

Plasma sales profit donors

By PRESTON JONES
How would you like to earn \$5 lying on your back for an hour? You can do just that at Plasma Products, Inc. at 313 College Main in College Station.

The giving of plasma, called plasmapheresis, is a medical procedure which is widely used throughout the United States.

The process, which takes from an hour to an hour and a half, involves drawing approximately one pint of blood from the donor.

The blood is drawn in a sterile plastic bag showing the donor's name and permanent donor number.

The plastic bag is placed in a refrigerated centrifuge which spins the blood at a high rate of speed causing the blood cells to settle to the bottom of the bag and the plasma to float to the top.

The blood plasma is drawn off and placed in a sterile bottle and frozen for storage.

All remaining blood and the cells

are mixed with a saline solution and fed back into the donor's body. The entire process is then repeated because it takes about two pints of whole blood to extract one pint of plasma.

A person may donate plasma two times during a seven-day period, but there must be a minimum of 48 hours between the first and second donation.

In order to donate plasma, a person is required to get a physical examination and give consent to the

withdrawal of blood samples on which laboratory tests for syphilis, hepatitis and protein levels will be performed.

The College Station center, one of six in Texas, opened at the end of March this year. There are seven persons on the staff.

Jessie Sanders, assistant director, said they have had about 180 donors since they opened and that approximately 19 out of every 20 donors are students.

Dangers ahead for press

Freedom of the press and journalistic responsibility are not mutually exclusive, said visiting Centennial Professor John Merrill last night.

Merrill, a former A&M professor, addressed about 30 student and faculty Sigma Delta Chi members at a chapter meeting in Rudder Tower to explain present dangers to the American press. Merrill, presently a University of Missouri professor, said the press was endangered by its own inadequacies.

"I think it takes as much skill to write a good news story as it takes to perform open heart surgery," Merrill said. He illustrated this by saying, "I've never seen a news story that I really liked."

There seems to be a growing lack of concern for freedom of the press, Merrill said. Concern is slowly disin-

tegrating and is being replaced by press irresponsibilities.

The press needs criticizing, he said, and weaknesses need to be "weeded out and exposed."

In spite of Woodward, Bernstein and Watergate, the press still has a "rather bad image," he said.

Merrill pointed out that there are warnings the government may step in to clean up the press. He predicted that the press will become an authoritarian medium within the United States in the near future.

He cited India's recent turnover to a dictatorship and authoritarian press as an example of how quickly changes within the media can take place. India's press altered its democratic policies within a matter of weeks because of strict controls placed on it by the government, Merrill said.

Merrill concluded his talk by recognizing the prophetic value of an impending freedom of the press crisis during this time of the nation's

Bicentennial.

The founding fathers had the press problems we are having, he said. It was easier for them to combat the press during the first years of this country, Merrill said, they purchased and published their own publications.

Report proposes more authority in wire tapping

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Federal local investigators should be authorized to tap wiretaps and bugs more often, Congress should give them authority to do so, the National Wiretap Commission recommended today.

On orders from Congress, the commission spent two years studying the effectiveness of the law authorizing electronic surveillance in federal investigations of organized crime activities and certain other offenses.

The report said 21 states and the District of Columbia now have laws, and the commission recommended that all other states with substantial organized crime activities be included.

Under the federal law, the attorney general or an assistant attorney general must obtain a court order before the FBI or the Drug Enforcement Administration can telephone or plant a bug in a room or car.

OFFICIAL NOTICE
ATTENTION MAY GRADUATES!
You may pick up your announcements beginning April 19th in the Student Program's Office, Room 216 AB, MSC from 8:00 to 5:00, Monday thru Friday.

Extra Announcements will go on sale April 22nd at 8:00 a.m. on a first come, first serve basis in Room 216 A&B, MSC.

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