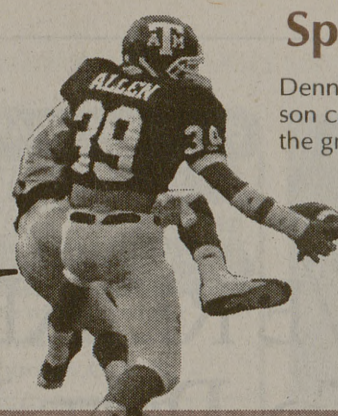


Margaret Rudder to help in unveiling of statue honoring her husband Gen. James Earl Rudder.

COLUMNIST DEBATE: Should candidates' religions matter to voters?

Dennis Allen's father watches his son carry on the tradition of play on the gridiron.

THE BATTALION



FRIDAY

October 14, 1994

Vol. 101, No. 34 (14 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

NEWS BRIEFS

U.T. outranks A&M in total crime rate

By Stephanie Dube
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University ranked second in total crime reported out of 64 Texas universities in a 1993 report from the Texas Department of Public Safety's Texas Crime Report.

However, university police officials say the high number is due to population and should not worry students.

Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, crime prevention specialist for A&M's University Police Department, said the statistics originated from the Uniform Crime Report (UCR), a program aimed at providing reliable crime statistics.

Every month, UPD reports its crime statistics to the UCR, he said. Despite the findings, A&M students do not need to be concerned, he said.

"We have our share of everything," Kretzschmar said. "But it is nothing that other universities aren't experiencing. There is nothing in the report to really alarm anyone."

Statistics can often be misleading, Kretzschmar said.

"You need to be very careful when you look at the statistics," Kretzschmar said. "Statistics can lie; it depends on how you interpret them."

In 1993, 721 total crimes were reported by UPD. Out of 64 colleges listed in the report, A&M was second only to the University of Texas, which reported 785 crimes.

Kretzschmar said the statistics do not account for many crucial factors, such as the college's population. In addition, whether the university is located in a city or a rural area can account for the crime rate, he said.

If a university's campus is located in one area or split throughout a city, it can also affect the crime rate, Kretzschmar said. UT, for example, has a main campus and other campuses scattered throughout Austin, making crime prevention more difficult, he said.

"It is to our advantage at A&M that we have all this acreage and are not divided up," Kretzschmar said. "This increases our ability to control patrolling and keep an eye on things."

Kretzschmar said, despite the statistics, A&M's crime rate is not any worse than the other universities' rates. However, A&M may have a high number of reported crimes partially because UPD strongly encourages students to report the crimes, he said.

"We encourage people to report thefts, so you may see a slight increase in the number of crimes reported," Kretzschmar said. "Some of this is due to more people coming forward."

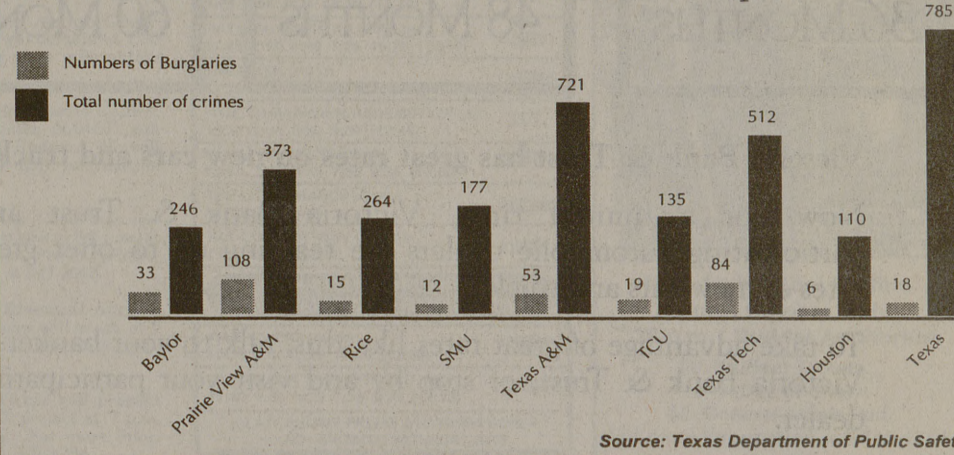
According to the report, A&M had 53 reported burglaries in 1993, while UT had 18 burglaries. The greatest number of reported burglaries in 1993 was from Prairie View A&M with 108. The burglaries covered only burglaries of habitation and buildings, Kretzschmar said.

Sgt. William VanHorn, the sergeant in charge of crime prevention with the University of Texas Police Department, said UT's low number of burglaries is partially due to its definition of burglaries.

If a burglary at UT occurs without forced entry, such as when a building is open to the public or if a student leaves his door unlocked, it is recorded as a theft, VanHorn said.

University Crime Rates

In a 1993 crime report, The University of Texas leads Texas colleges and universities on the level of crime reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety. Texas A&M comes in second out of 64 schools included in the report.



Source: Texas Department of Public Safety

Graphic by Mark Smith/THE BATTALION

"We have a lot of opportunity crimes," VanHorn said. "The majority of our crimes are theft."

Most of these thefts occur in both the university's library and its largest dormitory, Jester, VanHorn said. The thefts from these two areas account for the majority of the reported crimes which gave UT the greatest number of crimes out of

the 64 colleges in the report, he said.

Under larceny theft, A&M's UPD reported 648 incidents in 1993, second only to UT, the report indicated.

"Theft on most college campuses throughout the country is their biggest problem," Kretzschmar said.

Statistics which showed the rate of crime per student would be more reliable, he said.

Manhunt ends for Swiss cult member

GENEVA (AP) — His life was a contradiction. His death was shrouded in a bloody mystery that cost the lives of 52 of his disciples.

