

Monday, January 30, 1989

## UPD nabs alleged felon on campus Police find speeder armed, wanted for theft, attempted murder

By Fiona Soltes

STAFF WRITER

A man stopped for speeding on the Texas A&M campus early Saturday was armed and wanted by Florida police for felony theft and attempted murder.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and University Police, said William Donovan Mulvaney, 22, was arrested on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, possession of firearm by a felon and places where weapons prohibited. It is illegal to have a weapon on the campus of an institution of higher learning.

Mulvaney was stopped for driving 46 mph in a

20 mph zone on N. Bizzell at about 1 a.m. While running a check on Mulvaney's 1987 Chrysler Le Baron, officers discovered the car had been reported stolen in Orlando, Fla., on New Year's Eve. Upon further search the officers found a loaded .38-caliber revolver in Mulvaney's jacket and 150 rounds of ammunition, a hatchet and a hunting knife in the car, Wiatt said.

Florida police later told Wiatt Mulvaney was wanted in Florida for theft of the car which belongs to Henry Jay Sillman. Mulvaney has been charged with the attempted murder of Sillman, 44, who was shot in the head Dec. 31. Sillman remains unconscious in an Orlando hospital with the bullet lodged in his head, Wiatt said.

Mulvaney was also in possession of two credit cards belonging to Sillman, Wiatt said. Several

purchase receipts from Florida, Louisiana and Texas were also found in the car. Local receipts led Wiatt to believe that Mulvaney has been staying at a local motel for about two days. Wiatt said receipts from a local pawn shop also were found for a .32-caliber gun turned in by Mulvaney. Wiatt said it is unknown if either of the guns were used in the shooting of Sillman and will remain unknown until doctors are able to remove the bullet from Sillman's head.

Wiatt said Mulvaney is also wanted in Harris County for violating parole, which he was granted after serving time for fraud. Because of the violation, no bond has been set for Mulvaney, who is being held in the Brazos County Jail until Florida police decide how to handle the case.

## Crime Stoppers' payouts hit record high

By Alan Sembera

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Business was booming last year at Brazos County Crime Stoppers. In 1988, Crime Stoppers paid a record \$13,500 to informants to clear 103 criminal cases.

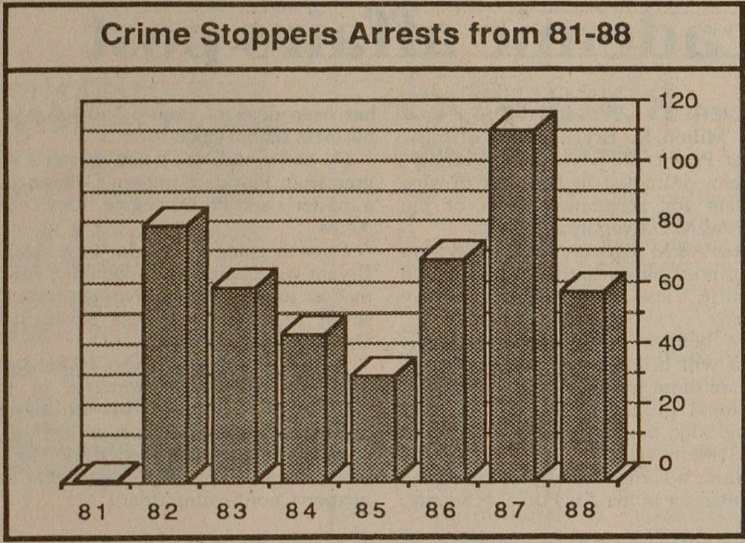
The local Crime Stoppers received 563 tips last year, which was the highest number since its inception in 1981. In 1987, 454 tips were received.

However, Crime Stopper tips led to only 63 arrests in 1988, compared to 116 the previous year.

Christopher Kirk, a Brazos County Sheriff's deputy who coordinates the program, said its recent success can be attributed to increased public awareness and involvement.

Kirk said more people are learning about the program through a weekly broadcast on KBTX-TV, called "Crime of the Week," and through a twice-a-month broadcast called "Crime Stopper's Most Wanted."

