

U.T. center increases security after break-in at animal lab

AUSTIN (AP) — A center that provides animals for University of Texas research has increased security since a group of animal rights advocates broke into another university's lab.

"We've gone to rigid enforcement of security procedures every day," said Jerry Fineg, director of the Animal Resource Center on the UT-Austin campus.

Fineg said he now locks all inside and outside doors

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— Ann Koros, Animal rights advocate

at the 50,000-square-foot center, which also provides animals for biomedical teaching.

In last month's incident at Texas Tech University, animal rights advocates took five cats used in sleep experiments and did \$70,000 worth of damage. The break-in was the first in Texas.

The Animal Resource Center has 22 African monkeys, dozens of rabbits, a few dogs and cats, and thousands of rodents.

Only the monkeys are unavailable for "acute studies," the term for experiments that may injure or kill.

"Ultimately all of the (others) are euthanized," Fineg told the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Fineg, a veterinarian, added that pain "is not ever considered a normal part of an experiment."

"But many times, it is unavoidable," he said. "We can ameliorate the pain with an anesthetic in many cases. Investigators are not as cold-blooded as they are sometimes made out to be."

Animal rights advocate Ann Koros distances herself from those who commit crimes for the cause. But she says animal research is pointless violence.

"I don't think anyone has the right to use any animal for any purpose," Koros, founder of Animal Rights Kinship Inc. in Austin, said. "Certainly not to make some new and improved dishwasher detergent or something like that."

"Ultimately, we want to stop all animal testing. They've been doing cancer research for years and years and there's just a small percentage of people who have actually been helped or progress that has really taken place," she said.

Anthropologist Claude Bramblett of UT does his research at the Animal Resource Center behind a two-way mirror, studying the behavior of the African monkeys.

"If you work with them, you develop strong feelings about them and a deep respect," Bramblett said.

"But there were roughly a dozen monkeys, along with a lot of dogs, used in the development of a rabies vaccine," he said. "I'm sure it was not friendly to them. But think of the tremendous benefit to humans and dogs and cats. Sometimes, the possibilities are so great that it would be unthinkable not to do it."

Construction contractor seeks excavation of ship

GALVESTON (AP) — A construction contractor believes it's time to raise the TSS Zavala, an early 19th century Texas Navy steamer that now rests 12 feet under ground.

"It needs to be done," said Robert Weeks, a construction business owner who has no experience excavating ships. "And it needs to be done correctly."

Weeks wants to raise enough money to salvage the Zavala, a 201-foot-long, steam-powered ship that's buried under a dirt parking lot near Galveston's Pier 29.

The vessel was discovered in November 1986 by the National Underwater and Marine Agency Inc., but the Denver-based group couldn't afford to excavate it.

Now Weeks has launched an effort to bring the Zavala above ground once again. He has formed the Navy of the Republic of Texas Inc., a non-profit group, in an effort to raise the estimated \$70,000 to \$100,000 needed for the job.

"I've been working on it for a year," Weeks said. "I've got a

background in organization in something like this. I am in the construction business and familiar with what we have to do with it."

Craig Dirgo, special projects director for the agency that excavated the ship, said he is glad someone has taken an interest in the ship, which, he added, is an important part of Texas history.

"The Texas Navy has been overlooked, and Texas is the only state that had its own navy," Dirgo said.

The ship was named after Lorenzo de Zavala, the first vice president of the Republic of Texas. It was commissioned in 1839 and is the only Texas Navy ship ever to be found.

The Zavala's primary job was to protect Galveston and the upper Texas coast from invasions from Mexico. It participated in one battle when it was sent to the Yucatan Peninsula in 1840 to aid a rebel faction in a Mexican civil war.

After returning to Galveston in 1842, the Zavala was scrapped a year later and abandoned.

Hostages

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Hezbollah is believed to be an umbrella for pro-Iranian kidnappers holding most of the 16 Western hostages in Lebanon, eight of whom are Americans.

Khaled Hasnawi, the Algerian ambassador, also met with Hoss and later with Sheikh Sobhi Tofaili, a senior Hezbollah leader.

Tofaili and Hasnawi told reporters they focused on ways of getting Israel to free Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a cleric affiliated with Hezbollah. Israeli commandos abducted Obeid on July 28 from his home in south Lebanon.

Israel has offered to trade Obeid and other Lebanese Shiites it holds for the Western hostages and three Israeli soldiers held in Lebanon.

Hasnawi sounded optimistic about a swap when he began his mediation last week on orders of Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria.

Asked on Monday about his views, the ambassador said: "I haven't set a deadline in any of my previous statements. It might take one, two or even three years."

Goulding said he was unable to determine whether Lt. Col. William R. Higgins was killed by his pro-Iranian captors.

"I have not been able to ascertain whether Colonel Higgins was still alive," he said. "I hope that he is but I haven't been able to confirm that he is. Equally, I haven't been able to confirm that he is dead. The question remains an open one."

A group calling itself the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth said it hanged the U.S. Marine officer July 31 in retaliation for Israel's abduction of Obeid three days earlier.

