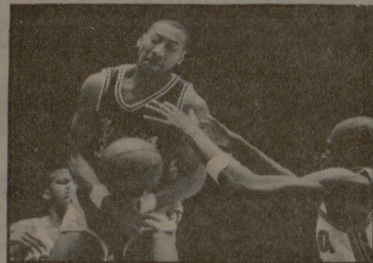


A&M prof studies alternatives to costly private physicians

— Page 6



A&M's last-second magic disappears against Houston

— Page 13

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Stakeout ends University Police arrest car theft suspects

By BRIAN PEARSON
Staff Writer

Three men who police say were connected to the theft of two motor vehicles were arrested Wednesday and charged with felony theft as well as other counts relating to the incident, following a stakeout and car chase by Texas A&M University Police.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and traffic at A&M, said University Police on surveillance spotted the suspects acting in a suspicious manner near a 1977 Chevrolet Monte Carlo in Parking Annex 30 near the Zachry Engineering Center.

"At a little after noon, we detected a white van with tinted windows driving through several of the parking lots," Wiatt said. "We observed an individual get out and look into several cars."

Wiatt said the officers saw one of the suspects break into the Monte Carlo, start the engine and drive off, with the white 1979 Ford van following.

University Police then stopped the Monte Carlo as it was leaving the area, said.

He said that as the officers stopped the Monte Carlo, the van jumped a curb and started to go across the polo field. University Police say they eventually stopped the van at the corner of New Main Drive and Bizzell Street.

After the arrests, Wiatt said, the University Police discovered that the van had been reported stolen Tuesday from Houston.

Wiatt said the suspects claimed to be from Houston but had no identification at the time of arrest.

Wiatt said the suspects gave statements indicating they were illegal aliens, but, he said, the suspects, if convicted, would have to face the charges resulting from this arrest even if they are illegal aliens.

He said the three were charged with felony theft, unauthorized use of a vehicle and burglary of a motor vehicle. All three charges are third-degree felonies, and each charge carries a maximum fine of \$5,000, or a 2-to-10 year prison sentence or both.

The driver of the van also was charged with evading arrest, a class B misdemeanor carrying a



Photo by JOHN MAKELY

Lt. Russ Kline and Officer Roy Horner of the University Police escort a suspect to Brazos County Jail after his arrest.

possible prison sentence of up to six months, a maximum fine of \$1,000 or both.

Wiatt said the stakeout, which led to the arrests, was the result of a recent rash of car thefts at A&M. However, he said that at this time the suspects have not been connected with other car thefts in this area.

Three cars were stolen from various parking lots at A&M Jan. 15.

"All three cars were reported stolen from late morning to early afternoon," Wiatt said. "We did a

study of all the cars stolen last year and found that a lot of them were stolen on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (at about the same time the three Jan. 15 thefts took place).

"So we started very intensive and sophisticated surveillance techniques Tuesday and today (Wednesday)."

Wiatt added that University Police will begin working with the Houston, College Station and Bryan police departments among other law enforcement agencies to try to solve the other car thefts.

U.S. may renew aid to Nicaraguan rebels

Associated Press

Washington — President Reagan has "approved in principle" a plan to resume military aid to rebels fighting the Marxist-led Sandinista government of Nicaragua, a White House official said Wednesday.

The official, revealing the military aid offensive on condition he not be identified, said the plan calls for \$90 million to \$100 million and would do away with a congressional ban on paying for ammunition or weapons.

Administration and congressional officials say the success of Reagan's expected request hinges on persuading moderate House members that the United Nicaraguan Opposition, UNO, the rebels' principal umbrella group, poses a unified and effective democratic alternative to the Sandinistas.

A U.S.-sponsored Nicaraguan rebel unity group doubt that renewed American military aid can avert an ultimate defeat as long as the

movement is run by leaders the exiles contend are hand-picked by the U.S. government.

The group — central to President Reagan's plan to resume military aid to the insurgents — has failed to heal the deep divisions that have plagued the war against that nation's leftist government, prominent Nicaraguan exiles say.

Several of the rebels added that the only realistic hope now for ousting the Sandinista government is direct U.S. military intervention to crush the Soviet-supplied Nicaraguan army — an option the Reagan administration has repeatedly rejected.

"UNO will have to show that it is the legitimate political leader of the Contras, that it controls the military and has a platform for a democratic society for Nicaragua," Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, said Wednesday.

