

# Saw not linked to workers

A hacksaw blade found in a hakedown of the Brazos County jail is not the same type used by construction workers at the Texas Avenue jail site, contractor Bill Elliot of Uteley-James of Texas Inc. said Wednesday.

The blade found was from a handyman's saw, not a heavy-duty saw normally used by construction workers, he said.

The blade was found in a search of the jail after the Brazos County Sheriff's department discovered workers had access to the jail through a roof entrance adjacent to both the old jail and new expansion. The entrance is used to maintain equipment on the roof.

Elliot said he has taken measures to keep people out of the old jail. The workers were told to stay away from the entrance and that anyone caught would be arrested. The sheriff's department posted a no trespassing sign.

The courthouse expansion, which will include a new jail, courtrooms and a juvenile detention center, is going better than expected, Elliot said. Construction should be completed in January.

# Rise in minority tenure sought

by Joe Tindel Jr.  
Battalion Staff

If a great number of men charge a wall, there's a chance a few of them may break through. Two or three, however, won't make a dent.

So, it would seem, is the situation with minority faculty at Texas A&M. And now, a local citizen is leading an effort to convince the University to seek out numbers to break through the tenure wall.

The tenure requirement is the barrier, says Erma Jefferson, an employee at the state controller's office in Bryan, and the leader in the efforts to draw qualified blacks and hispanics to the University's faculty.

Jefferson's efforts began after a black assistant professor of

political science was not granted tenure this year, she said.

According to Dr. Ruth Schaffer, professor of sociology, Huey L. Perry was unable to meet the tenure requirements because of time spent trying to help minority students.

Dr. Clinton Phillips, dean of faculties, said Perry was not denied tenure on the basis of race.

Perry was one of a very few minority faculty members at Texas A&M — so few that his loss is significant. While loss of tenure is common throughout the University, Schaffer said, it doesn't significantly reduce the number of non-minority faculty members because they are present in greater numbers.

Texas A&M's efforts to im-

prove have prompted the establishment of the tough tenure requirements. Schaffer said faculty members have a six-year period in which to accomplish certain goals in the areas of teaching, research and service.

So Jefferson's aim is to convince the University to recruit minority faculty who can meet the requirements.

"The only thing we can do is sit down and talk," Jefferson said. "I think once you have

open communication, then that starts to open the door."

Another possibility Jefferson spoke of would be for Texas A&M to hire minority counselors who could help students and take some of the load off professors.

Jefferson said she and others have been talking with several Texas A&M administrators about the issue, including the president, chancellor and the dean of faculties.

# Junkyard guarded by ostrich Oscar

United Press International  
LAMBERT, Miss. — Thieves went on taking auto parts out of Fletcher Haynes' junkyard twice these days when they run up against 7 foot-tall Oscar.

Oscar the ostrich replaced a couple of Dobermans who were easily outfoxed by human sillers.

"I used to have a pair of Dobermans for watchdogs," Haynes told The Commercial Appeal Tuesday. "While I had the Dobermans, I lost tires, wheels and other parts. They were taken from right under the dogs' noses."

Haynes, owner of a 25-acre automobile salvage yard in north Mississippi, said his interest in exotic animals led him to Oscar.

"I was at an animal auction in Scrville, and people were walking along these pens where they had the ostriches. The people kept getting way over to the side so they wouldn't get pecked. You could tell they were birdy. I said, 'Hell, that's what we need in the junkyard.'"

Haynes paid \$400 for Oscar, brought him to Lambert and set him free inside the fenced salvage yard.

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