

# House members chastised by state MADD director

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Texas House members might get more work done if they concentrated on committee meetings rather than parties, the state director of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers said Monday.

Marinelle Timmons of Houston chastised the House Liquor Regulation Committee for postponing for a week a public hearing last Wednesday on a bill to ban open containers of alcoholic beverages in the passenger com-

partment of motor vehicles.

The hearing was delayed on the day the Legislature was invited by San Antonio to the city's annual Fiesta celebration. Bus-

loads of lawmakers attended the festivities last Wednesday night. "The truth of the matter is, if the members of the committee spent as much time in hearings on major legislation as they do at parties, we might have seen some action on this important problem," said Timmons.

But Rep. Billy Hall, D-

Laredo, chairman of the liquor committee, said Timmons' concern was misdirected.

"I didn't even go (to San Antonio)," he said.

Hall said the hearing was postponed to accommodate witnesses who could not attend the meeting last Wednesday.

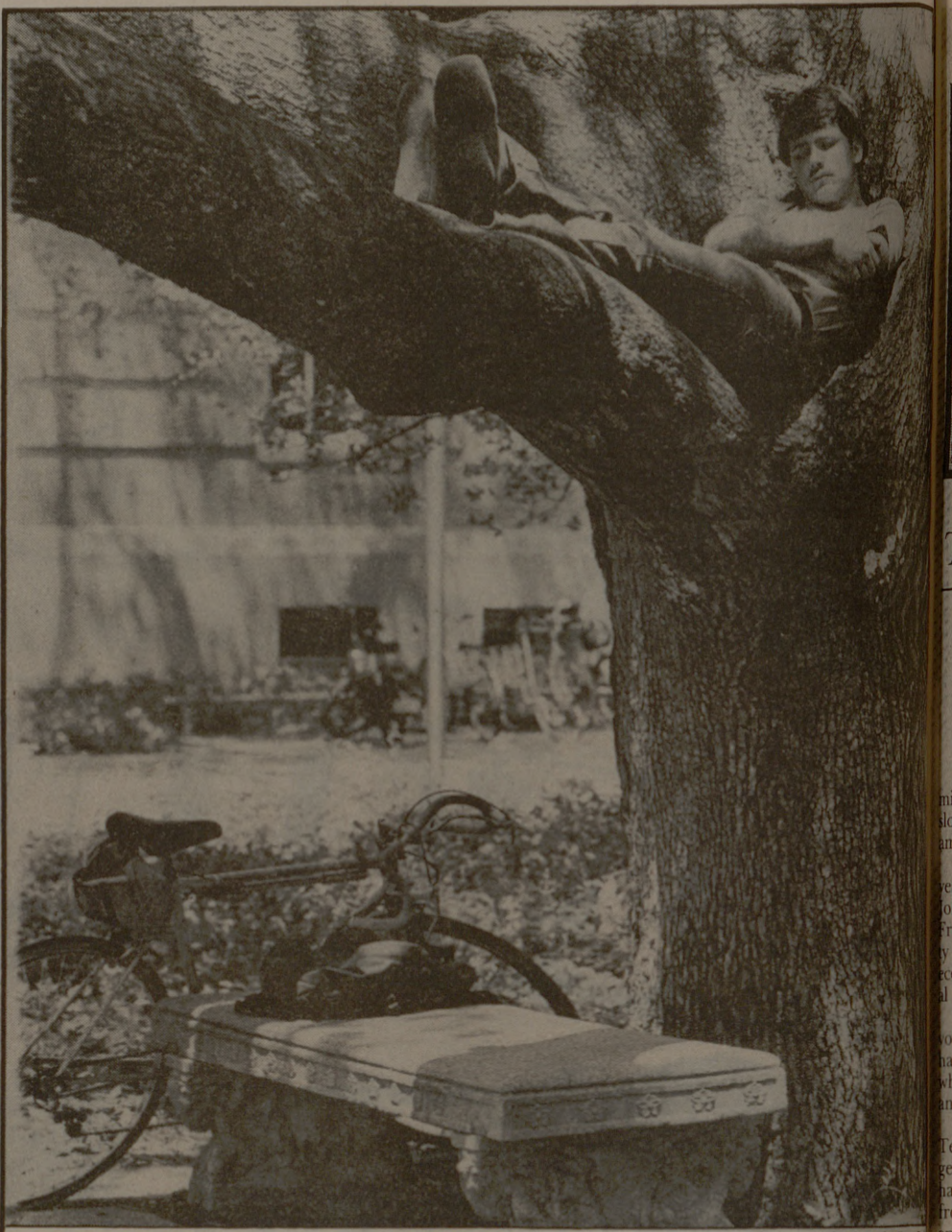
He denied Timmons' charges that the bill was being intentionally delayed, and said she was apparently upset for other reasons.

"She's obviously upset about

the fact she can't get the bill out of committee because she doesn't have the votes," he said.

Timmons said the problem with cancelling the hearing could have been avoided if it had been scheduled at the same time as other earlier hearings on the drunken driving issue.

She said Hall's explanation for the delay was inadequate and questioned why the hearing was scheduled so late in the session, which ends May 30.



staff photo by Peter...

Go climb a tree?

This student seems to take a Rip van Winkle approach to his studies. Jim Holzknicht, a general studies freshman from Sumter, S.C., might think that

all his study worries will be gone when he wakes up. When asked why he chose his perch, Holzknicht said "because I like it."

## Two hacksaw out of prison

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SIERRA BLANCA — Sheriff Mike Armstrong of Hudspeth County said Tuesday the escape of two men from the Hudspeth

County Jail Monday "was a planned job; somebody came in from the outside to help them escape."

The escapees were identified as Joseph Medrano, 35, wanted in Mexico for two murders, and Matthew Canon, 22, a former jockey who was being held on three counts of burglary from New York State.

The two men used hacksaw blades to cut through two sets of iron bars in the old jail.

The sheriff Monday announced the men sawed through the bars and then stole a red 1963 Volkswagen and are still at large. Officers believe the escapees are somewhere in the El Paso-Juarez area.

Armstrong said the men are both small and could have slipped between the bars after they were cut. They are believed to have escaped between 4 a.m. and 6:19 a.m., he said.

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