But Nicaraguan exiles, interviewed by The Associated Press, questioned UNO's success in unifying and controlling rebel ranks after it was created at the administration's urging last June. The AP interviewed 22 anti-Sandinista Nicaraguan exiles about their views on the political and military situation.

"UNO is designed to do battle in Congress, not to do battle in the front lines, with the people of Nicaragua," said Silvio Arguello-Cardenal, a former Nicaraguan vice president, now living in Miami. "It owes its existence . . . exclusively to . . . U.S. intelligence agencies that provide it direction and exercise strict every-day control over its military operations and political pronouncements."

Jose Medina Cuadra, a Nicaraguan attorney living in Miami, said

See Reagan, page 18

Plunging oil prices cause concern

Associated Press

DALLAS — The oil price plunge on the spot market has sent shivers through state officials in oil producing areas who may find themselves millions of dollars short in their state budgets.

Texas, for example, planned on oil being at \$25 a barrel this year, and each \$1 drop below that means the loss of 25,000 jobs, \$100 million in tax revenue and \$3 billion in gross state product, according to the state comptroller's office.

Oil on the spot market was trading Wednesday at less than \$21 a barrel.

"We're just getting over the shock of seeing that \$20 price on the spot market and looking with super concern at what's happening," Tony Proffitt, tax information director in the comptroller's office said.

A sustained price of \$20 on the contract, or "posted price," market, where 95 percent of the oil business in Texas takes place, could mean a "devastating" loss of \$750 million from Texas' \$22 billion biennium budget, Proffitt said Wednesday,

and \$15 would be a real deal, a real deal."

The story is the same throughout the oilpatch.

Oklahoma Gov. George Nigh said his state, which planned on an aver-

"The clouds are right out there. Our concern now is what happens if all this spills over onto the contract market."

— Tony Proffitt, tax information director in the comptroller's office.

age price of \$23 a barrel, stands to lose \$33 million in tax revenue if the price drops to \$20 or below. Nigh has pledged there will be no tax increases.

The price declines were accelerated by slack demand and increased output in recent months, leaving

prices 18 percent lower in one week and 35 percent since November. Analysts say prices could drop below \$20 a barrel if OPEC countries continue to aggressively chase market share.

One week ago a barrel of West Texas Intermediate, a major U.S. benchmark, cost \$25.15 on the spot market, where surplus oil is sold on demand. The spot price closed Tuesday at \$20.10. In November it had been \$32.

Officials say the drop in prices on the spot market won't immediately translate into a major decline in the oilpatch since most transactions are done on contracts.

But the spot market decline may be a bad omen, they said.

"This could be either a mild shower or a very big rain storm," Proffitt said. "The clouds are right out there. Our concern now is what happens if all this spills over onto the contract market."

Prices on the contract market are still about \$25 per barrel, Proffitt

See State, page 18

Summer school calendar gets revised

By BRIAN PEARSON
Senior Staff Writer

The Texas A&M summer session calendar has been revised to accommodate high school graduates and public school teachers affected by House Bill 72.

House Bill 72, passed by the Texas Legislature in the summer of 84, states that public schools cannot start classes prior to Sept. 1, thus shifting the end of spring sessions for most public schools into the beginning of June.

Historically, A&M students registered for summer school around

May 31 and classes began around June 2 or 3.

Registrar R.A. Lacey said the summer calendar had to be revised to keep A&M summer classes from overlapping with the schedules of public school teachers and graduating high school students wanting to attend the University. High school students are not scheduled to graduate until around June 4, 5 or 6.

"In the summertime here we have our provisional program for students who do not meet the full admission standards," Lacey said. "We did not want to move it (provisional

program) to the fall or to the spring."

Students in the provisional program are allowed to take classes at A&M in the summer and will be admitted if they meet with the University's academic standards.

"That's another reason why we worked very hard trying to realign the calendar to fit in with the public school calendar — so we could go ahead and offer the provisional program to students who don't fully qualify," Lacey said.

Registration for the 1986 summer session at A&M will begin June 7 and classes will begin June 9.

Registration for the second term will begin July 14. Second session classes will begin July 15.

Because of the later starting date for A&M summer classes, the 5½-week and 11-week summer class terms will be reduced to 5-week and 10-week summer class terms.

Lacey said that because a student must spend 2,250 minutes in class a semester for each three credit hour course, the time length of each class will be extended.

"Instead of going from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., a student will have to go from 8 a.m. to about 9:45 a.m. to get enough time," Lacey said.

