

Tuesday, October 2, 1990

## Distribution improvements needed

### Growing 'population monster' will eat away world food supply

By SUZANNE CALDERON  
Of The Battalion Staff

Improvements are needed in food production and distribution, especially in Third World countries, to meet nutrition needs of the growing "population monster."

Dr. Norman Borlaug, a Texas A&M professor of international agriculture, reiterated ideas about improving the food supply during a Monday morning presentation for a graduate-level range science class.

Borlaug said there are 5.3 billion people in the world, with a growth rate of about 1.8 percent a year — meaning 182 people are born every minute.

Borlaug is a 1970 Nobel Prize winner for his work using principles of modern agricultural science to help Third World farmers.

"What was adequate food last year is not necessarily adequate food this year, unless we are carrying in storage or are capable of expanding production to meet the increase that is de-

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— Dr. Norman Borlaug,  
Texas A&M professor

manded by the additional population growth," Borlaug said.

Some areas have an overabundance of food with people consuming more than they need, while there is a food shortage, and people are under-fed in other areas.

Progress has been made in some areas to balance the inequality, but the problem gets more complicated with the way the food is distributed to countries needing it, he said.

"It looks simple on the surface — if we have these surpluses, why can't they be distributed?" he asked.

One problem is most nations needing surplus food — often grain — have either no foreign exchange or limited foreign exchange to buy the excess grain, he said.

Once the grain is imported, the problem of distribution arises.

Along with distribution problems due to populations scattered in remote locations, most people in these places are poor and can't afford the grain, he said.

Several changes need to be made to deal with these problems and keep the food system compatible with the population size, he said.

Credit needs to be available to Third World farmers for buying grains, he said, and pricing should be reasonable for peasant farmers. Science and technology advances also must be made accessible to farmers.

The possibilities for agriculture to grow and new food strains to be made available to end food shortages are endless, he says.

"Agriculture is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance."

## Crime Stoppers hunt for hints in theft case

Brazos County Crime Stoppers needs information about an individual wanted for felony theft and failure to appear in court for the theft.

Michael Lee Curtiss can be identified by the following characteristics:

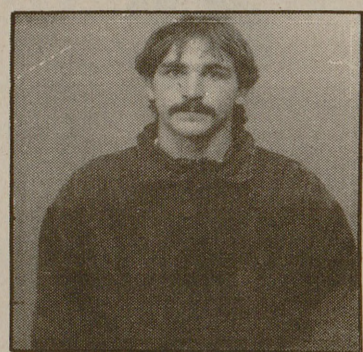
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: 12/11/67  
Height: 5 foot 6 inches  
Weight: 150 lbs.  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Hazel  
Tattoos: Right arm — woman's head; left shoulder — "CURTISS"

This week the Bryan Police Department and Crime Stoppers need help in locating the person responsible for this theft.

If you have information that could be helpful, call Crime Stop-

pers at 775-TIPS. When you call, Crime Stoppers will assign you a coded number to protect your identity.

If your call leads to an arrest, Crime Stoppers will pay you \$250.



Michael Lee Curtiss

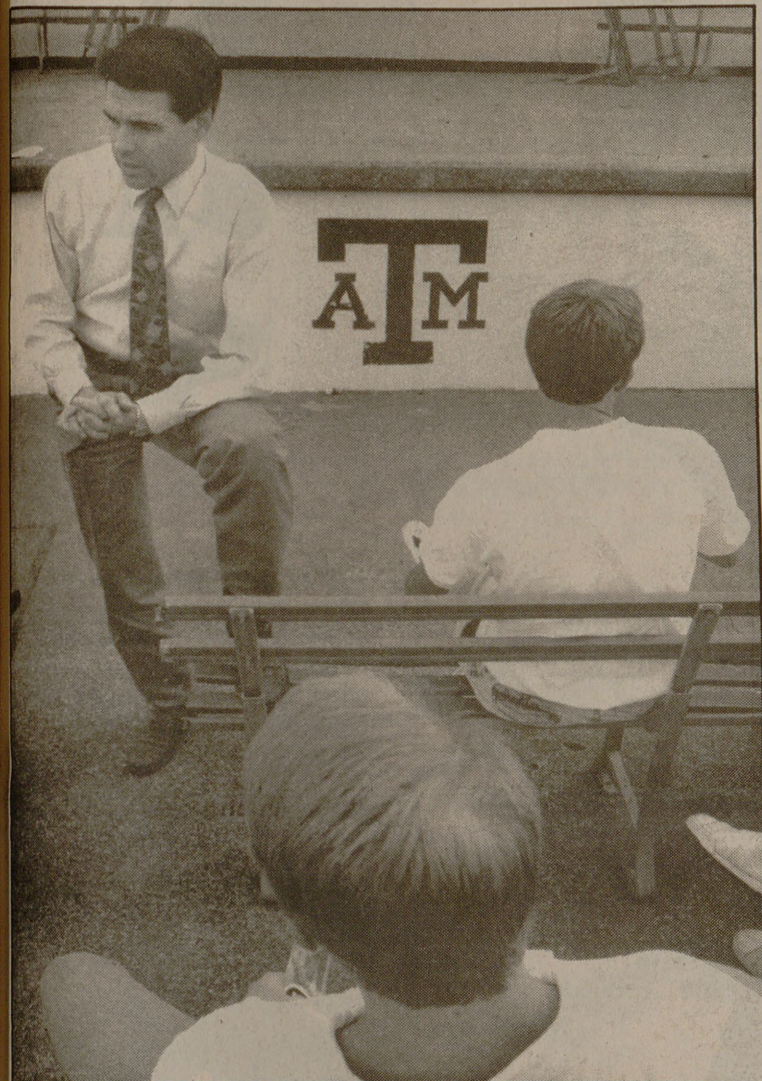
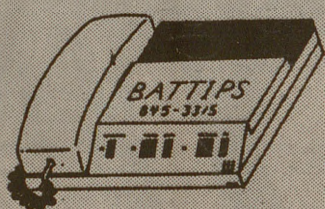


Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Rick Perry, Republican Agriculture Commissioner candidate, speaks to A&M students Monday in the Grove.



## BATTIPS

Anyone with story suggestions can call BATTIPS, The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

The BATTIPS number is 845-3315.

Ideas can include news stories, feature ideas and personality profiles of interesting people.

## Violent crime in Texas soars; officials unsettled by statistics

AUSTIN (AP) — Although total crime in Texas dropped slightly during the first half of the year, violent crime soared by more than 14 percent, the Texas Department of Public Safety reported Monday.

"We were pleased to see a decrease in the total number of crimes, but the increase in violent crime in Texas is unsettling," Col. Joe E. Milner, DPS director, said.

Overall crime in the state was down 2 percent in the first six months of the year from the first half of 1989, according to the DPS. Milner said it was the "most significant" decrease since 1983, when reported crimes dropped by 3.5 percent.

But violent crime was up in all categories — murder, rape, robbery

and aggravated assault.

Murders rose by 7.7 percent, rapes by 12 percent, robberies by 14.7 percent and assaults by 14.6 percent, the DPS reported.

Overall, the total number of crimes reported during the six-month period was 646,545, down 2 percent from the 659,779 total in the first half of 1989.

The decrease in total crimes reported was due to dropoffs in two of the three categories of property crimes — burglaries and thefts.

According to the DPS, burglaries fell 7.7 percent and thefts were down 3.1 percent. Motor vehicle theft rose 5 percent, however.

Milner said it was difficult to explain the changes.

"There is always speculation as to why crime tends to go up and down. Many variables enter into statewide crime patterns, but in the final analysis no one really knows," he said.

The state's crime rate — the number of crimes per 100,000 citizens — dropped 3.2 percent during the period from 3,931.9 for the first half of 1989 to 3,805.2 during the first half of this year.

Drug arrests fell by 8.2 percent overall, although arrests for the sale and manufacturing of drugs increased slightly from 5,558 to 5,569.

The DPS noted a 1 percent increase in major crimes cleared during the first half of the year, from 20 percent to 21 percent.

## Mental health patient unable to care for child

AUSTIN (AP) — A 32-year-old Lubbock woman is about to become an unfit mother.

The woman, who has an IQ of 12, was raped last spring while under the care of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Six months after the rape, the state and police have not determined who is the father of the unborn child, which is at risk for birth defects because of potent anti-seizure

drugs the woman receives.

An abortion that state doctors recommended never was performed for reasons that no one explained to the family, the Austin American-Statesman reported Sunday.

An investigation by the newspaper found that state school officials violated mental health department rules by failing to immediately notify law enforcement agencies of a sexual assault.

### In Advance

#### TAMU Overseas Day hosted in MSC today

The Texas A&M Study Abroad office is hosting the TAMU Overseas Day today in the MSC main hallway.

Information representing various study abroad programs will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at tables in the MSC.

The following programs will be represented: Butler University in the United Kingdom and Australia, Council on International Exchange, Vienna, Ireland and Greece program (Beaver College), American Youth Hostel, MSC Jordan Institute for overseas loans and an A&M Student Financial Aid representative.

Other programs include West Germany, England, Dominica, Italy and the France, Soviet Union and Spain program.



PRESENTS

# LAW DAY

WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 3  
BLOCKER BLDG.

ALL DAY

FIFTY-ONE SCHOOLS

BUSINESS DAY OCT. 11

MBA/LAW SYMPOSIUM NOV. 10

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 845-1515

MSC VISUAL ARTS  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

# OLD ARMY

works on paper

by Timothy Vanya

Memorial Student Center  
Visual Arts Gallery

On display from October 1 to October 31, 1990

Reception will be held on October 2, 1990 from 7:00-8:00pm

# HEY FISH!

Seniors  
Mon-Thurs  
Oct 1-4  
This is the  
LAST chance!

Aggieland pictures are being taken Oct 1-19

AR Photography  
707 Texas Ave Suite 120B  
Mon-Friday 9-12; 1-5pm