

- --what can be found in. And that would be a wonderful project for John. It's happening on the Wynne Unit, and John could work on him with that, which would be a very maturing and an educational experience for John, as well as school.

- It would be. Well, there's always correspondence if he can't do anything else.

- How's yours these days?

- Doing OK. Actually doing pretty well right now. I know you've been talking-- for the last few weeks, you've heard comments that they were taking away all the funding for this semester. And I'm sure Mark's listening, or he may be working. He's on a new afternoon shift in the kitchen. But what they did up there was they told him, yeah, you have to pay for all your education or sign a form that you will pay upon release.

And what that did was kept everyone from signing up, because they didn't have the money to sign up for courses. That way, they got to reduce the number of courses offered. And as soon as registration was over with, announced, whoops, that doesn't start until September the 5th, and courses start August the 28th.

- Ah. Well, if you listen every week, you hear my friends that call from the mountains of Colorado have--

- I would. I wish I had-- if they call tonight, you might tell them that really they should be able to get the free education this semester because it is not supposed to take effect until September the 5th. And we just found that out. But what it has caused is that they have canceled the majority of the courses because no one signed up. So it was probably planned.

- True.

- But I won't tie up the line any longer for all these long distance people. But Mark, as you know, we won't be there tomorrow but instead will be driving home tomorrow. But we'll be there Sunday, and it may be in the afternoon. So you take care. We love you, and I'll probably talk to Lisa tonight. Wait and see if she gets through. Thanks, Ray.

- Well, when y'all get ready to hit the road, breeze up air conditioner.

- Oh, definitely. I tell you what, sitting under that shade this time of year sure is hot.

- Absolutely.

- It doesn't seem to do much good.

- No, it doesn't. Thanks, Ray.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- Give my regards to Nance.

- Thank you. Goodbye.

- Line four. Where are you calling from?

- Houston.

- You're on the air.

- Hi. Thanks. Kevin up in the Wynne Unit, I love you. This is Mom. Anyway, don't worry about why I've been so sickly. It's just that I have been traveling so extensively that I've been hitting all these restaurants, and one of them's got to have something wrong with them. So don't worry about that. I'll tell you all about it when I come up to see you.

Ray, I've got a good joke to tell you. It's a clean joke.

- OK.

- Kevin, this man was married to this woman for 20 years. And for 20 years, this woman watched her husband go deer hunting. And for 20 years she asked this man to go with him. And for 20 years he said no. On the 20th wedding anniversary, the day before the wedding anniversary, he comes home and he says, honey.

He says, tomorrow is our 20th wedding anniversary. I'm taking you out very early in the morning. We're going down to Sears and Roebucks. We're going to get you the finest hunting clothes money can buy. I'm taking you to the gun shop, and I'm going to pick you out a fine, fine hunting rifle. We're going out to dinner, and then I'm taking you up to the range. I'm going to teach you how to shoot and gun safety. And honey, he says, the next day we're going out deer hunting.

Well, the next day came. They got up, and they did everything he promised. The following day comes around, and he gets up early, and she gets up early. And they pack up the Jeep. And he's talking to all the way up there-- you shouldn't be nervous. It's OK. But he puts her up on the deer bay, and he says to the lady, he says, listen, honey. This is a game of patience and a good eye. Just be patient.

She says, no problem. The man is happy. He gets down off the deer bay. He gets into his Jeep. He turns the Jeep around. And he's going to the other side of the deer [? leaves. ?] And all of a sudden this man hears, bam, bam, bam, bam, bam, bam, bam, bam. He stops on a dime. He says, oh, my god. She couldn't have bagged a deer this early. I'd better go back and see what's going on.

So he turns his Jeep around. He goes back up to her deer bay. And he opens the door just in time to hear this man screaming at his wife, OK, lady, OK. I'm not arguing with you. It's your deer. Just let me get my saddle off of it.

- Thank you, ma'am.

- Thank you, sir.

- Bye-bye.

- Bye-bye.

- Line one, where are you calling from?

- Arkansas.

- All right. You're on the air.

- OK, this call is for Donny. And I wanted to say, I love you, and I miss you. And I now have my own place, and I have my phone. And you should call me. And you take the caller's of area code and the prefix and add 1634, and that's my number. And I can't wait to see you again.

