

Murderer asks court, governor for his life

United Press International
ANGOLA, La. — Convicted murderer Robert Wayne Williams has only two days to live unless he can persuade the governor or a U.S. Supreme Court justice to halt his eighth date with Louisiana's electric chair.

Williams, who has won seven delays of his execution from state and federal courts, asked U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Brennan Saturday to bar the execution, scheduled between 12:01 a.m. and 3 a.m. Wednesday.

A spokeswoman for the nation's high court said Sunday Brennan was not expected to rule on the appeal this weekend. Justice Byron White Saturday refused to halt the electrocution, citing a ruling last month in which the high court vacated its own stay, clearing the way for the first execution in Louisiana in more than two decades.

Williams also has asked Gov. Dave Treen to save his life by commuting his death sentence to life in prison. Treen said he was considering the appeal and planned to announce a decision Monday.

Sam Dalton, an attorney for Williams, said the appeal to Treen would stay in effect until

the moment his client was executed.

Williams, a 31-year-old divorced father of four, earlier this week asked the state Pardon Board to commute his death sentence, but the panel refused.

Williams has asked that his sentence be reduced because he did not intend to harm 67-year-old security guard Willie Kelly during the robbery of a suburban Baton Rouge A&P grocery store Jan. 5, 1979.

If Williams loses his appeals and is executed Wednesday, he will become the first person killed in Louisiana's electric chair since Jesse James Ferguson was put to death in 1961 for the rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl.

Survey of students reveals parking as main problem

by Debbie E. Warren
 Battalion Reporter

Most Aggies feel that among all the problems at Texas A&M, parking is the worst, according to a survey conducted by the Student Government to find out students' opinions about current issues here.

The ten questions on the survey were based on issues the Student Senate thought were important. Those primarily dealt with transportation, service fees and University facilities.

Laurel Smith, an adviser for the project, says 1000 surveys were mailed out randomly to students in October.

"We sent out letters to a thousand students who were selected at random from the entire student body of about 36,000 students," Smith says. "The response rate was very good. About 450 returned the surveys out of the 1000 that got them."

Smith says a problem that everyone seemed to think needed to be solved is the parking situation.

"That (the parking situation) was the biggest concern that people expressed," he said.

Another big issue that Student Government was concerned about was whether the students' fees should be increased to pay for services or whether students should have to pay specifically for user services like the swimming pool. That was a big controversy recently. Students felt overwhelmingly that user's fees were appropriate.

Smith says the majority of the students surveyed were also in favor of having co-ed dorms on campus.

"Forty-seven percent of those surveyed thought there should be co-ed dorms available," she says, "and of those that favored them, many, but not all, would actually live in them."

Smith says every group in terms of colleges and classes were well represented in the survey except for freshmen.

"We speculate that maybe freshmen don't know too much yet about these different issues," she says. "They had only been here three months when the survey was done and just weren't familiar enough to either be concerned or feel they could answer the questions."

Smith says this is the first scientific survey that has been conducted by the Student Government and hopes it will start a trend.

"I don't believe I know of any place else in the country where a student government has funded a student survey," Smith says. "I think it will be very helpful to the Student Government to know what students are concerned about and how they feel about the

issues they are facing."

Not only is this the first survey to be conducted by the Student Government, but also the first one to be organized and managed by students.

Jana Nelson and Mike Sharp, both students, designed the survey, distributed it randomly and analyzed the results.

"It gave us the advantage because we are students we can relate to what the Student Government wants," Sharp says. "Probably a lot of that is expert at this craft, designed a better survey, more professional survey way. Being students we were however, able to better interpret the questions."

The survey cost about \$550. The Student Government originally budgeted \$764 for the project.

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U.T. fraternity house burns; one killed, another injured

United Press International
AUSTIN — A fire in a University of Texas fraternity house Sunday killed one woman and severely burned a man, injured one firefighter and destroyed two-thirds of the building, authorities said.

Fire Lt. Jim Boynton said the fire broke out about 6 a.m. at the Lambda Chi Alpha house, killing the woman who was trapped in a hallway and injuring a man. Brackenridge Hospital

spokeswoman Barbara Vanness said the injured man, UT junior Frederick Paul Pestorius, 20, of Barington, R.I., was in stable condition in intensive care. He suffered second- and third-burns, Boynton said.

Boynton said other residents of the fraternity house were apparently evacuated safely from the burning building.

Authorities say they believe the fire started in one student's room, but investigators had not

determined what may have set off the blaze.

"The ID on the female is going to be hard because she was burned pretty badly," said Fire Capt. Danny Stamper.

Stamper said the woman apparently was visiting one of the residents.

"They had a Christmas party there the evening before," he said.

Stamper said 12 of the U-shaped stucco building's 18 un-

its were destroyed in the alarm blaze.

Stamper said one firefighter also taken to Brackenridge, possibly broken leg sustained when a piece of siding from the building fell on him.

Other firefighters treated smoke inhalation.

"Everyone else got out for the one person who was taken to the hospital," Stamper said.

Magazine to offer a look at A&M

by Tricia Parker
 Battalion Reporter

Next year's edition of *Discovering Aggieland*, a magazine designed to inform Aggies about their school, will be even bigger and better according to the new editor, Tracie Holub.

Holub, a senior journalism

major, says the magazine, which will be released next fall, will contain facts and stories about the University.

The magazine is designed for freshman and others experiencing Texas A&M for the first time, but it contains something for everyone. It also will contain coupons similar to those found in the People Books (coupon books) published each semester, Holub says.

"But this year we're taking a different approach," she says. "Last year it was more like a

pamphlet. This year we want it to be more of a magazine."

Joe Jordan, student body president, says *Discovering Aggieland* was published this fall for the first time in magazine form.

"We felt it was pretty good for a first-year effort," Jordan says, "but we still have some kinks to work out."

From now on, Jordan says, the publication will be printed once a year in the fall. In next fall's edition, Jordan says he hopes the magazine will consoli-

date published material by other student organizations as well as student government.

"The idea developed and consolidated publications Student Government, Student Services, and Student Progress and publish it as a service to student body," Jordan said. "I tried to do it several times before, but the problem was being a publisher."

Consolidation will be money because organizations longer will be competing for advertising, he says.

Holub says she would like to see school counselors so that who are deciding on a school can learn about Texas A&M.

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Explosion, fire result after leak

United Press International
HOUSTON — An ammonia leak at a downtown Houston cream plant touched off an explosion and fire which injured several firemen, authorities said.

Firefighters, wearing bottles and special protective clothing, worked for one and a half hours to douse the fire, which broke out Sunday morning at the two-story Brackenridge plant on the south side of the city, said Al Patrick, a fire department spokesman.

Firefighters, who rushed to the scene after receiving reports of an ammonia leak, reported the explosion.

"When the explosion occurred, it blew bricks, glass boxes of ice cream into the air and sent a big ammonia cloud over part of the plant area," Patrick said. "They (firefighters) did not get a tight rein on the fire, and had to be evacuated."

Firefighters wearing suits entered the building after the explosion in an attempt to find the leak.

"The support team called two more engine companies making it just short of 10 alarms," Patrick said of the explosion and fire help. Injuries are a minimum.

"It this would have happened tomorrow, there would have been a lot of people injured," he said. "If this had happened on a weekday, there would have been a lot of casualties. What kind of casualties injuries this would have caused