

# Bionics ...

## Dialysis now possible with portable kidney

**United Press International**  
NEW YORK — TV's Six Million Dollar Man is not so far away. At the opening session of the 2nd Annual International Society for Artificial Organs meeting Wednesday, Dr. Eli A. Friedman said television's version of the bionic man "would probably cost \$1 billion" today.

"Making it," he said, "would be easier than putting a man on the moon."  
"The people who could make it are attending this meeting. There are 1,000 biomedical engineers, physicians, and other researchers who form the world's resource in devising new forms of artificial organs — the so-called science of bionics."

But Friedman's chief concern is an 18-pound artificial kidney in an attache case he says will be available commercially before the year is out, for less than \$6,000.

Friedman, a professor at New York's Downstate Medical Center, said the state of the art is such that he could develop an implantable artificial kidney in five years, at a probable cost of \$500 million.

A small portable kidney would free some 100,000 people who must depend on the kidney machine to cleanse blood of impurities.

The small kidney has been in limited use around the world since its introduction for field tests 2½ years ago. Approval from the Food and Drug Administration's Bureau of Medical Devices several months ago signaled the go-ahead for mass production of the kidney.

"This little artificial kidney in a suitcase makes it possible to perform dialysis in hotel rooms or on battlefields," Friedman said.

In fact, conference participant Dr. S. Stiller from the University of Aachen, West Germany, brought one of the portable kidneys to the meeting and is undergoing dialysis in his hotel room right on schedule.

Friedman said manufacturing and marketing arrangements have been made with American Hoechst Corp.

The artificial kidney goes back to 1943, when Dr. Willem J. Kolff, a Dutch-born surgeon, developed the apparatus — working in near-secret conditions in the Nazi-occupied Netherlands. Kolff now heads the Institute of Artificial Organs at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Friedman claims the portable, lightweight kidney probably could save the government hundreds of millions of dollars each year — if its wide-scale availability shifted a significant portion of treatments to homes for 44,000 Americans with kidney failure.

Persons who need dialysis must be linked to a machine for four to six hours three times a week while their blood is cleansed.

Hospital dialysis costs the government \$28,000 per patient per year and dialysis in a dialysis center \$15,000, while home dialysis costs only \$8,000.

The federal government will pay \$1.2 billion for dialysis treatments this year. Only 11 percent of those in the dialysis program opt for the home treatments.

## Beefless Wednesday urged to cut prices

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — A consumer group thinks it has found a way to force a cut in beef prices. It says Americans should just do without beef one day a week.

Cattle producers say it is not that simple and the current high prices are just part of the ups and downs of their business.

"It's time for consumers to use some of their clout in the marketplace," said Ann Brown, consumer affairs chairman for the

Americans for Democratic Action. She said such a movement nationwide might force a cut in beef prices of as much as 15 percent.

The "beefless Wednesday" campaign was begun recently in New York City by the city's consumer affairs commissioner. Brown said the campaign will be taken to cities throughout the country.

C.W. McMillan of the National Cattlemen's Association told the consumers' news conference that consumers don't have to be told what to do.

"They are very capable of making up their own mind on what they should or should not buy," he said.

"(Cattlemen) went through tremendous economic losses in the years of 1974, '75, '76, '77 and into 1978, and they're now in the process of building up herds," McMillan said. In the cattle cycle a build-up of herds results in more cattle on the market and lower prices.

"If beef prices should decline severely because of these efforts I think it would have a negative reaction to individual cattlemen and their bankers," McMillan said. He added that if consumers weren't willing to let producers make a living, few of them would want to stay in the business.

Brown said beef has caused the tremendous increase in food prices. She said the "beefless Wednesday" campaign is not a boycott of beef.


"It's a cutback because a cutback can have a good strong effect on the market without having a total dislocation of the market."

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The Residence Hall Association would like to express its deepest appreciation to the following area merchants who are supporting the RHA Casino night by donating prizes.

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Charli's	Dixie Chicken	Varsity Shop
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Dudley's Draw	Beauty Boutique	Bryan Western World
Barker Photography	Sparkey's	The Dawg House
Cow Hop	Texas Hall of Fame	Jack-in-the-Box
Budget Tapes & Records	Schlotzsky's	Gentleman's Quarter
Rosanne's	Tom's Barbeque	

**what's up at A&M**  
Friday

**AGGIE PLAYERS:** "Equus" will be performed in the Rudder Forum at 8 p.m.

**RHA CASINO:** Will be held on the second floor of the MSC from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. The auction begins at 11 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the MSC, Commons and Sbis.

**TAMU RACQUETBALL CLUB:** Will hold a singles tournament at 6 p.m. in DeWare Field House.

**STUDENT Y ASSOCIATION:** As its spring project the Student Y is sponsoring a car wash at McDonald's parking lot 2-6 p.m. All proceeds from the car wash will go for maintenance of the All Faiths Chapel. Price is \$2.

**HASSLE-FREE:** Any student wishing to be a rep for the new off-campus organization can sign up at the tables in the MSC. For more information call 845-1741 or 693-1473.

**PUBLICATION CELEBRATION:** Texas A&M University Press and The Association of Former Students are sponsoring a celebration of the publication We Are The Aggies and to honor the author from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Forsyth Alumni Center in the MSC.