I don't for sure if I'm going to get to make it down in September or not. But I'm going to try. And I hope that you've got my address by now and maybe my phone number. So maybe you can call. But I just wanted to call and say, I love you, and I miss you. And hopefully I'll see you soon.

- Where is he?

- He's at the Wynne Unit.

- OK.

- And Charles, hello. And if you hear this message, and for some reason Donny doesn't get to, will you please give it to him? Thanks.

- Thank you, ma'am.

- Bye-bye.

- Bye-bye. Line two, where are you calling from?

- Oh, right. It's for Ricky.

- How are you doing, Mister Morrow?

- How are you tonight?

- I am fine, sir.

- Well, good. Ricky, I'll be up tomorrow in case the station fades out. Ray, you wouldn't believe it. Last Friday night, he said the station wouldn't call me. And the moment when I come home, he got to hear me say, it was all OK, and I'll be up sometime this week. It went off and never did come back.

- Bless his heart.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- I know. I used to listen to Pacifica whenever I was down-- or up on the northern unit. And I'd be messing around with that antenna, and I can just picture what Ricky is going through.

- The way I understand him, back down the line, I think some other stations are fading in on it or something.

- Yeah, like I said, I was up there in the daytime, and it was picking up Dallas. And it's a long way to Dallas.

- Yeah. Well, maybe something will happen down the line, and it'll start coming back all retro for Ricky's sake. But anyhow, Ricky, I'll be up tomorrow. So take care. We're all doing OK.

- Thank you, Mister Morrow.

- Thank you and bye.

- Bye-bye. Line one, where are you calling from?

- Tyler.

- Tyler, you're on the air.

- Well, thanks. Hi, Michael, this is Mom. Vicky had to work. The kids are asleep. I'm telling you, I miss you. I'm not sure when Vicky's going down there. But anyhow, she had to work tonight. And the kids are asleep. But we'll get back with you next Friday night, OK? I love you and miss you. Bye.

- Thank you, ma'am.

- OK, thanks.

- Line two, where are you calling from?

- Arlington.

- You're on the air.

- Hi, Larry, how are you doing, honey? Well, I know you know that you didn't get hooked up this week because somebody messed up and didn't call the attorneys. But anyway, honey, I mailed you some papers, and I need those signed and mailed to the office up here as soon as you get them. There's three copies, and I need you to do those.

But anyway and Pop's not going to be there because he's got to go to Mississippi. He just got back in from Alabama. So anyway the kids are doing fine. [INAUDIBLE] has been working his little buns off in school this week. And Jamie, well, she's been doing pretty good too. But anyway they finally stayed up here long enough to talk to you, so here's Jamie.

- Uncle, I love you and miss you. Bye.

- Hi, Uncle. I love you and miss you. Bye-bye.

- Anyway, honey, I love you. And I hope you've been getting at least some of my mail. I got one letter from you. But I love you, honey. And you take care, and we'll talk to you later. Thank you, Ray.

- Thank you, ma'am.

- Bye-bye.

- Bye-bye. Line three, where are you calling from?

- Kaufman, Texas.

- You're on the air.

- Ooh, so I'm up to say hi to my son, Tommy. How are you doing, darling? Just wanted to call and say hi. Brent's going fishing in the morning, so my sister's coming to see you. We're going to be there early to talk to Tam and her sister. And Paul's on his way home from Arkansas for the weekend.

And this little man's going back to College in Kenwood this fall. And we'll see you tomorrow. We all love you. And say Hi to Mark and Tony. Hang in there, guys. Y'all going to get out of there soon. And I'm glad to see you tomorrow. Bye-bye. Thank you.

- Thank you, ma'am. Line two, where are you calling from?

- Waco, Texas.

- You're on the air.

- Thank you. Hey, Mark, it's me. I got part one of your letter today. And then I like the one I got earlier this week. It was really nice. And I hope you had a good 24th, and I hope you got my letters that I sent you. I miss you a lot.

I sent you two letters, so I hope you got them both. They're kind of big. I hope you got all the stuff in them. One of them was kind of funny, like a little questionnaire thing that I filled out. And it was kind of funny. I thought you'd like to read it.