Swiss police said Thursday that Marc Juret, the guru of the Order of the Solar Temple cult, was among the 17 bodies found in an Alpine valley last week.

The identification ended the international hunt for the 46-year-old Belgian homeopath. It also dimmed hopes of uncovering the reason behind the deaths of five cult members in Canada and 48 others in Switzerland.

Did Juret lead them into suicide? Did murder play a bigger role? Chief pathologist Thomas Compecher said Juret's body bore no trace of bullet holes. Many of the victims found in a Swiss farmhouse had multiple shot wounds. Three of the dead in Canada were stabbed.

There are no witnesses to the tragedy. The cult's mastermind, Joseph di Mambro, its treasurer and Canadian branch leader are dead.

Immigration lottery planned for Cubans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hoping to attract would-be boat people, the Clinton administration is planning to hold a lottery to select 5,000 to 6,000 Cubans wishing to emigrate to the United States.

The lottery also is seen as an inducement for the return home of 22,000 Cubans being sheltered at the Guantanamo naval base and at U.S. military facilities in Panama.

The administration has said the only hope these Cubans have for immigrating to the United States is to return home and apply through established channels.

Until now, visas have been largely restricted to Cubans who qualify for refugee status or those with close relatives in the United States who are American citizens.

Details on the operation of the lottery will be announced by Nov. 1.

Doris Meissner, commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, told reporters the lottery will be limited to Cubans who would be self-sufficient on arrival in the United States.

New trial set for cheerleader mom

HOUSTON (AP) — An appeals court Thursday upheld a judge's ruling ordering a new trial for Wanda Holloway, the woman accused of trying to hire a hitman to kill the mother of her daughter's cheerleading rival.

Holloway was convicted in September 1991, but the presiding judge ordered a new trial after agreeing with defense attorneys that the juror should have been disqualified because he was on probation for a drug offense.

The Harris County District Attorney's office appealed, and both sides had been waiting for a ruling from the Texas 1st Court of Appeals in Houston. Mrs. Holloway, meanwhile, has been free on bond.

"Now, we do it again," prosecutor Casey O'Brien said. "My personal opinion is we will have the same outcome."

Limbaugh faces lawsuit for playing song

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (AP) — Hey, hey, Rush, you shouldn't have used that song.

So says the writer of the 1963 hit "Hey, Paula," who's suing Rush Limbaugh for playing the song on his radio show to poke fun at President Clinton.

Limbaugh used a version of the tune in July and August with a Clinton impersonator singing new lyrics about sexual misconduct allegations leveled against the president by Paula Corbin Jones.

Songwriter Ray Hildebrand of Overland Park filed a copyright infringement lawsuit Tuesday in federal court in Kansas City, Mo., seeking unspecified damages.



Jolynn Meter/Special to THE BATTALION

A warm, wet thank you

Kirbie Murrel, a junior pre-vet major, receives a kiss from one of her patients after his general checkup.

Zany zebra overzealous, zig-zags out of grassy zone

By Michele Brinkmann and Constance Parten
THE BATTALION

An eight-year-old "criminal" wearing black and white stripes was transported to Waco Thursday afternoon after causing a disturbance on Bittle Lane in Bryan Wednesday night.

The escapee had not committed a crime, was not taken to jail, nor apprehended by the police.

After he was shot four times, he was taken to Texas A&M's Large Animal Clinic where his face wounds were treated.

Yes, this "criminal" was a large animal; a zebra, to be exact.

A University Police officer called the Brazos County Animal Shelter to get the animal.

When shelter officials arrived, they called Dr. James Jensen of the Large Animal Clinic, who shot the zebra four times with a tranquilizer gun before the zebra settled down.

The zebra, who had cuts above both eyes, was treated at the clinic before it was picked up and sent to the Texas Safari and Wildlife Park in Clifton, northwest of Waco.

This zebra had lived at his new home for one day before being sent to the wildlife park near Waco.

Patti Stepp, Brazos Animal Shelter field supervisor, said a man, who wanted to remain anonymous, saw an ad in the Thrifty Nickel about a pet zebra. He bought the zebra for \$200.

"These animals should not be kept as pets," Stepp said. "They are still wild animals."

Stepp said she is thankful Texas Safari and Wildlife Park officials were coming to College Station to pick up the animal.

"It can't be any sweeter and easier than that,"

Stepp said. The people who sold the animal to the man dropped it off at a location he had specified. The man bought the zebra for his kids because they said it would make a great pet.

Shortly after the animal was dropped off, an eight-year-old told his parents there was a zebra outside their home, but his parents did not believe the boy until they looked outside.

The zebra crossed into an adjoining pasture and fought with the horses there. He then crossed another fence line into the pasture where he was finally captured.

"He created a lot of havoc," Stepp said. Stepp said the animal shelter was concerned about keeping the animal.

"We tried to get A&M to take it, but they don't really have the facilities for it either," she said. "Everyone was concerned for the staff's safety during his capture."

Erin McLeash, a Bryan County Animal Shelter control officer who was on call last night, went out to the pasture where the zebra was and then called Jensen.

"We've never dealt with a zebra before," McLeash said.

McLeash said she loves animals but thought it was best for the zebra if he went to the wildlife park.

A Texas Safari and Wildlife Park spokeswoman said she did not know why she was called to pick up the zebra.

"I don't know why they called us, but we do raise zebras," she said. "We would love to have the animal; we will set it loose with the rest of the herd of zebras we raise."



Constance Parten/THE BATTALION

This zebra was taken to Texas A&M's Large Animal Clinic for treatment after receiving injuries when it tried to escape from a pasture.

Today's BATT	
Classified	10
Extra Mail Call	12,14
Opinion	13
Sports	9
Columns	5
What's Up	3