**MUSLIM STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION:** Amendments will be made to the constitution and election of officers will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 607, Rudder Tower.

**HASSLE-FREE WEEK:** There will be a faculty reception 2-4 p.m. in the off-campus center.

**BASEBALL TEAM:** The men's team will play Texas Tech in Lubbock.

**GOLF TEAM:** The men's team will play at a Southwest Conference tournament in Tyler today through Sunday.

**GOLF TEAM:** The women's team will play at TAIAW in Commerce today through Tuesday.

**TENNIS TEAM:** The men's team will play Lamar here at 1:30 p.m.

**MSC TRAVEL COMMITTEE:** "We've Never Been Licked" will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

**AGGIE CINEMA:** "Semi-Tough," starring Kris Kristofferson and Burt Reynolds as pro football players in a zany tale about man's favorite sport, will be shown at 10 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

**MIDNIGHT MOVIE:** "The Three Musketeers," starring Oliver Reed, Racquel Welch and Faye Dunaway, full of swordplay, romance, satire and slapstick comedy, will be shown in Rudder Theater.

Saturday

**WILDLIFE SOCIETY BARBEQUE:** The fund-raising wild game barbeque begins at 2 p.m. at Tabor Community Center on Tabor Rd. All Aggies are invited to eat bear, ostrich, deer, wild boar, goose and duck. Tickets are \$3.50.

**OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP:** There will be a workshop for students and teachers, entitled "The Outdoor Education Experience." Registration for the workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. in Room 701, Rudder Tower. For further information call Jack Mayluras at 845-6751.

**FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARY:** Will meet in the historic Cavitt House in Wheelock. The meeting will include lunch with a presentation by Jeff Dykes on his 40 years of book collecting.

**BASEBALL TEAM:** The men's team will play Texas Tech in Lubbock.

**AGGIE CINEMA:** "Semi-Tough," starring Kris Kristofferson and Burt Reynolds as pro football players in a zany tale about man's favorite sport, will be shown at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

Sunday

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS:** There will be a spring picnic from 3-7 p.m. in Bee Creek Park. Tickets are available in the industrial engineering office.

Monday

**PRE-MED, PRE-DENT SOCIETY:** Dr. Richard North will speak on "Internal Medicine" at 7:30 p.m. in Room 206, MSC.

**CAMAC:** There will be concert by Little Joe, Johnny Rocky and La Familia from 8-10 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

**MSC ARTS COMMITTEE:** "Going Places," an outrageous road which traces the unpredictable adventures of two young drifters traveling through France, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. (R).

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**MSC Cafeteria**

<b>MONDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy Whipped Potatoes Your Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea	<b>TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w/chili Mexican Pinto Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter	<b>WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Chicken Fried Steak w/cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea
<b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee		
<b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> Chicken & Dumplings Tossed Salad Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b> ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable

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## Chinese trade ship arrives

**United Press International**  
SEATTLE — Thirty years of trade relations between the United States and China have ended with the arrival of a Chinese ship to visit a U.S. port since that nation's revolution.

The freighter Liu Liu Ha arrived Wednesday and about 100 Chinese ship visitors were applauded as the ship's 16 crew members disembarked. The Chinese ship returned to its home port.

The welcoming ceremony was held with the playing of national anthems, the shaking of hands, and the dockside speeches in praise of the era in China-U.S. trade relations.

The welcome included the governor, senators, a U.S. member, and even a burly seaman who once ran guns to the side in the Chinese navy. He climbed aboard the white ship and squeezed into the quarters for exotic refreshments and the ship's co-captains.

Those attending included U.S. Sen. Warren Magnuson, Henry Jackson, Gov. D. L. Evans, U.S. Transportation Secretary Adams, Chinese Vice Minister of Communications Peng Dehuai, Chinese Ambassador Chao Guohua, and Seattle port officials.

The Liu Lin Han Regatta was empty to Vancouver, B.C., 400 miles north, to pick up the grain for the Chinese. The ship was scheduled to depart within 24 hours of its arrival.

The Norwegian-built ship was purchased by the China Shipping Co. in 1977, and carries Norwegian signs, maps, extinguishers, and a hand-drawn trade map of the world. The Chinese officers opened the ship to everyone who wanted to board, despite the advice of security officials.

The welcoming party was held in the small lounge to welcome dignitaries eat exotic foods and decorated with messages like "a pleasure to have a friend on board from afar."

Co-captains Bei Han and Zhang Jie urged all to try the cake sandwiches, exotic game chicken dishes, cookies and cake from Shanghai, Lubbock grape wine, potent Mai Tai and sweet Tsingtao beer.

## Wanted: trade ship to use for \$27 per ton

**United Press International**  
TOWSON, Md. — The Patterson Air Force Base wants trash and has agreed to pay Baltimore County \$27 a ton for the first long-term contract sale of densified refuse-densified has been signed between Baltimore County and the base for \$27 a ton and a total of \$564,300.

The base is not going to burn trash, but rather fuel pellets from trash. The county and land Environmental Services agreed to provide the military with 20,900 tons of fuel pellets manufactured from solid waste between now and September 1981.

The pellets have a third the heating power of coal, and cost a third as much. They do not produce any of the toxic pollutants when burned.