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Supreme Court upholds Texas sodomy law

DALLAS (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court refused Monday to strike down Texas' law that makes deviate sexual intercourse a crime, prompting protests from gays and those who oppose the law.

All but one justice rejected a Dallas homosexual's argument that the law violates his privacy rights and therefore unconstitutional.

They also turned down appeals from Texas officials over the law's procedural aspects.

The court upheld a Georgia law last week making homosexual and heterosexual sodomy a crime, ruling that it did not violate any constitutional right.

Although the Texas law applies only to homosexuals, it is similar to Georgia's in that it defines deviate

sexual intercourse as "any contact between any part of the genitals of one person and the mouth or anus of another person."

Donald F. Baker, who sued over the law, argued that it violates his right to engage in homosexual activities. He sought to have the law overturned even though he was not prosecuted for homosexual conduct.

"The war goes on," Baker, 38, said Monday.

He added that "there is nothing more we can do within judicial system at the moment, but it will come up again. We will work more intensely within state courts and state legislatures."

Potter County District Attorney Danny Hill of Amarillo, who took over the state's appeal after Attorney

General Jim Mattox dropped it, said Monday that he was "elated, relieved" by the high court's ruling.

"The most significant thing is the court's recognition that the states have the right to legislate in the areas where the people want them to legislate," Hill said.

He also said the ruling "opens the door for us to teach our children the

difference between right and wrong, instead of having to say it's wrong, but society condones it."

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the Texas law last August. It said the ban on deviate sexual intercourse is justified by "the strong objection to homosexual conduct which has prevailed in Western culture for the past seven centuries."

Texas' debt worsening, Bullock says

AUSTIN (AP) — The state government budget, already awash in \$2.3 billion of red ink, is headed for an even deeper hole, Comptroller Job Bullock said Monday.

Bullock said the state debt will be substantially higher than the current estimate "at the end of the month."

Bullock said the state's 10.5 percent unemployment rate announced last week is one of several indicators signaling an even larger shortfall.

"We expect a new revenue estimate before Aug. 1, and, frankly, none of the indicators contain an ounce of good news," he said.

Gov. Mark White has said he will call a special session of the Legislature as soon as legislative leaders work out a plan to balance the books.

"While it would be preferable to have better news, the comptroller must base his projections on the data available," White said in a statement Monday.

"Any improvement in Texas' economic outlook is going to require a continuation of the long-term effort to diversify the economy, which we started in 1983," he said. "Our investment in education, better roads, job training and an ample water supply represents a significant stride toward achieving our goal of a stronger and more diversified economy."

"This news only reinforces our commitment to work closely with the legislative leadership to resolve this situation," he added.

White's Republican opponent, former Gov. Bill Clements, said during a campaign stop in Houston that the Democrat is failing to provide sufficient leadership for lawmakers during the budget crisis.

"Literally, Austin burns, while Mark White fiddles," Clements said.



Photo by John Tate

Information Overload

An incoming freshman in the College of Business takes time out after a day of testing, conferences

and orientation meetings to get a look at some of the information she's received.

Tourism industry gets boost

Weekend helps NYC

NEW YORK (AP) — Liberty Weekend brought in as much as \$500 million for the city's tourism industry and helped shine the Big Apple's image as a tourist destination, the head of the Visitors and Convention Bureau said Monday.

Producers of the four-day extravaganza expressed disappointment

over ticket sales but said they expected revenue to run close to a break-even figure of \$30 million to \$32 million.

Mayor Edward I. Koch said the Statue of Liberty centennial festival cost city government about \$10 million.

That figure is almost certain to be exceeded by the weekend's sales tax revenues.

"It was a sensational weekend as far as we were concerned," said Charles Gillett, president of the New York Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Toxic chemicals available to some students

By Sondra Pickard
Senior Staff Writer

Recent poisoning incidents, including the suicide of a University of Texas student, have led to public concern over the availability of dangerous chemicals and chemistry professors say dangerous chemicals are easily available to Texas A&M chemistry graduate students.

Dr. Daniel O'Brien, associate professor of chemistry, says graduate students have unrestricted access to dangerous chemicals.

"In the normal graduate laboratory," O'Brien says, "there are many chemicals that graduate students have without restrictions."

