

## 'Pot' rat too smart for traps

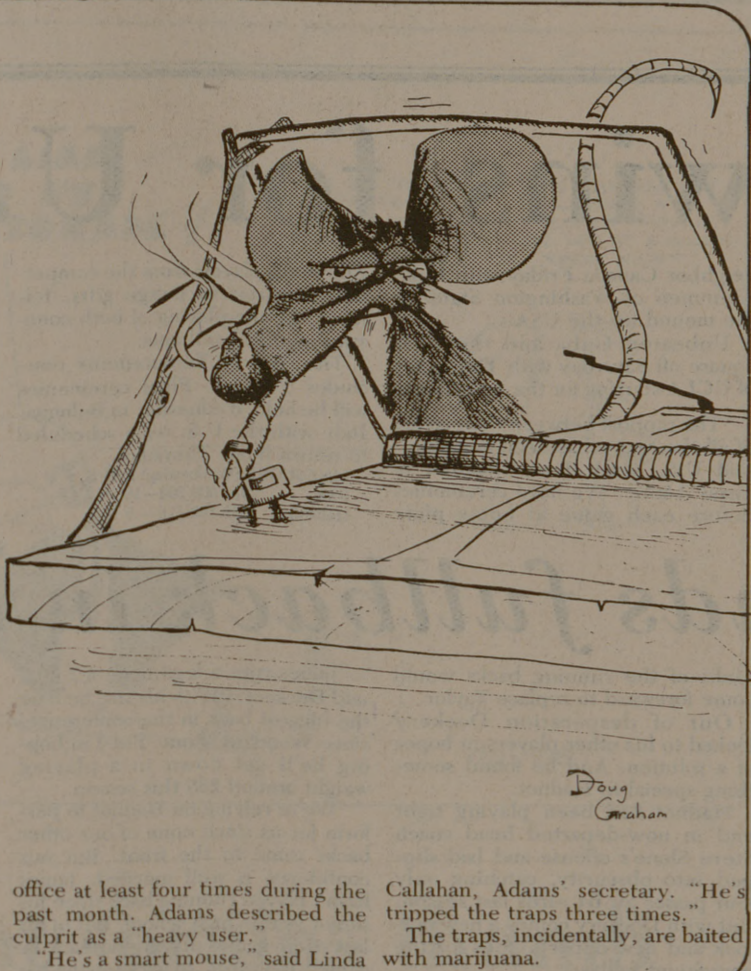
United Press International  
SALLISAW, Okla. — In the Sequoyah County prosecutor's office they are calling him Marijuana Mouse, a crafty rodent who has developed an insatiable appetite for pot.

Under normal circumstances, the thief might be excused for his excesses and allowed to live out his short life in a permanent high. However, Marijuana Mouse's cuisine happens to be evidence being held for future criminal cases.

Every employee on the second floor of the Sequoyah County Court-house has been alerted to stop the diminutive felon, but even traps have failed to stop his nocturnal foraging.

"He's even made it into the evidence locker," said Assistant District Attorney John Q. Adams. "We learned it's not mouse-proof. There's a one-inch gap at the bottom."

Authorities said Marijuana Mouse also has broken into the prosecutor's



office at least four times during the past month. Adams described the culprit as a "heavy user."

"He's a smart mouse," said Linda Callahan, Adams' secretary. "He's tripped the traps three times."

The traps, incidentally, are baited with marijuana.

## Diabetes probe New cause found

United Press International  
DALLAS — Two Dallas medical researchers report they have discovered one of the major causes of diabetes to be an excessive amount of the hormone glucagon in the body.

Drs. Roger Unger and Philip Raskin, of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and the Veterans Administration in Dallas, say that the presence of an excessive amount of glucagon in the body is a factor in diabetes just as the lack of insulin is.

This contention could have far-reaching implications in the treatment of 1 million sufferers of the most severe type of the disease, juvenile diabetes.

Unger and Raskin found the metabolic problems in diabetes not only were caused by insufficient amounts of insulin which suppresses glucose (sugar) in the body, but also by the production of too much glucagon.

Glucagon, which is secreted by the pancreas, normally stimulates the liver to produce glucose in times of fasting or extreme physical stress. But in the diabetic, Unger discovered that a constant high level of the hormone produced even higher levels of blood sugar.

Some medical experts disagreed with that finding. They conceded that every diabetic had high levels

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## Destined for Texas death row

# Woman guilty of hiring hitman

United Press International  
HUNTSVILLE, Texas — Mary Lou Anderson, the first woman in 17 years to face the death penalty in Texas for the contract murder of her father and stepmother, will await her fate in a special section of the women's prison, a Texas Department of Corrections official said Thursday.

Ms. Anderson, 35, of Lake Charles, La., was convicted Tuesday of hiring Feryl Granger to kill Steve Anderson, 55, of Sugar Land on Jan. 3 to collect on his insurance policy. She awaits trial in the death row area. Granger, 19, of Lafayette, La., awaits trial.

Ron Taylor, an administrative aide to TDC Director W.J. Estelle, said Ms. Anderson would be housed at the Goree Unit, about five miles south of town.

The administrative segregation portion of that unit will be the site where she will be housed, Taylor said. A section of that will be partitioned off and designated as a death row area. She will be housed essentially like that of male inmates housed on death row at the Ellis Unit.

No woman has been executed in

the Texas prison system since the state prison system began carrying out death sentences in 1923. Prior to that individual counties held their own executions.

Only one woman has been executed in Texas. Chipita Rodriguez was hanged Nov. 13, 1863, in San Patricio, for killing a traveling salesman in a robbery.

Ms. Anderson was sentenced to death by injection.

During the course of her appeals process she will be kept isolated from other inmates in the Goree Unit and will not be allowed to participate in any prison programs.

Her daily routine will be rather simple.

"There will be a television in the area. She will be allowed to request and receive library and legal materials. She can have writing materials and personal hygiene articles and so forth," Taylor said. "She will not be allowed to mix and mingle with the general population and will be confined to that area."

Ms. Anderson was scheduled to be sentenced formally Sept. 8 in Wharton. Under Texas law, appeal and review by higher courts is automatic.

Taylor said her arrival at the

prison could be as early as the afternoon after formal sentencing.

"We don't know when they would deliver. We receive 24 hours a day, seven days a week," Taylor said.

"There's not a lot that will have to be done to prepare the area."

If the death sentence is ever carried out, it will be done in the execution chamber in the Walls Unit in downtown Huntsville.

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## Monitoring foreign investors possible

United Press International  
AUSTIN—Attorney General John Hill today said he will propose legislation next year to implement a federal proposal requiring disclosure of foreign investments in Texas farm land.

Hill, the Democratic nominee for governor, said the U.S. Senate has passed a bill to monitor absentee investors in farm land. The House is expected to approve it next month.

"With the passage of this monitoring legislation, there will be a need for individual states to cooperate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in gathering information on foreign purchase of agricultural land in the United States," Hill said.

He added he wants Texas to take advantage of this federal legislation to participate in a program to determine how much agricultural land is being bought by foreign investors.

Hill said the General Accounting Office has found that 1 percent of prime farm land in the United States is owned by foreign investors and said that figure is destined to

grow rapidly. He said the GAO study showed up to 12 percent of farm sales last year were to foreign buyers.

"The GAO study also showed that foreigners are paying at least \$300 per acre more for agricultural land than average market prices." Eleven Texas counties are included in a more detailed GAO study, Hill said.

Texas currently has no means of determining whether foreign farm ownership is a problem or how extensive the practice is, he said.

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