There's not much going on here. I just got off work, and I've been calling since I got in. So I'm glad I got through so soon. Usually it takes me another 20 minutes. So I work tomorrow from 12:00 to 10:00, so long shift. I hope you have a good visit with your parents tomorrow, and I really am looking forward to seeing you the following weekend.

I miss you a lot, and I love you. Goodnight.

- Thank you, ma'am.

- Thanks.

- Bye-bye.

- Bye-bye.

- Line three, where are you calling from?

- Allegheny County. Jail guard, Charles K-A-I-N-Z-- Kainz, 54, he has denied involvement. A hunter found the five mug shots fastened to trees in the woods about 25 miles north of Pittsburgh. October the 20th, Kainz leases a cabin nearby. The holes in the photos looked as if they were made by an air gun pellet, Warden Charles Keselowski said.

That's interesting. Trustee is charged in thanksgiving escape. In Tennessee Colony, Texas, a prison trustee has been charged with escape after he tied up a fellow trustee. Thursday he made a run for the border with the warden's car, state prison officials said.

Charles Eugene Hoffman was found eating at a Taco Bell restaurant-- Well, he has bad taste, or the warden didn't leave enough money in there for him get something to eat-- in Athens about 8:30 PM, about an hour and a half after he drove from the Coffield Unit in Warden Keith Price's car, said Larry Fitzgerald, spokesperson of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Hi, Larry.

Hunt, 48, is serving a life sentence for-- habitual criminal in a 1992 Dallas forgery conviction. He wrote a check for that Taco. That's what it was. He was working as trustee around Price's residence outside the warden's prison fence when he bound fellow trustee with electrical tape and made away in the warden's 1984 Buick about 7:00 PM, Fitzgerald said.

It's adding insult to injury, said TDC spokesman, Larry Todd. Price was away from the prison for the holidays, but the car-- the fuel tank was full, and apparently the keys were not well hidden. All right, and the folks at the Hutchins State Jail, and that is in North Texas, are growing fruits and vegetables for the North Texas Food Bank.

Our position on that is, why are these nice liberal folks in food banks using slave labor to get the groceries for the poor people? That's beyond tale. All right, and here's another lengthy article about the crime statistics. They're down but up, depending on what politicians can make money off of.

And Palestine, part-time Anderson County jailers have been cut due to the county's 1996 budget. So they're going to have more inmates and fewer jailers. That makes a lot of sense. Did you know that every prison reform suit that has ever been filed begins with the request, give us more guards. Every prison suit that has ever been filed begins with the request, hire more personnel.

Why do you suppose that's true? We'll get into some of that when we interview John Indo about his book later in the program. And here's a good one for you. Outgoing Texas Prison Director, Andy Collins-- good friend of mine-- told the state Senate committee Tuesday that he has followed a higher ethical standard than legally required in making plans to enter the private corrections business in another state. Quote, "there have been a lot of people that have left State employment and under current law, they have come back and engaged in activities with the agent legally," Collins told the state criminal justice committee.

But Collins's executive director of the State Department of Criminal Justice said he has no plans to do business with Texas after his resignation. I had a lot of convicts telling me the same thing. Maybe he wants to punch it too.

What I intended to do is set up a higher standard for myself, and I think that I've done that. I do not intend to come back and attempt to engage in business with this department. Collins has formed a private corrections management company, which he calls a shell with corporate offices in Louisiana. He said the business professional care of America won't get going for about two years.

He was called before a committee to report his plans, including a report that showed up in the *Houston Chronicle* and said George Bush and his aides were uptight about all that. Senator Moncrief, a Democrat from Fort Worth, who was last seen in Austin engaging in a rednecking contest with other senators in the Texas legislature, he asked Collins whether any investors in the company had business dealings with the agency? And Collins said none of these.

Do you know the investors in there with him? Do you know who's doing this with Collins? Fred Hofheinz, young Fred, former mayor of the city of Houston is an investor in that group. Prisons are going to be big business for the foreseeable future.

Aha and here's an article on the rules that would allow murder victims' kin to watch executions. It is called the Circus Maximus Act of 1995. And they have popcorn and cotton candy in the Wynnes after which there will be a interactive Rush Limbaugh talk show so that the victims of the victim-- I mean the survivors of the victim-- and the survivors of the executed can scream at one another.