Some of those chemicals are stored in the chemistry department's central chemical storeroom in the basement of the chemistry building.

Dr. Michael Rosynek, associate head of the department, says the central chemical stockroom is either locked or under constant supervision, making it difficult for anyone else to obtain a toxic chemical.

But officials who manage the storeroom refused to give their names and would not explain departmental procedures for distributing chemicals.

Recently, a University of Texas chemistry student died after poisoning himself with cyanide, which federal officials said matched samples from UT chemistry labs.

Later, a UT chemistry professor told *The Daily Texan* that if someone had knowledge of the chemical storeroom and its operations it would be relatively easy to get the metabolic poison at UT.

Although graduate students at A&M can get almost any chemicals they need for research, O'Brien said undergraduate students are not allowed in graduate labs without supervision.

"It's not just because of toxic chemicals but because of inexperience," O'Brien said. "And it's a good, safe practice."

A student employee in the chemistry department stockroom said only graduate students have direct access to the chemicals stored there. Graduate students sign for chemicals and the date, quantity, cost and supervising professor's name is recorded.

One chemistry graduate student, who asked not to be identified, said cyanide is readily available from the

stockroom, but probably not in its pure form.

Most of the chemicals needed for graduate research are ordered by the student directly from manufacturers, he said.

In certain experiments, he said, lethal chemicals are often used, but with much care and control.

Dr. Merlin Peck, associate professor of chemistry in charge of freshmen labs, said chemicals used for undergraduate labs are stored in Heldenfels Hall only for the coming week.

He said most of the solutions are prepared ahead of time and unused chemicals are removed immediately following class.

"For the freshman labs we have tried to limit the quantities and select the types of chemicals so as to mini-

mize the danger," Peck said, "but concentrated acids and bases can't be avoided for some experiments."

Rosynek said it would be quite difficult for a student to remove a chemical while working in a lab.

"Students can never get access to a storeroom unless they're determined to break in with a hammer and a blowtorch," he said.

Dr. Marvin Rowe, associate professor of chemistry in charge of the analytical labs, said cyanide is a commonly used chemical, but that every precaution is taken when using it.

"If you wanted to get cyanide or something roughly as potent," Rowe said, "all you have to do is go buy rat poison at a hardware store. We think of chemicals as being only in a chemistry lab, which they are not."

Soldiers withdraw as revolt against Aquino collapses

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A revolt by Arturo Tolentino who declared himself acting president collapsed early Tuesday when four generals and more than 100 soldiers who had backed him withdrew from his headquarters in a luxury hotel.

Tolentino, an ally of ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos, swore himself in to replace President Corason Aquino in a ceremony Sunday at the Manila Hotel in front of more than 300 civilian and military supporters. They then began a sit-in.

Aquino, accused by the rebels of being conciliatory toward communist guerrillas, responded by giving the group an ultimatum to leave the hotel within 24 hours.

Tolentino left late Monday with a small group of advisers.

He said his civilian backers also would withdraw but he did not know about the soldiers because, "I do not control them."

Tolentino, Marcos' vice presidential candidate in February's fraud-tainted election, then met for four hours with Rafael Ileteo, Aquino's deputy defense minister.

Many of the civilians began leaving the hotel at dawn Tuesday, a few hours before the expiration of the Aquino's deadline.

The soldiers withdrew unnoticed, apparently through a back door.

The first clear sign that the two-day uprising was over came at 6 a.m. when a dozen riot policemen entered the hotel and told about 100 pro-Tolentino civilians still gathered in the lobby to get out.

Dozens of soldiers followed, and an officer said they would search the 500-room building for bombs.

Rebel soldiers were taken to a sub-

urban army camp where Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile spoke to them.

"We are not going to humiliate, punish or embarrass any of you," he said. "There will be no retaliation against you."

Enrile, speaking to the soldiers in a gymnasium, said, "We shall consider this as past. Let us forget, as though nothing happened."

Gen. Jose Maria Zumel, who had led the military rebels, told reporters, "It's always nice to be back with our comrades in arms."

The armed forces chief, Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, shook hands with the rebel soldiers and said the military must maintain the capability "to prevail over all of these enemies... I'm referring specifically to the Communist Party of the Philippines the New People's Army."