In both programs, felonies are re-nacted and rewards are offered to anyone who calls the 775-TIPS hotline and gives an anonymous tip that leads to an arrest or grand-jury indictment.



Graphic by Elva Nolan

The most appealing part of the Crime Stoppers program, Kirk said, is that the callers can remain completely anonymous. Callers are given a number, and no names need to be used, he said.

He said many callers do not want reward money, but are just concerned citizens who don't want to give their names.

Rewards of up to \$1,000 are offered for tips in felony cases. Kirk

said five \$1,000 rewards were given out last year.

One was for an informant who gave the name of a man who was later arrested in connection with the rape and attempted murder of an A&M student in October.

Another \$1,000 went to a caller who helped University police recover seven Aggie rings that were stolen from the Clayton Williams Alumni Center in July.

The money to pay the rewards comes from donations within the community, Kirk said, and is used to pay for tips leading to the solving of all types of crimes.

The Brazos County Sheriff's Department pays Kirk to coordinate the program and also gives him clerical help.

Kirk said when an anonymous informant calls in a tip, police agencies usually must find additional evidence before a search can be conducted or an arrest made.

But sometimes warrants are issued solely on the basis of a tip, he said.

This happens when Crime Stoppers receives a tip from an informant who has proven to be credible in the past, he said.

About a dozen informants have been given this status, he said.

Texas A&M instituted a program similar to Crime Stoppers last semester.

The program offers rewards of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the solving of campus felonies.

The crimes to which these rewards will apply must be publicly announced, or no rewards will be given.

These rewards will accompany any offered by Crime Stoppers, a University spokesman said.

## A&M Greeks react to interracial fraternity

By Holly Beeson

REPORTER

Fraternity members at Texas A&M have mixed emotions about a white student at the University of New Mexico trying to reactivate a historically black fraternity and make it an interracial organization.

The fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, is a predominantly black fraternity, but has admitted all races since 1945.

"I don't know the motives of the student at New Mexico," said Tommy Duncan, president of the Alpha Phi Alpha chapter at A&M, "but a lot of reactions will probably be negative."

He said the white student, Mark Burney, will need much support from surrounding chapters if the reactivation is to succeed.

Duncan said Alpha Phi Alpha was formed at a time when blacks were overtly oppressed and had little or no rights.

"The purpose of starting the organization in 1906 was to group young black men who were trying to support themselves while going to school," Duncan said. "They needed to create more of an intimate bond with each other, and promote brotherhood and unity."

There seems to be a difference in some of the goals of historically black and historically white fraternities, he said.

"One of our major objectives is to focus on service projects," Duncan said. "This is a lot different than the goals of historically white fraternities."

Alpha Phi Alpha also puts great emphasis on helping support the objectives of their national body.

Duncan said his fraternity selects pledges that have high standards and high moral character.

"We want people who are ambitious," he said. "They should want to contribute something to



their community and want to improve themselves as well."

However, a historically white fraternity at A&M has different considerations when looking for prospective members.

"When we look at a pledge we look for four qualities," Bill Thomas, president of Phi Kappa Tau, said. "He has to either be an athlete, a face man, a leader or a scholarship recipient."

He said racial requirements are not stated in his fraternity's constitution and the organization doesn't consider race when selecting new members. Phi Kappa Tau is the only historically white fraternity on campus that has a black member.

"He was just initiated," Thomas said, "and he's definitely an asset to our fraternity."

Reggie Parks, the first black member of Phi Kappa Tau, joined the fraternity because it had the qualities for which he was looking.

"I was looking for a fraternity that had people who weren't fake," Parks said. "I wanted people that I could relate to easily and a fraternity that was down to earth."

He said he considered joining a historically black fraternity, but didn't want to be labeled as "just another black person."

Parks doesn't get negative reactions from his family or friends for being the only black in the fraternity, but says he's prepared for it.

"I have a white stepfather."

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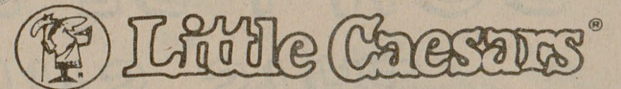
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