

Group suggests quota systems

United Press International
AUSTIN — The director of a prison reform group accused Texas counties Tuesday of "totally dragging their feet" in providing community corrections programs to help ease overcrowding in the increasingly violent state prison system.
 Charles Sullivan, director of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants, wrote a letter to the chairman of the Texas Department of Corrections Board urging TDC to reinstate a quota system to limit the number of criminals that can be sent to TDC by individual counties.
 Sullivan said the quota system, which was initiated in 1983 when TDC population hit a record 38,000-plus inmates, would force counties to channel non-violent offenders into halfway houses, restitution centers, new probation programs and other community-based corrections.
 "Everybody has to do their fair share," Sullivan said at a news conference. "Some counties are trying to provide leadership (in establishing community corrections), but other counties are totally dragging their feet."
 The CURE director blamed "de-

maguery" by county political officials for failing to drum up community support for local correctional efforts. He said many counties tried to cut jail expenses by "shipping all their prisoners off to TDC."
 Ten percent of TDC inmates are appealing their convictions and, therefore, should be housed in county jails instead of state prison units, Sullivan said.
 He said the TDC population should gradually be reduced until a ratio of six inmates per one guard is reached. He said the current ratio was seven or eight inmates per guard.
 "The overcrowding problem is a major factor in the violence that is going on in TDC," Sullivan said.
 He praised El Paso, which has an aggressive community-based correctional system of restitution centers and halfway houses, for sending just 136.55 inmates per 100,000 population to TDC. Statistics show Beaumont with the highest ratio at 325.87 followed by Houston with 323.19 and Midland with 312.08.

Louisiana sugar crops hurt by rain, drought

United Press International
RACELAND, La. — December's record cold devastated thousands of acres of young sugar cane. January's chilly wet weather further retarded growth. Spring brought a six-week drought.
 "It's going to be a tough year for us, both for the sugar cane farmers and for the mills," said R. Charles Hodson Jr., general manager of the American Sugar Cane League.
 Miserable weather and low worldwide sugar prices have Louisiana farmers anxious about this fall's harvest, which officials say could be down by 30 to 50 percent in some parts of the state's sugar belt.
 "The only time I can recall we had a crop this bad was in 1963 after a similar freeze," said Bert Beyt, general manager of the St. Mary Parish Sugar Co-Op in Jeanvrette. "If the volume of our sugar cane is off, then our ability to produce revenue is off that much."
 Louisiana is the nation's third largest sugar producer, with \$150 million of cane harvested each year. Florida and Hawaii are the nation's top producers, with about 1 million tons each annually. Louisiana produces about 605,000 tons a year and Texas produces about 125,000 tons.
 Sales of sugar brought Louisiana \$270 million last year, officials said, and generated more than \$500 million of economic activity.
 The loss of 30 percent of the crop translates into a \$45 million loss for growers and \$81 million less for the state's sugar industry.
 The freeze and other weather problems hit different parts of Louisiana's sugar belt with varying intensity, inflicting crop losses ranging from minimal to severe.
 Temperatures falling to near 10 degrees caused their greatest havoc in the sugar cane fields near Breaux

Bridge and along Bayou Teche in south-central Louisiana, ruining up to half the crop in some areas.
 Cane along Bayou Lafourche in southeastern Louisiana was hurt most by steady rains in January, February and March that saturated the soil.
 An early spring drought damaged the crop near the Atchafalaya River in St. Mary Parish in southern Louisiana, but recent rains have helped alleviate some of the problems.
 "We're looking at 30 to 35 percent (crop) reduction in the state," said Donald Fontenot of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service in Baton Rouge. "It is a devastating loss."
 Sugar is planted in the fall by burying stalks of cane and harvested about 14 months later, in October, November and December of the following year.
 The stubble — stalks planted last fall — that froze at Christmas 1983 is the crop to be harvested this autumn.
 Pedro Angelle, manager of the Breaux Bridge Sugar Co-Op Inc., said about 30 percent of the crop in his region has been ruined.
 "It's a combination of the freeze and rainy weather and the chill factor," he said. "It just kept the stubble in a soggy condition where it actually rotted off."
 Louisiana has been a fertile sugar cane region for two centuries. Early settlers of the area that now is St. Mary Parish had huge cane plantations in the early 1800s. The Tiger Island plantation near present-day Morgan City earned \$60,000 a year from sugar products in pre-Civil War days.
 Sugar cane was introduced to Louisiana in 1751 and used for chewing and making syrup and tafia, a distilled drink.

