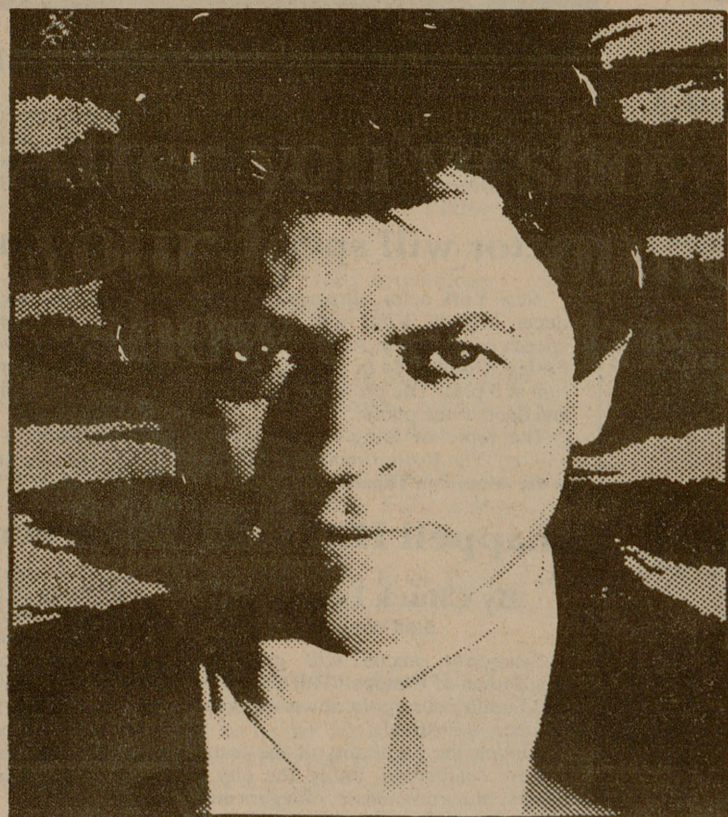


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TUESDAY OCTOBER 25, 1988

G. Rollie White Coliseum

8:00 P.M.

TICKETS GO ON SALE SEPT. 24

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For more information call 845-1234 - Tickets are \$14.00

Teen's death puts focus on Texas law

EL PASO (AP) — The recent shooting death of an El Paso teen-ager who was stealing three cinder blocks has focused attention on Texas' rather lenient deadly force law.

In essence, the law is designed to let juries decide what constitutes justifiable homicide, said Louis Akin, president of the El Paso chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"It doesn't take a whole lot to meet legal tests," Akin said. "The jury perception is the controlling factor."

Texas' deadly force law allows people to protect their property with lethal weapons after dark. It allows deadly force during the daytime to protect life.

"It derives from way back when," Bruce Weathers, an El Paso public defender, said. "In Texas, if a man steals your horse, you shoot him."

Ambiguities in the law can turn what some might consider justifiable homicide into murder in the eyes of police. The most recent example happened Oct. 3, when 18-year-old James Corbett was shot to death while driving away from a mobile-home sales lot after stealing three cinder blocks from the business.

The lot's owner, Doyal Henderson, was charged with murder.

Corbett was shot in the daytime. Strictly speaking, it is legal in Texas to shoot a fleeing thief at night, but police, prosecutors and jurors are encouraged to use common sense.

"If you read the law word-for-word, you can shoot kids for playing trick-or-treat on Halloween night," Akin said.

The state law takes into account factors such as the threat to life that a property crime represents; when the crime is committed; the property owner's state of mind; and whether the owner can stop short of killing while retaining his possessions and life.

Weathers said the district attorney rarely prosecutes cases involving the deadly force law unless a violation is flagrant.

During the daytime, it is illegal to use deadly force to prevent the theft of something that is not in someone's physical possession.

But at any hour of the day, Texas who want to protect their property can kill muggers, armed robbers, burglars and anyone trying to commit arson. A mugger is someone who accosts and steals something from a victim's person, such as a wallet or watch, and a burglar is an intruder into a home, business or vehicle, who intends to commit a felony.

Texas also are allowed to use deadly force at any hour to prevent the escape of someone who has committed those crimes.

What's Up

Friday

- WESLEY FOUNDATION: will have a scavenger hunt at 8 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation.
- TAMU SPORTS CAR CLUB: will have a night rally at 7 p.m. in the Zachry parking lot. Everyone is invited.
- INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: Mrs. Prowett will speak about the Holy Spirit at 8 p.m. in 410 Rudder.
- AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION: will have registration for the Southern Regional Conference in the Blocker lobby.
- COLOMBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will have a general meeting at 7 p.m. in Rudder Tower. Check the monitor screen for the room number.
- VIETNAMESE AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will play volleyball from 8:30-11:30 p.m. on the fourth floor of the Read Building.
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: call the Center for Drug Prevention and Education at 845-0280 for details on today's meeting.
- MANAGEMENT SEMINAR: Mr. Williford of Williford Energy Company will discuss aspects of his company at 10 a.m. in 112 Blocker.
- CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 108 Harrington.
- UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES: will have a Bible study at 6 p.m. at A&M Presbyterian Church. There will be a peanut butter fellowship at 11:30 a.m. at Rudder Fountain.
- LATTER-DAY SAINTS STUDENT ASSOCIATION: President Hatch, second counselor in stake presidency, will speak at the sandwich seminar at noon at the Institute Building.
- AGGIE ALLEMANDERS: will have a reunion dance from 7:30-10 p.m. in the Pavilion.

