



Pro-choice activists to assemble

Riots wreak havoc in English prisons

By SUZANNE CALDERON
Of The Battalion Staff

Students across the country will demonstrate their support for a woman's right to decide her options in a crisis pregnancy situation on National Pro-Choice Campus Day, April 5.

Texas A&M pro-choice activists will rally together on Thursday in the school's first major pro-choice event. They will join campuses across the nation on April 5 for a day of rallies on National Pro-Choice Campus Day sponsored by the National Abortion Rights Action League and United States Student Association.

During a teleconference from NARAL headquarters in Washington D.C. on Monday, Elissa McBride, NARAL campus coordinator, said the rally at A&M on Thursday will be a first.

"It's one of their first major rallies there, and they are really excited about getting students out," McBride said, during the teleconference which connected student newspapers from eight universities across the nation.

"It is actually a campus that has been considered to be a conservative stronghold from what I understand — they are excited about showing a pro-choice majority," she said.

McBride said Bob Bingaman, the national field director for NARAL, who spent many years as a student organizer for the the USSA, will be speaking at the A&M rally.

Kate Michelman, executive director of NARAL said, "All of this is designed to harness what has been tremendous energy ... by students as they have become aware that their right to choose is very seriously threatened — a right they have grown up believing was theirs could be gone with the stroke of a pen."

Michelman said for the first time students are recognizing the importance of the right to choose and of understanding that rights are won by political action and not just granted. People have to work and suffer for their rights, she said.

"Our reproductive rights have not come about easily and they can be lost if we are not vigilant," she said. "Over the years we have not been vigilant — we have taken it for granted and become complacent."

Michelman said it is important to remember that the pro-choice movement advocates women's rights to determine for themselves their options in the case of a crisis pregnancy. She said pro-choice is not pro-abortion.

"We are not pro-abortion, in fact, if we could do anything in our power, the most important thing to do would be to eliminate the need for abortion," she said.

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Inmates at Long Lartin Prison attempted a mass breakout Monday night and about 30 convicts barricaded themselves on a prison landing after guards foiled the escape bid, the Home Office reported.

At a second prison in central England, Strangeways Prison at Manchester, nearly 100 inmates ran loose Monday but guards regained control of much of the riot-damaged facility and officials were in contact with the remaining inmates still inside, authorities said.

The Home Office, which is responsible for prisons, said in a statement that guards at low-security Long Lartin grabbed a group of prisoners as they tried to scale the 15-foot wire mesh perimeter fence. The guards led them back into the building without violence, it said.

The statement did not say how many inmates tried to break out, but said other inmates immediately began demonstrating, forcing guards to retreat.

The Home Office said about 30 prisoners barricaded themselves on one of the landings of a prison wing and kept guards at bay early Tuesday.

At Strangeways, prisoners hung up a flag saying "No Dead," but the government said deaths could not be ruled out in one of Britain's worst prison riots.

Authorities said 37 inmates and 12 prison guards had been injured since riots began Sunday at Strangeways, one of the most crowded jails in Britain. News media reported unconfirmed accounts of up to 12 deaths.

Prison staff regained control of four cell blocks and the kitchen Monday after scores of inmates surrendered. Rioters still held five blocks, said the Home Office.

The Home Office said 99 prisoners were still loose, but Ivor Serle, chairman of the Strangeways Prison Officers' Association, put the number at 80 to 90 after more men surrendered in the evening.

Serle said he was in three wings of the

prison and saw no bodies.

About a dozen masked inmates remained on the steep roofs in the night cold, waving and shouting.

"I think it will go on until tomorrow. ... They've got plenty of food, plenty of drugs and plenty of fresh air," Serle said, referring to looting of hospital storerooms.

Home Secretary David Waddington said some surrendering prisoners claimed a number of inmates were dead, but he said no bodies had been found.

"But the possibility that fatalities have occurred cannot be ruled out," he added.

"The general picture is of prisoners indulging in violence on other prisoners — the full consequences of which remain to be discovered," Waddington told a hushed House of Commons.

He said nine surrendering prisoners claimed to have been forcibly injected with drugs by other inmates.

Dr. Philip Randall of North Manchester General Hospital said most of the more se-

rious injuries were caused by prisoners assaulting other prisoners.

By late afternoon, 1,458 inmates had been transferred to other prisons. Seventy-four more were awaiting transport and 114 were still loose inside the prison, the Home Office said.

"The (prison) governor has been in touch with the prisoners all day long," said Home Office spokesman Roy Payne. "There has been no confrontation, no demands and no threat."

Police with riot gear were on stand-by along with squads of armed officers.

"The riot is the worst prison disturbance this century," said a Labor Party spokesman, Barry Sheerman. "Strangeways is a ghastly place and conditions there are very difficult for the inmates and the staff."

There was no clear indication what caused the rioting. It began during Sunday morning service in the prison chapel, when inmates grabbed keys from guards and used them to gain access to large areas of the facility.

Keep your chin up



Clem Heick, a sophomore business major from Richardson, studies history Monday on a small hill near Davis-Gary Hall.

Photo by Fredrick D. Joe

Faculty casts votes for 29 Senate seats

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

One day before students returned to the ballot boxes for runoff elections, the Texas A&M faculty voted on 29 Faculty Senate seats open this year.

The Faculty Senate elections Monday, which decided one-third of the Senate seats, drew 616 faculty members to the ballot boxes, a big drop from last year's total of 817.

Election Committee Chairman Mickey Stratton said part of the drop could be blamed on the fewer number of contested seats.

"People aren't as apt to vote with uncontested elections," Stratton said. "The contested seats had a higher voter turnout, though."

