future police violations of civil rights.

In effect, Sterling ordered the defendants to spend an additional day in prison

beyond the sentence they already had received.

In March 1978, Sterling sentenced the three, convicted by a jury of misdemeanor and felony civil rights violations, to one year in prison for the misdemeanor. He gave a 10-year suspended sentence in lieu of five years probation for the felony.

Federal prosecutors appealed only the felony sentencing and the New Orleans appeals court ruled Sterling acted illegally in granting suspended sentences and probation for a felony civil rights violation ending in the victim's death.

Torres, 23, was found floating in Buffalo

Bayou downtown on May 8, 1977. Investigation disclosed he had been arrested three days earlier on an intoxication complaint.

The three were convicted with the aid of testimony from other officers granted immunity or allowed to plead guilty to lesser violations.

All of the defense attorneys indicated the sentences would not be appealed and speculated none of the defendants would have to spend a full year in prison.

They said they did not know when the defendants would surrender to federal authorities to start their prison terms.

## Parties are OK, spooks are out!

Joshua Constanzo, 4, seemed a little uneasy as he and Texas A&M University sophomore Kathy Bruinooge discussed a visit to the "Haunted House" at the Hospitality Committee's Halloween party for youngsters Tuesday (right). He convinced Kathy (far right) he really wasn't interested in visiting any ghosts after all. See story, page 4.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

