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Research says rats can be intoxicated but mentally alert

Researchers have found that rats can be made mentally alert and stumbling drunk at the same time. Dr. W. R. Klemm of TAMU found that by injecting a drug, physostigmine, into drunk rats the

cortical brain waves become those of extremely alert rats. Meanwhile the physical characteristics are those of behavioral intoxication (bumping into objects, falling off the edge of a table, flaccid muscle tone and toppling over). Klemm hinted that this might be a first step on the way to developing an instant "sober-up" drug. "This work reveals that ethanol caused motor problems more or less independently of cortical influence," Klemm explained. The cortex is where the thinking processes occur.

"It means that the gross signs of behavioral drunkenness are not caused by the cortex or higher parts of the nervous system," he noted. "The movement problems are not being caused by alcohol's effect on the cortex because we're 'protecting' it with the physostigmine. We are also studying the effects of alcohol in other parts of the brain by recording nerve impulses."

"To extrapolate this to normal drinking in the human is not clearly justified," Klemm noted. "However, such a relation would indicate that there is a brief phase of the intoxicated state when thinking is active."

"The fact that physical intoxication persists when a major part of the brain is protected in this way against alcohol indicates that alcohol acts on chemical processes in the brain which have yet to be discovered," he went on.

Campus briefs

Gift wrapping available

Gift-wrapping service is available that benefits the Student Y Association. It is provided in room 216-A of the MSC and charged according to package size. Any size package will be wrapped. Melva Ball, Y secretary, said a set of golf clubs were wrapped last year. A large variety of papers and ribbons are used.

The service will remain available until Dec. 20, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. each day. "We'll keep it open right up to the end of finals," Mrs. Ball said. "Students are just like anyone else; they will also be doing some late shopping." One particular gift is being wrapped more than any other. It is a set of license plate frames, with TAMU and Texas Aggies in Maroon. "Students seem to think this is a neat gift for Mom and Dad," Mrs. Ball said.

Col. Logan Weston, Student Y coordinator, noted the service is open to anyone, students or faculty-staff. Student Y members get their gifts wrapped free.

CIA interested in students

The CIA is interested in hearing from TAMU students. The Central Intelligence Agency has notified TAMU psychology graduates that the CIA is recruiting from its Northern Virginia headquarters offices.

Qualified students about to earn their doctoral degree or who have already received a Ph.D. may earn \$18,000 or more by accepting a psychologist position with the federal organization, say recruiters. Several areas are open. Interested students or graduates should send a resume to agent William B. Wood, Federal Building, Austin, Tex., 78701. Individuals who show promise will be contacted for an interview.

Language test deadline Friday

Friday is the last day to sign up for the Feb. 1 Graduate School Foreign Language Test.

Students must register and pay fees in the Academic Counseling Center, room 107 of the Academic Building, said Ulrich Wilson Crow, center counselor and test administrator.

The exam, on a departmental basis, may be used as an option to fulfill doctoral requirements of foreign language.

Other tests and registration deadlines for this academic year are Feb. 28 for the April 12 test and a May 16 deadline for the exam June 28.

Dean's assistant to speak

Bryan R. Cole, assistant to the Dean of the College of Education will present a program at 9 a.m. Thursday in Room 804A of the Harrington Education Center.

He will speak on administrative effectiveness and the influence of decisions on teacher education in Texas higher education.

Vet reps keep federal holidays

The vet rep office closed at noon today and will not reopen until Monday.

The two TAMU liaison officials of the Veterans Administration will be at a refresher training course during that time.

Their offices in Hart Hall will remain open Dec. 23-24 but will close from Christmas Day through the weekend until Dec. 30.

However, the office will close again on New Year's Day and reopens Jan. 2 on a regular schedule.

The vet reps remind TAMU veterans or dependents that their offices are governed by federal holidays and are required to close at those times even if the TAMU staff offices are in operation.

Aside from Christmas and New Year's, other federal holidays this school year include Washington's Birthday on Feb. 17, Memorial Day on May 26 and Independence Day on July 4.

Scholarship checks in Tower

Scholarship and grant-supported students will receive payment at a new location beginning with the spring semester.

New procedure will require students to pick up scholarship and grant checks at the scholarship window in the Rudder Tower. It will be operated by the Fiscal Office.

Stipends for the spring semester will be available at the new location on Jan. 13. TAMU's spring semester starts Jan. 20.

Robert L. Logan noted the procedure differs in that payments were formerly made at the Student Financial Aid Office he directs.

Loan, scholarship and grant applications and part-time student employment will continue to be handled by the Student Financial Aid Office.

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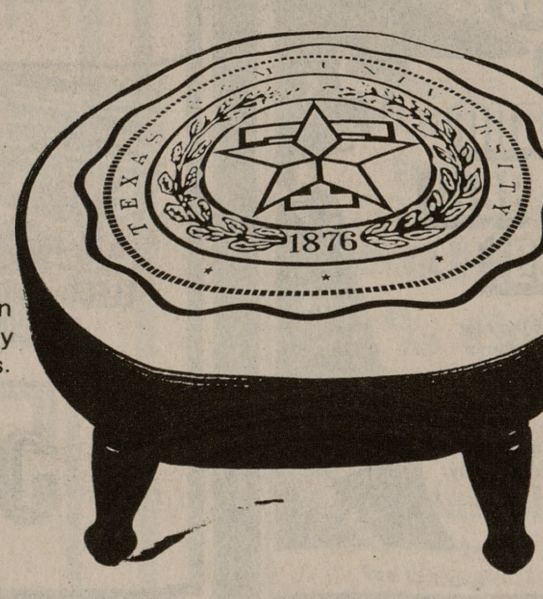
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