The closest contest of the day was in a seat for the Sterling C. Evans Library. Jacque Halverson won the election by draw over Evelyn M. King when they both tied at 20 after a second count.

The voting procedure involves faculty members ranking their choices from one to three, rather than just voting for one person. If one person does not have a majority after the first place votes have been counted, then the second place votes are tallied.

That policy was instituted a few years ago to eliminate the need for run-off elections, Stratton said.

The only other election Monday which went to a second count was in a seat from the College of Engineering. Dr. William J. Harris won the senate seat by edging Dr. Mark Weichold, 38-33, in a second count.

The College of Education recorded the highest number of voters with 89, followed by the College of Medicine with 87. The College of Engineering registered 74 ballots, while the College of Liberal Arts had 72.

Even though the numbers were way down from 1989, Stratton said he was pleased with the elections.

"The election went smoothly," he said. "I was particularly pleased with the turnouts in the Colleges of Education and Medicine."

The results of the election are not official until the entire Faculty Senate approves them at the May meeting. The Senate will swear in its new members and vote on the officers and the members of the Executive Committee at the same meeting.

The filing dates for faculty members who wish to run for an office or a spot on the Executive Committee are April 10-24.

The following is a list of the winners in each college:

- AGRICULTURE:**
Bill Stout, who received 97 percent of the vote
Charlie G. Coble, who received 58 percent of the vote
H. James Price, who was unopposed
- Stephen W. Searcy, who received 52 percent of the vote
- ARCHITECTURE:**
Fred Klatt, who received 52 percent of the vote
- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:**
Winston T. Shearon, who received 97 percent of the vote
Robert H. Strawser, who received 97 percent of the vote
- EDUCATION:**
Patricia A. Alexander, who received 96 percent of the vote
Viola E. Florez, who received 62 percent of the vote
- ENGINEERING:**
Pierce E. Cantrell, who received 62 percent of the vote
John E. Mayer, who received 98 percent of the vote
William J. Harris, who received 54 percent of the second vote
S. Bart Childs, who received 68 percent of the vote

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Student body run-off elections take place today

Student body run-off elections are today from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Students can vote in the MSC Flagroom, the Kleberg Building, the Blocker Building and the Academic Plaza. In case of rain, the Academic Plaza location will be moved to the porch of the Sterling C. Evans Library.

Students must bring their student identification cards to vote.

These are the offices and candidates to be voted on today:

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- Beth Ammons
- Ty Clevenger

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:

- Angie Arrona
- Dan Hargrove

SENATE CHAIRMAN OF STUDENT SERVICES:

- Tiffany Blaschke

CLASS OF '92 PRESIDENT:

- Jennifer A. Collins
- Rod Garrett

CLASS OF '92 VICE PRESIDENT:

- Heather Casteel
- Shawn R. Roberts

CLASS OF '93 PRESIDENT:

- Bill Benker
- Paul Seiber

Seminar increases students' awareness of hazing

By ANDY KEHOE
Of The Battalion Staff

Eileen Stevens is dedicated to ending college hazing.

In last night's Interfraternity council presentation, entitled the Committee to Halt Useless College Killings (CHUCK), Stevens spoke on her own tragic experience with fraternity hazing.

In 1978, her son Chuck Stenzel died from acute alcohol poisoning in a traditional fraternity pledge program. Today, she is getting the word out to college students all over the country about the harmful results of fraternity hazing.

"(Hazing) is in total opposition to what fraternities represent," Stevens said. "Hazing, in any form, defeats the brotherhood and comradery that fraternities and the corps stand for."

Each semester, Stevens said, dozens of hazing incidents are reported throughout the country. Several dozens more, she added, go unreported.

In the past decade, 54 students, three of whom were female sorority members, have died from hazing-related incidents. According to Stevens, it's not just the typical physical hazing, but also mental hazing that can be damaging.

"It's not all the exercising workouts and drinking, but also the mental harrassment, sleep deprivation and those sort of things," she said.

Following her son's death, Stevens began her national campaign with the help of her sister. With CHUCK, she hopes to bring about an awareness of the hazing practices. She has spoken at hundreds of schools and appeared on television talk shows, telling

her story. Her presentation to Texas A&M was her 16th of the semester.

"When I speak to students, I'm not talking about death, I'm talking about life."

Stevens stressed that, after her son's death, she does not dislike fraternities.

"I'm not anti-fraternity or anti-fun or anything like that," Stevens said. "Being a Greek is an honor. It's important for them to show responsibility and leadership."

In recent years, Texas A&M has had several hazing incidents of its own. First, in April 1982, eight junior members of the Corps of Cadets were dismissed as a result of their participation in hazing against freshman cadets.

Then, in 1984, Cadet Bruce Dean Goodrich collapsed and later died of heat stroke after participating in an early morning, off-hours exercise workout.

Last month, two A&M cadets were discharged after Shannon George withdrew from the Corps, complaining of excessive exercise training.

Hazing issues are now receiving more attention from America's state legislatures. Today, 34 states, including Texas, have enacted anti-hazing legislation.

"We're seeing changes," Stevens said. "Some administrations are setting down rules and some have done away with their Greek systems."

Stevens encourages all Greeks and corps cadets to get involved and voice their concerns about hazing.

"In order to get hazing out of our schools, it's going to take courage and leadership," she said.



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Corps Staff Sergeant Conrado Alvarado asks Eileen Stevens, a speaker for the Committee to Halt Useless College Killings (CHUCK), for details about scheduling her to speak to the Corps of Cadets next fall on the dangers of hazing.