"Gentlemen, we welcome you back," Ramos added. "Let's all go to work."

Tolentino, 75, had said he was declaring himself acting president under orders from Marcos.

But Marcos told reporters Sunday he knew little about Tolentino taking an oath as acting president, and said the decision had been made by party loyalists.

Need a light? More women tend to smoke at college

DETROIT (AP) — College women are more likely than college men to smoke cigarettes, suggesting that the tobacco industry is successfully linking female smoking with an image of glamour and success, according to a federal study released Monday.

"The cigarette companies emphasize two major themes in getting women to smoke: One is trying to associate smoking with being liberated and the other is more subliminal, but not very subtle, and that is that women should smoke to stay thin," social psychologist Lloyd D. Johnston, director of the study, said.

Among college women, the daily smoking rate was 18 percent last year compared with 10 percent for men.

"It appears the tobacco industry's expensive and long-term effort to associate smoking with liberation and success among women has paid off, at least for the industry," Johnston said.

A&M crime figures show increase since 1984-85

By Olivier Uyttebrouck
Senior Staff Writer

University Police records show that theft, burglary and other more serious crimes posted little or no increase from the 1984-85 academic year to the 1985-86 academic year but that such other crimes as assault, vandalism and liquor violations showed marked increases.

Police records also note that nearly a third of all persons apprehended during the 1985-86 academic year were adults with no connection to the University.

Of the 332 persons apprehended during the past academic year, 96 were non-university adults and an additional 22 were juveniles. Students accounted for 206 of

those apprehended and staff members, eight.

University Police Director Bob Wiatt says that persons from College Station, Bryan and more distant communities commonly wander through the campus and dormitories, testing doors and looking for unguarded property.

"They know there are a lot of goodies here and they're attracted to it," says Wiatt, citing a June 10 burglary of two horses and several saddles from the Parsons' Mounted Cavalry barn.

Wiatt says the suspects in the case kept the horses in a backyard in downtown Bryan, in full public view and that the display quickly came to the attention of the Sheriff's Department.

Listed below are the categories of reported crime rate changes increases from the 1984-1985 academic year to the 1985-1986 academic year.

- Harrasing phone calls incidents rose from 54 to 75.
- Criminal Mischief (vandalism) rose from 127 to 179.
- Liquor violations rose from 3 to 35.
- Criminal trespass rose from 15 to 26.
- False alarms and reports rose

Wiatt also cited the arrest of five suspects from Houston on charges of stealing a total of twenty cars on the A&M campus during the 1985-86 academic year as examples of outsiders coming on campus specif-

- from 7 to 14.
- Arson rose from 1 to 7.
- Assault increased from 25 to 34.
- Felony Theft decreased from 30 to 26.
- Motor Vehicle Theft increased 21 to 28.
- Sexual Offenses decreased from 7 to 2.
- Disorderly Conduct decreased from 29 to 22.
- Hit and Run incidents increased from 56 to 74.

ically to commit thefts and burglaries.

University Police made the arrests during two separate stake-out efforts in January and April.

In Wiatt's words, the University

Police play "mind games" with potential burglars and thieves by maintaining a staff of plain-clothes officers, but Wiatt refused to say how many such officers are on patrol.

Individuals who arouse police suspicions and are determined not to have business on campus are first given a criminal trespass warning, Wiatt says.

The next time the person is discovered on campus, he or she is arrested for criminal trespass.

University Police made 26 arrests for criminal trespass during the 1985-86 academic year, up from 15 the year before, police records show.

Liquor violations showed a steep rise from 3 to 35 from the 1984-85 academic year to the past year but Wiatt denies that the rise in the

drinking age from 18 to 19 caused the increase.

Liquor violations usually result from other sorts of crimes such as assault or motor vehicle accidents and Wiatt explains that people are committing more such crimes under the influence of alcohol.

The residence halls are responsible for their own dormitories and the police are called only in the event of serious problems, Wiatt says.

The total number of reported crimes rose from 1,259 for the 1984-85 academic year to 1,410 for the 1985-86 academic year.

Arson increased from one incident to seven. Wiatt said the increase was due mainly to an unusual increase in dumpster fires.