And eight Texas prison sites selected for the new high security inmate unit. Well, they say high security. Basically these are safe-keeping beds, and they will be located at the Allred Unit in Wichita Falls, the Clements Unit in Amarillo, the Connally Unit in Carnes County, the Stiles Unit in Jefferson County-- where they will need a lot of concrete supplied by the Stiles family-- the Hughes Unit in Gatesville, the Smith Unit in Lamesa, the Lewis Unit in Woodville, and the Wallace Unit in Mitchell County.

Other things in the mail reminded us of what was going on in Vida Payne's case. I've got an inside reporter. I've had somebody up there in Livingston following the-- remember Vida Payne? Her son was beaten to death over four different locations in the prison, and the guards saw absolutely nothing.

The first four of 20 inmates are now on trial. They are represented by Texas Department of Criminal Justice staff counsel for inmates as their court-appointed attorneys was appointed by the staff. They had some folks look at some of the evidence in that case and said the evidence the forensic evidence was just incredible. The pictures of which Vida has are just horrible but they're incredible.

But the state presented their case and rested Wednesday, and the defense did not call a single witness-- nobody. And this is beginning to look like a really effective cover up of wrongdoing for the prison officials on that unit. It's going to be a serious case. It sounds to me like you writ writers up there need to sharpen your pencils because if these boys get any time, I would raise every conceivable issue about the adequacy of defense.

But we will have more on that-- there is another hearing of the evidence in case. It's called federal civil case, and Victor Payne has an attorney. Anything these people said on the stand would save them having to depose them. But since the counsel for the inmates thought it was in their best defense issue-- interest-- not to put anybody on the stand, there's not a lot of evidence to come out of these trials.

Also I had jury duty this week. I was called to jury duty. Yes. Hang them high. Well, it was interesting. I received a jury summons. And I went down and got in line. And we were about the third panel put together, a panel of 84 people, going to Wild Bill Harmon's Court to-- remember Bill Harmon? He's the guy that said, let's give this sucker a fair trial and take him out and hang him. Let's give this sucker a fair and quick trial, so we can take him out and hang him. I think they tried that case again.

But at any rate, bill did a wonderful voir dire for-- he did a real bonding with the jury panel kind of voir dire. It was a very interesting voir dire. I enjoyed listening to it. The state voir dire was very thorough. The prosecutor is a Middle Eastern woman. I can't pronounce her name, so I won't even try.

But she did an excellent voir dire, and the defense attorneys were interesting to listen to. And the jury panel, the whole panel, responded very openly and easily to these folks so that the preparations of that trial went the way preparations are supposed to go. Now I haven't been back, but the trial is going to last until Wednesday, and I'll go back.

Obviously I did not make the jury panel. The panel that I made-- well, I was juror number 55, which was easy to remember because that's how old I am now. I've finally reached the national speed limit, and they increased it significantly in the last few days. So when I thought I was up to speed, I'm still 15 miles behind.

But any rate, I listened to the voir dire. Juror number 54 turned out to be the alternate juror, so they made it right to me. But I sat there for two days, hoping to count the status at least a strike because there's not a prosecutor on the planet that would dare put me on a panel. The two young men being tried-- babies-- both of them 17 years old. Both of them not old enough to shave.

Fortunately there's not a possibility of execution in these cases. But the maximum sentence they can receive is 99 years. The minimum sentence they can receive is probation. They can receive five to 99 hard time or 10 years probation is what is prescribed by law. And the jury was well-schooled on the range of punishment and all that.

And so since death wasn't offered, I legitimately could swear truthfully that I could consider the full range of punishment. The State would have quite a burden convicting me to give some 17-year-old kid 99 years. But I could consider it. But that is all academic because I didn't make the panel.

Meanwhile, the guy that shot his wife's leg's trial was at the end of that hall in Mike McSpadden's court. Maximum punishment in that case was 20 years, and he got it. And then over in the other building was that young man that killed Brzezinski in the gay bashing, and they gave him execution in that case.

