

The Battalion

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College Station, Texas

WEATHER

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY:
Mostly to partly cloudy and mild.
There is a 30 percent chance of scattered thundershowers.
HIGH:73 LOW:55

Wednesday, April 12, 1989

Satanists offered UT student as human sacrifice, police say

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Authorities blame human sacrifice by a satanic cult of drug smugglers for the deaths of a dozen people, including a University of Texas student, whose bodies were found buried on a ranch Tuesday just south of the Mexican border.

"It was horrible," said Alex Perez, sheriff of Cameron County, the southernmost in Texas. "It was like a human slaughterhouse."

The dead include a 21-year-old UT student who disappeared in the Mexican town of Matamoros, just across the Rio Grande from Brownsville, during his spring break vacation March 14, sheriff's Lt. George Gavito said.

Authorities declined to identify other victims, but said all were males. Police believe two of them died after the UT student.

The dead apparently were sacrificed by drug smugglers who believed satanic rituals would protect them from authorities, Gavito said.

The cult had been involved in human sacrifices for about nine months, he said, and prayed to the devil "so the police would not arrest them, so bullets would not kill them, and so they could make more money."

Authorities declined to describe evidence found at the ranch, but displayed some small color snapshots they said were taken there. One pic-

ture showed a caldron containing a dark red liquid and what appeared to be bones. Another showed 12 body bags.

"I've been an investigator 15 years and it's one of the worst things I've ever seen," Gavito said.

Four people have been arrested by Mexican Federal Judicial Police and more arrests were expected, Gavito said. The suspects include U.S. and Mexican citizens, he said.

The bodies were found Tuesday morning on the ranch located about 20 miles west of Matamoros, Gavito said. Authorities refused to pinpoint the location of the graves and said the area had been sealed.

Mark Kilroy, the missing pre-med

student from UT, vanished from a crowded Matamoros street before dawn March 14 while on a drinking foray with a group of friends.

Kilroy apparently was taken at random after members of the cult "were told to pick one Anglo male that particular night," Gavito said.

Kilroy's body was found in a 3-foot deep grave, Gavito said, and the other bodies were buried nearby.

After a search of the ranch, police got a confession from one suspect, and that led to the other arrests, Gavito said.

At least one of the suspects admitted involvement in Kilroy's

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Police seize rifles, arrest hundreds in attempt to stabilize Soviet Georgia

MOSCOW (AP) — Police arrested hundreds of people and were seizing tens of thousands of hunting rifles from Soviet Georgians in an attempt to calm the republic, which on Tuesday mourned 19 people killed in a pro-independence rally.

Tanks, armored personnel carriers and soldiers patrolled the streets of the southern republic's capital, Tbilisi, to enforce a ban on public gatherings and an 11 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew.

President Mikhail S. Gorbachev said he considered it a "sacred" principle that Georgians and others should have the right to express their opinions freely, but said the law set limits on their actions, reported the head of West Germany's Social Democratic Party, who met with Gorbachev on Tuesday.

"The question of state power is nothing to be trifled with or taken lightly," Hans-Jochen Vogel quoted the Soviet leader as saying.

Reports indicated a general strike that began Friday to back demands for Georgia's secession was easing. Some buses and trolleys resumed routes Tuesday, said Nana Natadze, the wife of a Georgian nationalist activist. She said many schools remained closed because of a boycott.

Tuesday was declared a day of mourning to mark what the Georgian Communist Party leader, Djhumber Patiashvili, called "a common grief" — the deaths of civilians killed in a clash Sunday with soldiers and police at the pro-independence demonstration.

Cars and trolleys were adorned with black flags and people wore black clothes and ribbons,

Natadze said.

"Everything is black," she said in a telephone interview from the city of 1.2 million people, 900 miles south of Moscow. "Everyone's suffering."

Georgian radio and TV canceled regular programs to play dirges and report news, said Nana Gogua, another Tbilisi resident whose daughter, Irina Sarishvili, was among a half-dozen Georgian activists arrested over the weekend.

All entertainment activities were called off, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported.

About 200 people were arrested for violating the curfew, and police were confiscating 66,000 registered hunting rifles from the public temporarily, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Genady I. Gerasimov told reporters Tuesday.



Give 'em a hand

Photo by Dean Saito

Students from Professor Malcom Quantrill's contemporary architecture class raise "The Cubit," a 24-foot tall sculpture, Tuesday in honor of the Cubit International Symposium on Architecture and Culture at Texas A&M Wednesday through Friday.

Attorneys accuse North of violating Navy code

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oliver North defended his honor and his efforts on behalf of the Nicaraguan Contras Tuesday against a fusillade of suggestions from the prosecutor that he violated the code he was taught at the Naval Academy.

"At the U.S. Naval Academy you would have been kicked out for this," prosecutor John Kecker asked at one point.

"In the U.S. Naval Academy nobody taught me to run a covert operation," North retorted. Nor about "political warfare going on in Washington in 1983-1986."

On specific matters, North:

- Denied he tried to help his associate, Richard Secord, make \$500,000 by renting a ship to the CIA, which turned out not to be interested in the offer.
- Said he merely was following orders when he drafted a letter to Congress denying involvement in helping the Contras at a time when official aid was barred.
- At the Naval Academy you were taught falsehood included deception," Kecker asked the witness, a Marine lieutenant colonel until he resigned in the wake of the Iran-Contra affair.

Kecker said, "They do teach you

"You were also trained to obey all lawful orders," asked Kecker, underlining the word lawful on a large pad on an easel facing the jury.

