

# State/Local

## Students miss bonfire festivities to assist frightened rape victim

By Melissa Naumann  
Reporter

Heroes are hard to find in a world where bystanders often turn away and ignore cries for help. But on bonfire night, two Texas A&M students proved that heroes can be found anywhere.

Mandy Ussery and Robert Collins were leaving a friend's dormitory that evening when a female student approached them.

"She ran across the quad to us, grabbed me and started screaming,"

said Ussery, a junior elementary education major from Bay City. "She told us she had been raped."

Collins said they took her back into the dormitory, where they called the police. "She was really upset and we thought we should take care of her," the sophomore mechanical engineering major from San Antonio said.

After the police arrived, Ussery and Collins accompanied the victim to the hospital.

"We couldn't just leave her with

the policemen," Ussery said. "After all, she had just been raped and then was supposed to go with the officer, a man she didn't know, to the hospital. I would have been terrified if I was her, so we volunteered to go with her."

Ussery said the woman didn't want to go back to her room, so she stayed with her the rest of the night.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and University Police, thanked the two for their "courageous and compassionate involvement" in a letter

of public commendation.

"What you both did is, unfortunately, a rarity in today's world," Wiatt wrote. "Your willingness to become involved, the care and concern displayed for the victim and the disregard for your own personal welfare and holiday plans, was exemplary and praiseworthy."

"Hopefully, your deed will be regarded as a 'traditional' Aggie response in time of another's need."

Ussery said they did what anyone would do.

## Mother urges parents of tots, teens to be on lookout for Reye Syndrome

MARSHALL (AP) — Carolyn Hymes lost her child to Reye Syndrome six years ago because, she says, of the lack of knowledge about the disease at that time. And with the cold and flu season approaching this year, she is concerned about public awareness.

"As far as people being aware of it, there is not enough publicity," she says.

Reye Syndrome is a disease that afflicts infants to teen-agers. It affects all the organs, but most seriously the liver and brain.

Its symptoms include vomiting, mild convulsions, sleepiness and irritability. If it is not treated right away, the patient slips into a coma, then dies or suffers brain damage.

According to a report by the National Reye Syndrome Foundation, there is a possible link between the disease and products containing aspirin.

"It's the flu season, and people are using a lot of aspirin," Hymes says.

She said she wants to tell people they should not be using aspirin for their children because of the increased chance of contracting Reye.

According to David Perkins, executive director of the National Reye

Foundation, a recent study has shown that the likelihood is four times greater of contracting Reye if the patient has taken an product containing aspirin.

"Unless you have a specific indication that aspirin is needed to treat a disease, I would not give aspirin," he says. "In general, don't treat aspirin lightly. It is a powerful drug."

Perkins says that in June 1986, the Food and Drug Administration ordered that a warning label be placed on all aspirin products on a two-year experimental basis.

He says the warning label was strengthened and made a permanent fixture on aspirin products last December.

The link between Reye and aspirin is also recognized by the Center for Disease Control and the U.S. Surgeon General.

Often Reye is misdiagnosed as Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), diabetes, drug overdose (in older patients) or meningitis, as was the case with Hymes' son, Dustin.

"A lot of that can be Reye, doctors say," Hymes says. "They thought Dustin had a virus at first, then meningitis, then (the doctor) diagnosed it as Reye Syndrome."

After the doctor told her that Dustin had a virus, she began giving him aspirin, but he did not get better, so she took him to the hospital. But the disease was diagnosed too late.

After Dustin died, Hymes joined with a Reye Syndrome support group in Dallas to increase awareness of the disease.

The group's main goal was to gain recognition of the disease by the National Center for Disease Control in Atlanta so research could be more adequately funded.

She circulated petitions and collected hundreds of signatures. Eight months later, the disease was recognized.

"They will investigate it now," she says. "They are now aware and they keep track."

Reye is recognized and reported, but not automatically and not in all states, Perkins says.

"It is still difficult to get good statistical data," he says.

Of the cases reported, he says there has been an increase of the disease in the teen-age population.

## Budget board report: Texas faces shortfall of at least \$1 billion

AUSTIN (AP) — State lawmakers face at least a \$1 billion shortfall, which could possibly balloon to \$2 billion, to maintain the current level of state services, budget leaders said Monday.

Figures from the Legislative Budget Board staff dampened last week's revenue estimate by State Comptroller Bob Bullock, who noted a statewide economic recovery that would result in \$1.6 billion more in revenue than during the current budget period.

But even with the additional \$1.6 billion, state lawmakers will face a \$1 billion shortfall to fund a two-year state budget recommended by the LBB staff.

The LBB staff budget maintains the current level of spending, plus additional funds to cover the costs of increased student enrollment and prison construction.

The staff budget does not take into account any pay increase for state employees, nor inflation, except in some human service areas.

Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, chairman of the budget group that includes House and Senate members, said he thinks the deficit could increase even further.

"Actually, I think a more realistic figure would be \$2 billion when you take into account public school financing," he said.

A state district court judge ruled Texas' school finance system is unconstitutional because it discriminates against students in poor schools, which are unable to raise as much money to educate students as wealthier districts.

But neither Hobby nor House Speaker Gib Lewis, D-Fort Worth, would say whether a tax increase would be needed to bridge the revenue shortfall.

"Nobody can really answer that question right now," Hobby said.

Lewis said the attitude at this point is against another tax bill.