Amarillo judge convicted for cashing others' checks

United Press International
AMARILLO — An attorney for former Potter County Judge Ben Bynum said Tuesday he would appeal Bynum's five felony convictions for cashing money he was supposed to hold for a citizens committee.
 Bynum was convicted of cashing \$1,900 worth of contribution checks he received from the Citizens for Progress Committee, a group formed to promote passage of a bond issue for construction of a court building and parking lot.
 A jury Monday found Bynum, 41, guilty of misapplication of funds. State District Judge Miron Love of Houston sentenced Bynum to 10 years in prison, but then immediately probated the sentence. Bynum also was fined \$5,000.

Defense attorney Mike Hinton said prosecutors failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Bynum had made any kind of agreement about the handling of the committee checks.
 Bynum was silent as the verdict was read Monday afternoon while his parents and family sat in the courtroom.
 Unless the convictions are overturned, Potter County Democratic and Republican committees will have to name candidates by Sept. 7 to run for the office in the Nov. 7 election, court officials said.
 Bynum also was indicted by a Potter County grand jury in April for aggravated perjury before a grand jury.

PROFESSOR PUBLISHING PUTS THE CLASS INTO COURSE MATERIALS



kinko's copies
 201 College Main
 846-8721



WELCOME BACK

Back to School Specials

- Peugeot P6 Reg. \$184⁹⁹ Special \$159⁹⁹
 - Peugeot P8 Reg. \$224⁹⁹ Special \$214⁹⁹
 - Peugeot PH10-L Reg. \$269⁹⁹ Special \$254⁹⁹
 - Schwinn Traveler Reg. \$224⁹⁹ Special \$209⁹⁹
- and many more!—

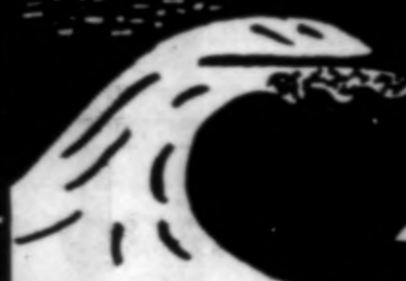


WE SERVICE ALL MAKES ALL TERRAIN BIKES



AGGIELAND
 SCHWINN

COLLEGE STATION 696-9490



Malibu Beach

115 HARVEY B. WOODSTONE CTR.
 next to Rother's



College Station's
 Newest Fun Spot

Welcomes Back AGGIES Calendar of Events

Wednesday, Aug. 22

Registration Party
 Prizes
 Drink Specials
 No cover before 10

Thursday, Aug 23

Free keg Night
 75¢ Draft after the keg is gone
 \$1.00 Bar Drinks
 no cover

Friday, Aug 24

First Bash At the Beach
 Kick Off The School Year Right
 Open Bar 7-9
 50¢ Bar Drinks 9-10

Saturday, Aug. 25

First Bash At the Beach, Cont.
 Kick Off the School Year Right
 Open Bar 7-9
 50¢ Drinks 9-10

Sunday, Aug 26

Endless Summer Party
 Pool Tournament
 Open Bar

Where The Fun Never Sets

meineke
 DISCOUNT MUFFLERS
 AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CAR SPECIALIST
FANTASTIC SAVINGS!
 FROM AS LOW AS **\$18.93** INSTALLED*
 *FITS MANY SMALL CARS
 *AT PARTICIPATING DEALERS
 Featuring **Eveready** One of the latest names in automotive parts
 BRYAN 408 South Texas Ave. (Corner of 30th St.) 775-0188
 Individually Owned & Operated
 IN AND OUT IN 30 MINUTES IN MOST CASES
OPEN DAILY AND SAT. 8-6 PM
 Copyright © 1984 Meineke