"Did you take courses in that and learn what was meant by lawful and unlawful? . . . You were trained and taught that it was a crime when in World War II at the end of the war German officers came and said they were ordered to do it?"

North said, "I don't believe I have ever received an unlawful order."

North said he was following orders from National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane when he drafted a letter to Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee. That letter denied news accounts that the National Security Council staff was soliciting donations and offering tactical advice to the Contras. It is at the heart of several charges concerning lying to or obstructing Congress.

Taken through the draft phrase-by-phrase, line-by-line, North said he omitted some facts and shaded others because they would have disclosed efforts, including President Reagan's, to help the Contras while the law forbade it.

Kecker said, "They do teach you



Oliver North Battalion file photo

(at the Naval Academy) even real warfare, not just political warfare, has rules?"

North: "It would be nice to see those rules apply."

Kecker: "And since other people didn't apply those rules, you weren't going to apply them either."

North: "I applied a lot of rules. . . . I did not consider the fact a letter from a Cabinet officer (McFarlane) to a congressman could possibly be unlawful. It never occurred to me that the omission of certain words in a letter to Congress would be considered a violation of law."

Officials blame cocaine, crack for recent resurgence of syphilis

DALLAS (AP) — State officials say an increase in the use of cocaine and crack statewide has sparked the resurgence of syphilis, a disease health officials once thought they had defeated.

In Texas, where for several years the number of syphilis cases has been declining, there was a 15 percent increase in cases in 1988 and it may increase by another 20 to 25 percent by the end of 1989, said Joe Pair, who heads the sexually transmitted disease control division at the Texas Department of Health. And the reason is expensive, illegal drugs, he said.

"These people don't even consider themselves prostitutes, because no money is changing hands. But they are exchanging sex for drugs," said Lois Kantor, who manages the sexually transmitted disease program for the Tarrant County Health Department. "They don't look on it as a pleasurable activity. It's usually a transaction more than anything."

Researchers and health professionals say crack, a smokable derivative of cocaine, is the illegal drug causing most of the problem. It is

cheap — about \$20 per dosage — easy to get and quickly addictive.

Crack is highly addictive and increases sexual appetites, health officials say. To that end, people who crave the drug often end up trading sex for drugs — despite the low price.

Sex "just kind of goes hand in hand with the drugs," Hugh Ramsey of the Houston Health Department told the *Dallas Times Herald*.

"Indigent individuals have very little with which to barter for drugs

of red wine samples that were studied, has been identified as quercetin, Leighton said.

A mutagen is an agent that brings about a mutation, or a change in a gene.

White and rose wines and red and white grape juices contain low or no levels of mutagen, Leighton said. But red wines contain varying amounts of quercetin.

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Scientists say red wine carries cancer deterrent

DALLAS (AP) — After setting out to detect a mutagen in red wine, a researcher said Tuesday that the potentially harmful substance also has been determined to be a powerful anti-cancer agent.

"The bottom line in terms of wine: It's sort of a bad news turned to good news situation," said Terrance Leighton, a microbiology professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

The mutagen, found in a variety

of red wine samples that were studied, has been identified as quercetin, Leighton said.

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Local foundation stresses need for information on AIDS



Photo by Jay Janner

Kirk White, public awareness chairman for the Brazos Valley AIDS Foundation Helpline, helps distribute literature and condoms in the MSC Tuesday.

By Juliette Rizzo
STAFF WRITER

"Know the Facts, Not the Rumors" is the message representatives of the Brazos Valley AIDS Foundation were trying to give students Monday in the MSC by distributing AIDS information pamphlets and condoms.

The foundation was one of many community and campus organizations represented at the 1989 Health and Wellness Fair in the MSC, sponsored by the Texas A&M Center for Drug Prevention and Education.

Kirk White, public awareness chairman for the Brazos Valley AIDS Foundation Helpline, said the foundation came to campus because it wanted students to be aware they can control the spread of AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, through safe sexual practices, including the use of condoms.

White said most students who are sexually active tend to ignore the threat of AIDS and don't always practice safe sex. According to the AIDS information pamphlet passed out by the foundation, it is not who you are that is the main concern, but what you do and how you do it.

"Students ignore AIDS, but it can happen to them," White said. "Students may not come down with the disease until after graduation. But if they do, they will contract it now."

White said AIDS is a larger problem in Brazos Valley than most people believe.

"People used to think it just doesn't happen here," he said. "But it does."

He said those who have the disease used to be afraid

to admit it to the community. When they finally did go to the community for help, no help was available, he said.

"A trend started as people needing assistance turned to the big cities for help," White said. "Now, all that has changed."

With the rise in the number of people in the community needing help, came a rise in the amount of quality assistance available, he said.

The Brazos Valley AIDS Foundation, a non-profit organization staffed by volunteers, established a helpline to inform the public about the AIDS epidemic.

White said the helpline offers medical information about the disease, and community and national referrals. The helpline also supplies information to assist in general non-AIDS crisis situations. The line is open 5-11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. An answering machine takes calls after hours, and responses are made as soon as possible.

White said the phones are manned by volunteers, like himself, who are taught the latest AIDS information, AIDS-related topics and crisis intervention.

He said more than 1,200 pamphlets about the disease and the helpline were distributed to students in the MSC. Some students approached him voluntarily, he said, but the majority were hesitant.

"We tried to make the students more aware," he said. "They might not read the information, but by passing it out, hopefully more students know help is available here in the Brazos Valley."

For additional information and referral, contact the AIDS/Crisis Helpline at (409) 690-AIDS.