

Wednesday, November 22, 1989

## Police Beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department between Nov. 9 and Friday.

### SEXUAL ASSAULT:

• A student in Wells Hall was sexually assaulted by another student. The woman did not file charges, but did want the matter handled through Student Affairs.

### PLACES WEAPONS PROHIBITED, RECKLESS CONDUCT AND CRIMINAL MISCHIEF:

• A student reported that while his car was parked on Disposal Plant Road, three cars drove past his car and one of the cars shot the driver's side of the door with what appeared to be a .38 caliber bullet. Neither he nor his passenger were injured.

College Station police said they received reports of shots fired near Treehouse Apartments and Anderson Lane ten minutes after the incident on campus.

### POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY:

• Officer's recovered several stolen items from a room in Moore Hall. The two students residing in the room said the items were remnants from a scavenger hunt. Charges are pending notification of owners.

### BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE:

• Car burglars were caught red-handed when officers responded to a report of possible burglaries in progress in Parking Area 40. Six vehicles were identified as being broken into, and some property was recovered. There was also evidence found which linked these two suspects to previous burglaries in various campus parking lots.

• TAMU parking hang-tag's were stolen from a car in Parking Area 66 and 48.

• A stereo system and radar detector were stolen from a car in Parking Area 40.

• Cash was stolen from a car ashtray in Parking Area 61.

• Tools were stolen from a car in Parking Area 56.

• T-tops were stolen from a car in Parking Area 56.

• A padlock was forcibly removed from the Warrior Builders office trailer.

### MISDEMEANOR THEFT:

• A United States flag was stolen from the flagpole on the Academic Mall. The flag is owned by UPD, but maintained by the Corps of Cadets.

• An automatic door opener was stolen from the McKenzie Terminal construction site.

• A Wall Street Journal paper rack from Ireland Street was stolen.

• A wallet was stolen from a room in the Peterson Building.

• Three bicycle's were stolen from various locations around campus.

### TERRORISTIC THREAT:

• Officers responded to the Blocker Building after a bomb threat against that building was received by College Station Police Department, and information relayed to the University Police Department. A search of the building didn't reveal any suspicious articles or persons.

### BURGLARY OF A BUILDING:

• A pH meter from the Chemistry Building was stolen. A witness identified the suspect and the meter was returned.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF:

• The anti-apartheid shanty was demolished.

• Four hubcaps were stolen from a student's car in Area 61, and a tire was punctured as well.

• A rear window was broken on a car parked in Area 62.

• T-tops were shattered on a car in Parking Area 40.

• A car hit another car with the door of the vehicle while on Ireland Street.

• Dumpsters in Parking Area 30 and Area 2 were engulfed in raging flames. Authorities said the fires were set within ten minutes of each other.

• That same day, two trashcans on the first floor of McInnis Hall were set on fire.

### ARSON:

• The burning continues, a sofa and trashcan were set on fire in Lounge A-3.

**THE CRIME PREVENTION UNIT IS AVAILABLE TO ANYONE REQUESTING INFORMATION ON COMBATING CRIME. Call 845-8900.**

## Student hostages help police team

By Julie Myers

Of The Battalion Staff

Several Texas A&M drama students will be able to hone their acting abilities while helping the College Station hostage negotiation team prepare for real-life situations.

Students in role playing positions will play hostages and hostage takers, Sgt. and Team Commander Larry Johnson said.

In a smaller city like College Station, most hostage situations involve domestic violence. Consequently, students will focus on playing husbands and wives.

Johnson said the basic hostage scenario usually involves an argument, unemployment, depression, psychosis or drug use — emotions that can be hard to realistically duplicate.

"Surprisingly, role-players fall into the action without too much difficulty," Johnson said. "In most cases, they can relate (the situation) to some incident in their lives. It becomes pretty realistic."

Johnson said role-playing a hostage situation before a crisis occurs gives S.W.A.T. and hostage negotiation teams insight into the emotional interplay between hostages, their captors and law enforcement.

