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February 10, 1983

**Catcher loses job
for not killing dogs**

**United Press International
ROSENBERG** — A city dog catcher who "didn't feel like he could kill any more" was suspended Tuesday from his job for releasing five dogs he was ordered to put to sleep, officials said.

Rosenberg Police Chief Dwayne Sparks, acting on the recommendation of a police review board, suspended Daniel Barnshaw, an employee at the city's Animal Control officer for the past 16 months. Police Lt. John Plummer said

Barnshaw killed about seven dogs at the animal shelter, but then released five others outside the city limits.

"He just didn't feel like he could kill any more," Plummer said.

"Barnshaw is a real nice guy, and he has a real love for animals. It hurts him to put them to sleep," Police Captain Walter O'Neal said.

"He said the dogs he let loose were real nice dogs and he just didn't want to destroy him," O'Neal said. Animals at the shelter are

held for 72 hours before

are killed by injection. Police said a Fort Bend County resident reported seeing Barnshaw set the dogs free from the city's Animal Control on Texas Highway 36, about a mile outside Rosenberg.

Police confronted Barnshaw with the information and ordered him to return to the area and recapture and kill animals.

Plummer said all the dogs were picked up and presently killed by Barnshaw. Barnshaw declined comment.

**New state law sought
to prohibit tent cities**

**United Press International
AUSTIN** — A Houston state representative filed a bill Tuesday that would prevent the development of another "Tent City USA" in state roadside parks.

Rep. Tony Polumbo, a democrat whose district includes the east Harris County squatter settlement, filed a bill that would

prohibit permanent camping in roadside parks.

"Tent City" was officially closed Monday and state highway crews immediately moved in with dump trucks and front-end loaders to clean up the area.

Polumbo's bill would prohibit camping at highway rest areas for more than 24 hours. It also would prohibit the building of tents, booths or any other kinds

of permanent shelters in roadside parks.

Polumbo said his bill is designed to prevent future occurrences like "Tent City."

"Tent City is an example where we had a situation where people took advantage of an area. They weren't working of the opinion that for the people in Tent City, that was their lifestyle," Polumbo said.

**Oyster harvesting prohibited
due to potential bay pollution**

**United Press International
GALVESTON** — The state health department said that the eastern half of Galveston's West Bay will be closed to oyster harvesting indefinitely because of higher levels of fecal bacteria than normally found in the water, an official said Tuesday.

Richard Thompson, chief sanitarian of the Texas Department of Health said that the department has lifted a temporary ban on harvesting in the western half of the bay because pollution problems there have decreased.

"We'll continue checking samples every three to five days.

A lot depends on the weather. There is an excessive amount runoff still in that part of bay," he said.

Health Department officials closed the bay last month because they feared the water the oyster beds could be polluted by raw sewage.

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