He's now 21. That happened when he was 18, just fixing to make the transition from high school to college football teams. And that didn't work out quite like he had planned. Instead, he's going to be on death row for several years. He may actually get executed. They actually do that. They killed one yesterday.

And Shane called me this afternoon and said Cosmo was due for getting executed before the end of the week. And so if that's true-- I don't know if that's true, but if that's true-- somebody shoot me a kite and verify that. Hopefully he'll get a stay. Cosmo's been there a spell, so that may not work out as well as we would like.

And the other trial that was going on nearby was the trial of the kidnapping and tongue-cutting-- remember that? The hot poker and hair colorer in his rear end from the Montrose kidnapping. You remember that-- a bunch of kids strung out, fighting over drugs.

And as I expected, it's time when Mike and I made that news conference actually because they were going to say unbecoming things about our community. And we went down there and sat down, and they said, oh, let's find plan B because we can't do that with Ray Hill sitting here. And so we kind of got that on the right track.

And guess what, Mike? That turned out to be a dope story.

- It is.

- You're right. It turned out to be a dope story. But nobody's going to get executed over some old dope dealing. Well, Dewey has finally come up with a couple of things to stick in your ear. And we're going to be right back with John Indo and Michael in the background and Pam sitting quietly by while we talk to John about *The Iron Ghetto*.

[MUSIC - BOBBY BLAND, "SUNDAY MORNING LOVE"]

- It must be Sunday morning because you're hearing a solid blues block on 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston, Texas from 6:00 AM until noon. You told us what you want on Sunday morning.

- (SINGING) It must be Sunday morning.

[MUSIC - BOUKAN GINEN, "NATI KONGO"]

- This is a big world full of music. Join me, Nick Hunter, every Saturday at 3:00 for 90 minutes of the best music from all around the world.

[NON-ENGLISH SINGING]

- That's the Big World Music Show, Saturdays 3:00 o'clock right here on 90.1 FM KPFT Houston and 89.1 FM KEOS College Station Brian.

- Well, I was on the internet the other day and somebody said, why don't you-- since you're one of the few people on this talk group of alt prisons and they have newsgroups and you talk to one another about major issues. And so he said, well, why don't you write up a piece about how to survive in prison?

And I thought about that. And then I got to worrying, who would read it? Are you planning far enough in advance that you're going to read, how to survive in prison before you know for sure you're going to get there. Or maybe we could put it as reading material in the jail. Actually a friend-- two friends-- of mine have made some efforts. And one of them is Ned Rollo who we speak of here, but you never hear on the show because he never comes down from Dallas.

Ned is with El Centro College, and he writes pamphlets and things. And *Fears, Tears and a Lonely Highway*, which is his pamphlet, a booklet on prison visitation, is a piece of work in itself. Another friend of mine, someone who I got to in the incarcerated state, John Indo has written an interesting book, and I have read it in the process of waiting for jury duty stuff.

You do a lot of waiting in that. And so I was able to do your book justice. It was kind of interesting the way people kept peering over my shoulder. John, welcome back to *Prison Show*.

- Thank you very much, Ray. I'm happy to be here.

- Why did you write *The Iron Ghetto*? It's necessary, I think, today in a time where prisons are becoming an ever-increasing part of our life for people to know what happens in a prison, what is a prison culture like. Prisons, as I have called in the book, are no longer a marginal aspect of our society. They are very much a staple aspect.

Our economy depends on them. And for that reason, I have called them a ghetto, specifically an iron ghetto. It is a negative part of our society.

- The ghetto reference means what, a part of town?

Are you all right? Is Michael going to survive?

- A ghetto means a group of people discriminated against and segregated into a separate part of society, usually with a negative sanction. There are over a million people in state and federal penitentiaries today. That is a city of the size of Dallas.

- That's penitentiaries. And there's even more than that in jails.

- If you add to that the number of people in jails, are on some type of detention, like probation or parole, we have around 4 million people in trouble with the law in this country. That is a shocking 4% of our population.

- Well, if we've got that many folks locked up, the racial breakouts even a little more telling, and you get into that in the book--

- Certainly.

--the racial breakout.

- Approximately 23% of the Black male population is in prison at this time.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- In prison or some other kind of supervision. It's one in five and-- are more than one in five.