

Legislator suspects KKK in teen's death

United Press International
AUSTIN — A state legislator Tuesday claimed the Ku Klux Klan may have lynched a black teenager in rural Fort Bend County, but a sheriff says the death was accidental and accused the politician of trying to drum up publicity for his reelection campaign.

Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, said authorities were treating the April 9 hanging death of Gregory Shavers with "benign neglect." He called for investigations by the Department of Public Safety, the Texas attorney general's office and the U.S. Justice Department.

Wilson said the Ku Klux Klan had been active in Fort Bend County, southwest of Houston. He said he suspected KKK involvement in Shavers' death

because, "you've got a hanging, a black male, a white female, a rural county."

"The black community down there is upset as heck. They think that it was the Klan."

"I don't know that Gregory did not hang himself, but it appears to me that circumstances surrounding his death are extremely unusual and they at least merit a full investigation."

Wilson faces three opponents in Saturday's Democratic primary.

Shavers, 18, was found by his 17-year-old white girlfriend hanging from a rope in his grandmother's barn. Wilson said the girl had been under pressure from her parents to break off the relationship.

Although an autopsy report is pending, Fort Bend County

Sheriff Ervin Hurta said his office had deemed the death an accident.

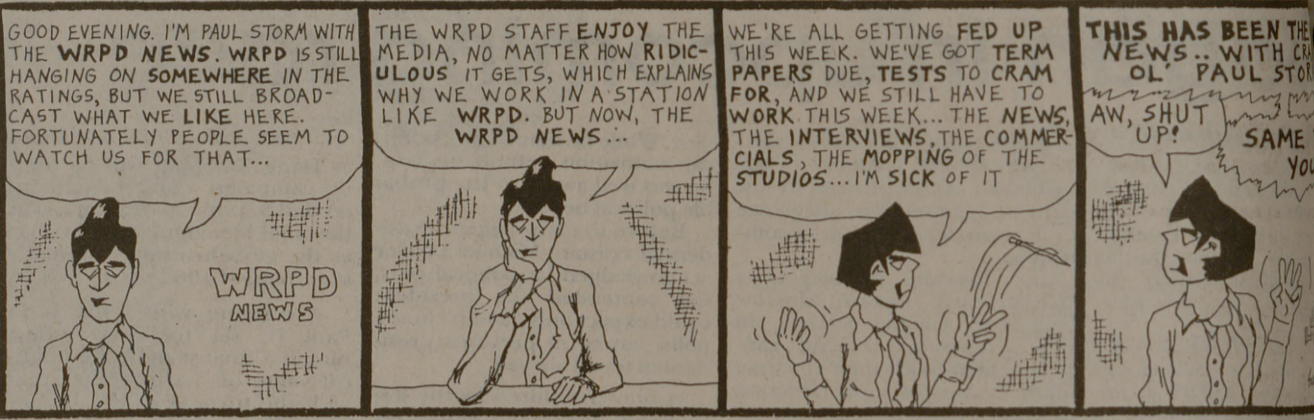
"He either put the rope around his neck to play or impress the girl. We don't feel that he did it intentionally," Hurta said Tuesday.

"He (Wilson) is trying to get a little publicity right before his election," the sheriff alleged. "It's too close to the election and it's something they're just pulling out of the air."

Hurta said he was suspicious because the rope found around Shavers' neck seemed too long to have enabled the teenager to hang himself.

"Gregory was 5-11 (5 feet, 11 inches tall) and apparently if you stood him up next to the rope, the rope would hit him about the middle of the stomach," Wilson said.

Warped



Fraternity unites business majors

By SCOTT LONG
Staff Writer

In past years Texas A&M has not had a general professional organization to serve the needs of the College of Business. In February of this year, Alpha

Kappa Psi, a coed professional business fraternity, was organized by 60 members to meet the needs of those business and economics majors whose area of study is not directly related to an existing service organization or society.

The objective of the University-approved professional fraternity is to unite business and economics majors under one umbrella-type organization which allows for learning, practical experience, and student unity.

Chapter President Brad Phillips, a junior finance major, said Texas A&M has never had an organization of this nature.

"They had organizations for accounting and marketing majors, but not one for business," he said. "This organization provides a mini-environment of business and allows members to develop business skills by speaking to large groups and dealing with business-like situations."

Spring activities included a field trip to Houston and

workshops dealing with job interviews and resumes. The fraternity has heard many speakers including Rusty Rush of R. Rush Men's Wear and Dave Wheeler of Deloitte, Haskins, and Sell.

Some benefits of the fraternity include the informal association between students and faculty. Because each chapter has faculty members and a faculty adviser, an opportunity is provided for gatherings during which faculty and students may discuss subjects of mutual interest on an informal and friendly basis.

Benefits of a more materialistic value come through the Student Loan Fund, which offers financial assistance to students and faculty members who are studying for graduate degrees. In addition, the Texas A&M chapter offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a student in the Business College who has maintained the highest grade point

ratio for two consecutive years, regardless of membership.

Chapter Vice President Brown, a junior major, says the club meets every Monday, does more than stress the development of business skills.


"We stress a unity and association of our members said. "Because we are all interested in the same thing, one knows everyone else in the chapter. There is a real unity among us that is normally there in other social groups."

On Saturday, Alpha Psi initiated 58 new members and Denise Meschery, chapter's director of public relations, said this was unusual.

"Normally a new chapter organizes with 30 to 40 pledges," she said. "What we did in one semester is to get our membership normally take a year elsewhere."

For more information, contact Brad Phillips at 823-7415.

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Roommate sessions starting at Off Campus Center today

By KAYE PAHMEIER
Reporter

The Off Campus Center will be holding roommate sessions today, Thursday, next Monday, Tuesday and May 9 in 402 Rudder at 2 p.m., to help off-campus students who need roommates and to help those looking for off-campus housing for the summer and fall of 1984.

Todd Ousley, graduate assistant for OCC, said a person's personality is the most important factor in finding a roommate.

"If you fight like cats and dogs and can't get along with someone, you shouldn't be living with them," he said. "You need to find someone that your

personality doesn't clash with."

The sessions help outline expectations of each roommate and suggest ways to open up communication between the roommates.

"We try to head off the problems before they start," Ousley said.

The process of roommate selection at the sessions is the same process that is used everyday at the housing center, Ousley said.

"Everyone is asked to fill out a questionnaire asking name, age, classification, do you smoke or drink?" he said. "Just the basic set of questions."

However, OCC does not match up roommates from

these cards. It's up to each student to find a roommate on their own.

The questionnaire placed in boxes according to sex. Students can then go through the cards and choose their own roommate with their own, Ousley said.

"It's easier for students to meet other students face-to-face at the sessions, than to go to where they live and meet them," he said.

OCC also provides information for roommates concerning legal responsibilities, such as what portion of the rent bills each person should pay and what it means to sign a lease.

"If your roommate is out on you, remember you signed a lease with you and his part of rent each month," Ousley said. "Leases are not to be taken lightly."

Ousley encourages students to find roommates first thing later.

"Last fall, over 600 students couldn't find roommates for the spring and ended up paying \$500 a month by themselves," he said. "There were also 1,000 apartment vacancies too."

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