For this reason he said more departments are finding hostage negotiation teams helpful as opposed to using force.

"It's not a traditional police response in that we are not necessarily trying to respond as quickly as possible," he said.

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— Sgt. Larry Johnson, College Station PD

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Role-playing brings CSPD closer to its goal of ending crisis situations peacefully. Unlike most crisis situations, Johnson said hostage negotiating is one of the few times a police officer can talk as a person and not just a cop.

Role-playing is one part of the ongoing, once a month training for the five member team, which is the only one of its kind between Dallas and Houston. Most recently, they have negotiated the release of a female hostage during the Southwest Savings bank robbery last year.

## Senate defeats workers' comp

### Members return amended Hobby bill to House

AUSTIN (AP) — House leaders voiced disappointment Tuesday after a rebellious Senate defeated major aspects of a business-backed workers' compensation plan, but an optimistic Gov. Bill Clements said some rebels may only be posturing.

House Speaker Gib Lewis, whose more conservative chamber now goes to work on the proposal, said defeat of the plan written by Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby was a major setback.

"I would say we probably are back to square one," said Lewis, D-Fort Worth, as lawmakers continue to try to break an impasse that has lasted since January.

Clements, who has called the Legislature into special session twice seeking workers' comp reform, said he thinks lawmakers will get the job done this time. Some Democratic senators, he suggested, were posturing politically in the knowledge that the final bill could be substantially different.

"I think that they probably wanted to make a record at that particular stage of the process," the Republican governor said. "There's certain of those senators who want to manifest their independence at this stage."

"But you know, this is just the first chapter in a long book," Clements said. "By the time we get to the end of the story, I think everything will be all right. I'm still optimistic about it."

But Sen. Carl Parker, who led the drive to amend Hobby's bill, said the slim majorities on major amendments for his side will hold.

In comments before the Senate adjourned, Parker, D-Port Arthur, said he knows of no one who intends to change his vote.

"If there are I'd like to know who, because it means that I'd be most disappointed in some of my colleagues who have given me their word," Parker said.

The workers' compensation system has been under fire for more than a year. Business says it is too expensive, while labor says benefits are too small.

Voting 22-9 Wednesday, the Senate sent the House an amended Hobby bill that wound up being close to the proposal preferred by organized labor and trial lawyers. The Senate also approved, on voice vote, a bill that would allow large companies to self-insure, but a proposal to make compensation coverage mandatory failed.

Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, who voted against the reform plan, said, "It's my strong feeling that our body has returned to business as usual."

Under the bill, maximum weekly benefits would be increased from \$238 to \$416, an injured worker could

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appeal a disputed comp claim to a jury trial and permanent injury benefits would be calculated on how that injury impaired the employee's ability to work.

Hobby had proposed raising the maximum weekly benefits from \$238 to \$416, but opponents said the factors used to calculate the benefits would have lowered benefits for low-paid employees.

Hobby also proposed restricting jury trials and a set schedule for calculating permanent injuries. These changes by Hobby were sought business groups, which claim high benefit awards and court settlements are behind rising insurance premiums.

Lewis said the House likely would amend the Senate-passed bill, adding that he hopes some senators would moderate their views.

## Walk or run in annual Turkey Trot

A&M's 20th annual Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot will begin at 8 a.m. Thursday in front of G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The trot is a 3.1 mile run/jog/walk (depending on the individual participant's condition) held rain or shine and open to anyone interested in participating.

The annual event is a non-competitive activity designed to promote individual fitness, says coordinator Dr. Jack Chevrette of the University's Department of Health and Physical Education.

Students, faculty, staff and members of the Bryan-College Station community, as well as their Thanksgiving guests and any visitors to the area, are invited and encouraged to join in the fun by participating in the trot, Chevrette says.

There is no advanced registration, no fee and each runner/jogger/walker will receive a certificate of participation.

The trot begins at 8 a.m. from the front of G. Rollie White Coliseum on the campus and ends at the same location after circling the university golf course.

For more information, contact Chevrette at 845-7249.

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