Higgins, 44, commanded U.N. truce observers when he was kidnapped Feb. 17, 1988, in south Lebanon.

State lawmakers support proposed amendment requiring jurors to be informed of parole laws

AUSTIN (AP) — Jurors must know about parole laws to make honest decisions when sentencing criminals, said law enforcement officials Monday in support of a proposed constitutional amendment to give jurors that information.

"This proposition will take the handcuffs off the people and let the public join in the fight against crime," said Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle.

"To keep the public in the dark this way is a shame and a disgrace, and the result of this is the kind of crime rate that we see today," Earle said at a news conference with lawmakers and representatives of the Texas Police Chiefs Association, Texas District and County Attorneys Association and police officer associations from Austin and Houston.

The proposed amendment on the Nov. 7 bal-

lot would allow judges to inform juries about the effects that good-time and parole laws have on the time that a convicted person actually serves.

Sen. J. E. "Buster" Brown, R-Lake Jackson, and Rep. Dan Morales, D-San Antonio, head a coalition called "Texans for Truth in Sentencing" that hopes to raise and spend \$25,000 to push for passage of the proposition. The two lawmakers sponsored the proposed amendment during the regular legislative session.

Morales has announced his bid for attorney general, while Brown is considering a run at that office.

Among those on the coalition's executive committee are representatives of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas, National Victims Center, district attorneys, sheriffs and, police chiefs.

The proposed amendment is meant "to inject some degree of honesty, some degree of integrity, into the operation of our criminal justice system," Morales said.

Brown said the proposal would not necessarily result in longer sentences.

Some jurors now support harsher sentences because they think they know how the parole laws work, he said.

The Texas Department of Corrections is under a federal court order against crowding, so county officials have complained that their jails are stuffed with felons awaiting space in state prison.

To address the problem, lawmakers have approved construction of more prisons and creation of community alternatives to prison.

Newspaper war heating up in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — The *Dallas Times Herald* filed suit Monday against the owner of its crosstown rival, the *Dallas Morning News*, as one of the nation's fiercest newspaper wars returned to court after a yearlong absence.

In a lawsuit filed in Houston, the smaller *Times Herald* asked a Texas judge to prevent *Morning News* owner A.H. Belo Corp. from acquiring exclusive Dallas-area rights to 26 comics, columns and other features it currently publishes.

The lawsuit claims Belo and Universal Press Syndicate will "inexorably harm competition in the Dallas market" if the rights are granted.

The *Times Herald* chose Houston seeking neutrality, President L.L. "Ike" Massey said. "Both the *Times Herald* and the *Morning News* have loyal and dedicated followings in Dallas and we think it is best to hear this suit only on its merits," he said.

Belo announced last week it had formed a joint ven-

ture with Universal Press Syndicate to explore television programming possibilities for some of the syndicate's features, which include such comic strips as *Doonesbury* and *The Far Side*, popular advice column *Dear Abby* and columnists *Erma Bombeck* and *James J. Kilpatrick*.

As part of that agreement, Belo — which also owns Dallas' top television station — acquired the exclusive rights to the syndicate's features in the market.

"We regret that it is necessary to go to the courts to protect our rights and those of our readers who have loyally followed these features in the *Times Herald*," Massey said in a prepared statement.

"We like competition and believe it is vital to the Dallas market, but we want to compete fairly and honestly."

"The Belo company is attempting to unfairly increase its influence in the Dallas market, where it already operates the larger newspaper, the leading television station and seven community newspapers," Massey said.

Commission

(Continued from page 1)

civilians and police, Bledsoe said.

"There is a disproportionate number of minorities that do die in law enforcement custody," he said.

"Dallas is in a very volatile situation. The Hemphill case can repeat itself in other Texas cities," he said, referring to police shootings in Dallas and the 1987 Loyal Garner Jr. case in Hemphill.

Garner was arrested and died from a beating he received in jail. Charges against three white law officers in the slaying were dismissed.

"We have a problem with people not knowing how to relate to members of the minority community. The proper standards have not been set in order to address the problem," Bledsoe said.

He said racism is the reason a black has yet to be appointed to the

14-member commission. Nine of the 14 members are appointed by the governor.

He cited the 1986 furor when a former commission member, Suzanne Hildebrand of San Antonio, used a racial slur in addressing a black officer after he refused to allow her to enter a restricted parking lot.

Bledsoe and Tippitt planned to meet Monday with James Huffines, Clements' appointments secretary, to submit a list of 21 possible candidates to fill three spots on the commission whose terms expire Aug. 31.

Rossanna Salazar, Clements' press secretary, said the governor will consider those presented and others. "We are looking at a number of people and the governor will appoint the most qualified Texan to the commission," she said.

"Among the people being considered are minorities," she said.

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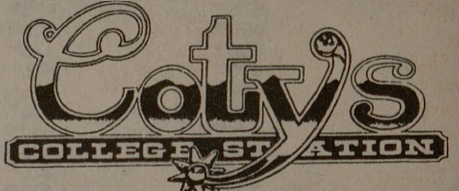
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