Report blames bomb for Air-India disaster

Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — A report by Canadian investigators says that a bomb in the cargo hold of an Air-India Boeing 747 off the Irish coast last June caused it to crash, killing 329 people, a Canadian official said Wednesday.

Canadian investigator Bernard Caiger confirmed the previously undisclosed report and its conclusions, prepared by Canadian Aviation Safety Board, in testimony before the Indian High Court.

Under cross-examination by Steve Bell, a lawyer representing the Seattle-based Boeing Aircraft Corp., maker of the airplane, Caiger said he had only "briefly" seen the report.

Pressed repeatedly by Bell, Caiger finally confirmed the report's conclusions.

Indian investigators have theorized that Sikh extremists angry with the Indian government planted a bomb aboard the India-bound plane.

Thousands protest on anniversary of Roe vs. Wade decision

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cheered on by President Reagan, thousands of anti-abortion demonstrators marched to the Supreme Court Wednesday to mark the 13th anniversary of a landmark decision they said the president wanted overturned.

Later, two anti-abortion leaders quoted Reagan as saying in a private meeting that he might consider pardoning abortion bombers on "a case-by-case basis." However, a White House spokesman said the president said no such thing and other participants at the meeting said they interpreted the president's remarks differently.

"I'm proud to stand with you in the long march for the right to life," Reagan told the crowd via a telephone hook-up between the White House and loudspeakers where the marchers rallied 200 yards away.

March organizer Nellie Gray, crying "How strong we are" to the demon-

strators, estimated the crowd at about 100,000.

However, District of Columbia and U.S. Park Police estimated the crowd at 36,000-to-37,000 — a bit more than half last year's crowd, which Park Police estimated at 71,000.

Many of the protesters left to lobby members of Congress after completing the two-mile march to the Supreme Court building. However, several dozen moved through police lines at the building and knelt to pray and to chant "Stop The Killing" and other slogans.

They were warned they would be arrested if they remained, and after several minutes police began taking people into custody.

Reagan praised the marchers and condemned abortion during a five-minute speech interrupted frequently by applause and shouts of approval.

"We'll continue to work together with Congress to overturn the tragedy of Roe

vs. Wade," he said, referring to the 1973 high court decision to allow abortion.

The president, who opposes abortion except to save a mother's life, also voiced his support for a constitutional amendment outlawing abortion and said, "Each child who escapes the tragedy of abortion is an immeasurable victory."

After listening to more than an hour of similar remarks from members of Congress, the crowd left the parklike Ellipse behind the White House and began a long procession up Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol and the Supreme Court.

Already at the high court were 10 members of the National Organization for Women, silently holding aloft a banner reading, "Thank You Justice Blackmun for Keeping Abortion Safe and Legal" — a reference to Harry A. Blackmun, principal author of the 1973 decision.

In stark contrast to Wednesday's upbeat mood, though, were the messages the marchers were carrying.

Near the head of the procession, young people carried 13 white coffins symbolizing millions of abortions since the Supreme Court decision.

And signs raised high carried such words as: "Stop the American Holocaust," "Abortion Kills Babies," "No Exceptions, No Compromise," "Stop Terrorism in the Womb" and "Pro-Choice Means No Choice for the Baby."

Many called for adoption as an alternative to abortion.

And one woman held a placard with a personal plea: "Give Your 'Unwanted' Baby to Me."

At the rally on the Ellipse, the biggest cheers aside from those for Reagan were for Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., and for Rep. Mark Siljander, R-Mich., who held his 8-month-old daughter high and declared, "This is why I'm pro-life."

Earlier in the day police arrested 30 anti-abortion demonstrators at a local abortion clinic and the hospital office of a

doctor who performs abortions.

Police said the clinic was bombed about a year ago.

The National Organization for Women scheduled events in 97 cities, including vigils in alleys "in memory of women who died from illegal abortion."

NOW president Eleanor Smeal conceded Tuesday that the president is "a formidable foe" in the fight for public support on the emotional issue of abortion. But Kate Michelman, executive director of the National Abortion Rights Action League, said, "It is a minority view that he represents."

A poll last November by Louis Harris & Associates showed support was about evenly divided on the Supreme Court decision, which held that women had a constitutional right to abortion. Fifty percent favored the decision and 47 percent opposed it. On the question of a constitutional ban, 55 percent opposed it and 35 percent favored it.