Sunday

- YOUNG LIFE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP: will meet at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder to Christian fun and fellowship.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION/BIBLE STUDY GROUP: will meet at 9:30 p.m. at the St. Mary's student center.
- AGGIE ALLEMANDERS: will have square dance lessons from 8-9:30 p.m. at 212 MSC. A club dance will follow.
- TAMU INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS: will demonstrate and teach international folk dances at 8 p.m. in 226 MSC.
- ODESSA HOMETOWN CLUB: will meet at 12:30 p.m. at Mr. Gattli's for lunch.
- THE WESTERNAIRES: will give a concert at 10:30 a.m. at the First Church of the Nazarene, 2122 E. William Joel Bryan Pkwy.
- ET ALIA DANCE CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 266 G. Rollie White.

Monday

- DEBATE SOCIETY: tryouts for the Bush vs. Dukakis debate will be at 7 p.m. in 136 Blocker.
- TAMU INVESTMENT CLUB: will give an investment challenge update and collect a deposit for the Houston field trip at 6:30 p.m. in 120 Blocker.
- HONORS STUDENT COUNCIL: Dr. Burch of student services will speak at 7:20 p.m. in 308 Rudder.
- MINORITY ASSOCIATION OF PRE-HEALTH AGGIES: will meet at 7 p.m. in 510 Rudder.
- OFF CAMPUS AGGIES: will display a car wrecked in a drunk driving accident from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Rudder fountain.
- BACCHUS/CIRCLE K/STUDENT Y: will serve non-alcoholic beverages from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Commons, Sbisra, Zachry, MSC and Blocker to promote Alcohol Awareness Week.
- AMNSETY INTERNATIONAL: will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder.
- INTRAMURALS: entries open for cross country run and bowling singles at 8 a.m. in 159 Read.
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: call the Center for Drug Prevention and Education at 845-0280 for details on today's meeting.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald no later than three business days before the desired run date. We only publish the name and phone number of the contact if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3315.

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Experts: Horse betting provides Texas with jobs

By Michelle Carney  
Reporter

Besides being a primary source of revenue to Texas, pari-mutuel betting will create new jobs across the state.

Projections made in 1986 for the economic contribution of pari-mutuel betting estimated the employment of 4,000 people, Dr. Lonnie Jones of the Texas A&M agricultural economics department said.

"There will definitely be an increased impact on the state's economy," Jones said.

He said the 1986 projections estimate \$42 million in salaries and wages.

As much as \$8 million in generated tax revenues could also be expected, he said.

Locally, the Texas Veterinarian Medical Diagnostic Lab will open a new department which screens racing animals for drug use.

Dr. Allen Ray, head of the equine and canine laboratory, said that as the department opens and expands, jobs will become available for the maintenance and screening of the race animals.

Greyhounds, thoroughbreds and quarterhorses will be screened for drug use as pari-mutuel betting gets underway in 1989.

"Drug testing animals is a mind-boggling chore because no test is all-inclusive," Ray said. "A series of tests is required to get an accurate test result."

The primary screening method used is thin-layer chromatography (TLC), Ray said.

Several urine samples are extracted and screened for different classes of drugs.

Animals are given drugs for the same

reasons people take them.

They relieve muscle tension, mask pain or stimulate muscle growth, he said. A newer form of drug screening is "immuno assay."

This combination of techniques also studies urine samples.

However, it differs from TLC because antibodies are used to detect drug use.

Ninety percent of all drug tests are taken from urine samples, Ray said.

"Drugs are more concentrated in urine and can be detected longer," he said.

Because the drug testing already is conducted in other states, it is just a matter of funds and organization to implement the screening program, Ray said.

Currently, only four labs perform the drug testing.

In a few years, however, twice that many will be in operation, Ray said.

Although expansion takes time and money, the financial burden will not be on the taxpayer.

"Funding will be in the form of loans," Ray said.

Once drug screening is underway, racetrack management will pay for the tests.

Ray, an A&M veterinarian toxicologist for 15 years, said that A&M was the obvious choice to lead the drug testing.

Drug testing will be mandatory for a certain number of animals in each race, Ray said.

The higher-favored animals usually will be tested, he said.

"Only 1 percent or less of racing animals tests positive for drugs," Ray said.

And because there are so few, tests must be accurate.

"You must go from a probably to definitely," Ray said.

Once an animal tests positive for drug use, confirmation techniques are employed.

"In liquid samples, the drug is analyzed by equipment and expertise," he said.

Urine samples from the horses and dogs will be drawn at the track and shipped to Ray's lab for analysis.

"Initial screening is three days after the animal tests positive," Ray said.

"Confirming the results can take a week." Once a test is confirmed, it is reported to the Texas Racing Commission for action.

Preparing to test pari-mutuel betting takes time.

Labs must wait for equipment and they must study other labs' testing techniques to become proficient.

"Lead time is necessary to prepare drug screening," Ray said.

In the past, Ray has consulted departments at Ohio State and Louisiana State Universities.

He plans to return to Ohio State in November to study step-by-step testing procedures.

The pari-mutuel racing tracks are located in various counties throughout the state. Three dog tracks will be in Galveston, Nueces and Cameron counties.

However, no group has yet been licensed to build the tracks, Ray said.

Horse racing is on a larger scale than dog racing and has three classes.

"Class I tracks are the big races and are limited to Houston, San Antonio, Dallas-Fort Worth," Ray said.

Class II tracks may develop on existing tracks in Manor, Goliad and Waverford, he said.

However, the tracks must meet standards of the racing commission.

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