"That's not saying three months from now some situations may exist where we may be forced to do it," Lewis added, referring to federal court orders to improve prisons and mental health-mental retardation facilities.

In 1987, the Legislature passed and Gov. Bill Clements signed into law a record \$5.7 billion tax bill.

Lewis said Comptroller Bullock's revenue estimate may have

been misread by many.

"The comptroller's estimate was made in light that conditions are better today than they were two years ago," Lewis said.

"It may have been misinterpreted by some that life is rosy," he said. "That is not a fact at all."

Hobby said the budget board will direct the staff to come back with a budget within available revenue. This would entail reducing the staff recommendation by about 3.8 percent.

Jim Oliver, director of the Legislative Budget Board staff, said there is not much room in the budget to bring the recommendation in line with available revenue.

One big-ticket item that would face the budget ax is \$330 million for construction of 10,000 prison beds, he said.

Under Bullock's revenue estimate, state lawmakers will have about \$25.5 billion in available revenue for the two-year budget period that begins Sept. 1.

The LBB staff budget is about \$1.068 billion more, at \$26.62 billion.

"Hopefully, the public realizes that there is not just an abundance of surplus money," Lewis said.

"I think a more realistic (deficit) figure would be \$2 billion when you take into account public school financing."

— Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby

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2.04	6,950	\$14,000 .62	7.95		1,500
2.01	5,250	11,000 .60	7.95		1,500
1.78	4,950	10,000 .58	8.50		1,600
1.61	5,325	11,500 .57	6.95		1,500
1.51	3,875	7,000 .55	6.95		1,400
1.49	5,550	12,000 .56	6.95		1,400
1.24	2,500	5,000 .55	6.95		1,400
1.18	2,325	4,600 .51	1,250	2,500	
1.17	2,750	5,000 .55	7.95		1,500
1.11	2,350	4,600 .55	8.95		1,700
1.11	3,950	8,000 .53	5.95		1,000
1.09	2,195	4,000 .53	6.95		1,400
1.09	2,750	5,000 .53	6.95		1,400
1.06	3,850	7,900 .52	8.75		1,600
1.05	1,975	3,380 .52	7.95		1,500
1.04	2,950	2,950 .52	7.95		1,500
1.03	2,850	5,600 .51	8.95		1,700
1.03	2,195	4,000 .50	7.95		1,500
1.03	3,875	7,650 .50	6.95		1,300
1.01	1,495	3,000 .50	7.95		1,500
1.01	1,095	4,000 .48	6.95		1,400
1.01	3,495	7,000 .47	6.95		1,400
1.01	2,185	4,200 .47	6.95		1,400
.95	2,395	4,600 .46	6.50		1,200
.93	1,595	3,000 .46	5.95		1,100
.92	1,850	4,000 .44	5.95		1,100
.92	1,650	3,200 .44	4.95		1,000
.91	3,195	6,000 .43	5.75		1,200
.89	1,350	3,100 .39	2.75		500
.89	1,350	2,600 .37	3.75		600
.88	895	1,700 .36	3.75		600
.88	1,340	2,600 .34	3.75		600
.85	1,685	3,000 .33	2.75		600
.85	2,150	4,000 .30	3.75		600
.83	1,595	3,000 .24	2.15		400
.81	2,250	4,400 .21	165		300
.81	1,025	4,000 .22	185		400
.80	985	2,000 .21	215		400
.77	1,075	1,000 .19	165		300
.77	950	2,000 .18	155		300
.75	1,195	1,900 .16	118		200
.75	1,075	2,200 .15	111		200
.74	1,395	2,600 .14	95		180
.74	1,495	2,900 .12	78		140
.73	1,495	2,800 .10	63		120
.73	1,125	2,200 .09	55		110
.72	1,395	2,600 .08	45		80
.71	1,150	2,300 .07	45		80
.71	1,395	2,700 .06	41		70
.71	1,395	2,700 .05	35		70
.71	1,050	2,100 .04	30		60
.70	1,395	2,700 .03	14.95		30
.70	795	1,400 .02	10.95		30

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1,250	2,400
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5,875	11,000
2,375	5,000
2,250	5,000
2,250	5,000
2,250	5,000
2,750	5,400
2,575	6,000
2,890	6,200
1,850	4,000
1,395	2,780
1,195	2,390
995	1,600
1,275	2,400
1,195	2,000
995	1,800
1,225	1,400
1,225	1,400
1,095	2,200
1,050	2,000
795	1,400
312	600
105	200

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Our Price	Compare at
\$5,425	\$11,000
3,780	7,000
4,285	8,000
2,375	4,600
2,295	4,500
2,495	4,800
2,675	5,200
2,095	4,000
1,590	3,000
1,295	2,400
895	1,600
795	1,500
1,150	2,200
995	1,900
665	1,200
325	600
95	200

**MARQUESE**

Our Price	Compare at
\$11,875	\$23,000
4,775	6,500
2,550	5,200
1,950	4,000
3,275	5,900
3,875	7,600
2,975	4,900
2,275	3,900
1,275	2,200
1,750	3,300
1,795	3,590
1,575	2,980
3,395	7,000
1,895	3,600
795	1,500
1,650	3,300
2,130	4,200
2,095	4,100
1,795	3,300
1,695	4,400
2,250	3,200
1,250	2,400
1,385	2,700
875	1,500
850	1,700
895	1,600
950	1,900
895	1,800
825	1,600
795	1,500
795	1,300
795	1,500
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795	1,500
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