



Photo by Doug LaRue

Tying One On

A student gets in some practice for the calf-roping event for the All-Aggie Reunion Rodeo.

The rodeo will be held Nov. 7, 8 and 9 at the Dick Freeman Arena.

Dallas police top nation's rate in citizen killings

DALLAS (AP) — The rate at which police in Dallas are killing citizens outranks all other major U.S. cities, according to a *Dallas Times Herald* survey.

In 1985, the rate of fatal shootings by police was five times higher than New York when numbers of shootings are compared to number of residents, the survey said.

Officers killed nine citizens last year, giving the city a .924 rate per 100,000. Los Angeles ranked second at .743.

In the first nine months of 1986 police killed nine citizens, equaling the total for all of 1985.

Combined with another survey by the Washington-based Crime Control Institute, the statistics show that since 1970, fatal police shootings here have run counter to a declining national rate.

Over the 15-year time span, the national rate of fatal police shootings dropped 34 percent while the Dallas rate increased 31 percent.

The survey also notes an increase in violence against police. Instances of police being fired on, assaulted, or threatened so far this year have increased.

One Dallas policeman has been killed and over 20 have been threatened with deadly weapons, the survey said.

Police are currently investigating the death of a 70-year-old Dallas woman a policeman shot outside her home Oct. 26. The shooting has rekindled concerns among city officials and minority leaders that officers are too quick to use their guns.

TDC denies crowding forced early releases

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Hundreds of Texas prisoners were released to halfway houses after a federal judge rejected a plan to house inmates at an Army barracks, but prison officials deny that overcrowding played a role in the early releases.

"It's not used to control prison population, but it's another option TDC has," said David Nunnelee, Texas Department of Corrections spokesman. "It's a good idea to get them into a halfway house and give them a head start in finding a job and getting on their feet."

The number of prisoners released through the TDC Pre-parole Transfer Program increased from 35 in mid-September to 398 last week.

In September, U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice rejected a state proposal to house 300 inmates at Fort Wolters in Mineral Wells and

95 inmates at the TDC hospital in Galveston.

Prison officials sought to transfer prisoners to keep the state's prison population at 38,374, a population cap set up by a 1983 state law.

But TDC spokesman Charles Brown said the rapid expansion of the program after Justice's rejection of the proposal was coincidental.

"We've had the pre-parole option for a long time," he said. "Since the judge denied Fort Wolters and Galveston, we're just using it."

John Byrd, state parole board executive director, said, "We have a greater degree of control over them. We can return them to prison immediately. Parolees have to be given due process."

Since the program began in February 1984, 551 prisoners have been released and 86 have been returned to prison.

Those released in the pre-parole program are selected by prison and parole officials. Inmates who have had probations revoked or who are serving time for violent crimes or sex crimes are eliminated from consideration.

Meanwhile, expanded parole and pre-parole programs have forced the parole board to contract more halfway house beds. The board contracted for 750 beds in Texas this summer. That number has increased to 1,200, Byrd said.

During September's hearing before Justice, Byrd said the state received 3,000 more inmates this year than expected. To keep pace with prison population growth, paroles have reached record numbers.



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WEDNESDAY	Margaritas (Rocks or Frozen)	95¢
THURSDAY	Ladies Nite	Any Drink 1/2 price

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