

what's up

Thursday

THEATER: Stagecenter Inc. presents "Dirty Work at the Crossroad," a Gay Nineties melodrama today through Saturday at 204 W. Villa Maria Rd. The musical begins at 8 p.m. and admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

MOVIE: "Slaughterhouse Five," based on Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s book, will be shown at 8:45 p.m. in the Grove Theater.

ASTROS TICKETS: ABGS is selling tickets for the Astros vs. Dodgers game this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. There will be a charter bus available. All tickets are for seats behind first base. For more information call Becky at 845-5541.

Friday

GROMETS: The Texas A&M Gamers club will meet at 7 p.m. to play wargames and role playing games in Room 137A and 140B today through Sunday at 6 p.m.

THEATER: Stagecenter Inc. presents "Dirty Work at the Crossroad," a Gay Nineties melodrama at 204 W. Villa Maria Rd. The musical begins at 8 p.m. and admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

MOVIE: "Omen," starring Gregory Peck and Lee Remick, will be shown at 8:45 p.m. in the Grove Theater.

MIDNIGHT MOVIE: "M*A*S*H," starring Elliot Gould and Donald Sutherland, will be shown in the Grove Theater.

Saturday

MOVIE: "Damien: Omen II," starring William Holden and Lee Grant will be shown at 8:45 p.m. in the Grove Theater.

THEATER: Stagecenter Inc. presents "Dirty Work at the Crossroad," a Gay Nineties melodrama at 204 W. Villa Maria Rd. The musical begins at 8 p.m. and admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

Sunday

MOVIE: "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother," will be shown at 8:45 p.m. in the Grove Theater.

CALENDAR: Any person, group or organization who would like to have something printed in the What's Up column should fill out a form provided in Room 216, Reed McDonald. The name, date and purpose of the event should be included.

Never too old for school

Man aims for doctorate

If you get the urge to go back to school, do it, recommends 58-year-old Merritt Goff.

Now a graduate student at Texas A&M University, Goff has twice left good jobs to get more education. Most recently he pulled up stakes after 15 years with the Ford Motor Co. to enroll in a doctoral program in engineering at Texas A&M.

"It does take readjustment, but I've done it twice," Goff said, who also teaches quality control on halftone appointment as an instructor in the Industrial Engineering Department.

The recently elected Fellow of the American Society for Quality Control (ASQC) teaches two 30-student sections during regular sessions.

When Goff sits down in a classroom on the other side of the lectern, he finds basically the same thing: "The other students could be my sons or daughter," said the father of one.

Only a student from Nigeria showed interest in Goff because of his age. "He asked why and discussed the doctor of engineering program, because they don't need researchers in his country. They need engineers to help the country develop."

A 1943 graduate of Purdue in chemical engineering, Goff worked 14 years then returned to school. He earned a master of science in experimental statistics at North Carolina State University in 1960.

Throughout his life he has sampled a variety of careers, including technical and consulting contributions in the aerospace, rubber and automotive industries.

Goff took an educational leave of absence from Ford in Dearborn, Mich., where he "took systems engineering to the auto industry from the aerospace industry."

Technically still a Ford employee, Goff figures he will complete the doctorate in three years. "Then (in 1981, at the age of 61) we'll see what happens," he said.

That approach partially explains his varied background. "Every job I had turned out to be a problem-solving situation, for which I had the ability," he said. "When it ceased to be interesting, I'd move on."

Following pre-bachelor degree work with a Michigan railroad, he worked first for the tire company without the blimp then the company with the blimp. Goff's five and four years, respectively, with B.F. Goodrich and Goodyear bracketed teaching in Purdue's engineering mechanics department.

Master's studies at North Carolina State preceded a year as a

technical writer for Rubber World magazine then he finished his master's. Goff worked two years at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a few months each at Lockheed and United Technology and joined Ford in 1963.

Fifteen years with Ford was partly the doing of his son, Zane Alan, now with an oil company in Montana. "He questioned our moving around so much," Goff said. "Though it followed a relatively long span in one place, his wife Mary took the move from Dearborn to College Station in stride."

Goff sees some problems for major companies with later retirement ages. "Some of them think you're dead at 40. What do they do with this individual if he wants to stay on to 70?" Goff asked.

"I have no time for the traditional retirement things," he said. "I've gone fishing, but it wasn't to rest...it was to catch fish."

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Paralysis help studied at A&M

Victims paralyzed by spinal injuries may have new hope for partial recovery as a result of a Texas A&M University medical study.

Oxygen and chemical treatments administered in a pressure chamber helped laboratory animals with severed spinal cords regain use of their hind legs, some to the point where they could support their weight, said Texas A&M researcher Dr. John Gelderd.

Gelderd said best results were obtained following hyperbaric (pressurized oxygen) treatments combined with the use of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), a chemical sometimes used to preserve tissues during freezing.

The tests were among the first in which such regeneration has occurred in mammals.

Gelderd said that hyperbaric oxygen apparently prevented deterioration of tissue and allowed more spinal nerve fibers to regenerate through the severed part of the spinal cord.

The preliminary findings hold large potential if they can someday be applied to human victims. Currently, little if anything can be done to return normal functions to persons paralyzed with spinal injuries. The oxygen treatments were

applied over a period of two months at pressures almost three times that of Earth's atmosphere, said Gelderd. The tests were made in cooperation with Texas A&M hyperbaric pioneer Dr. William Fife, associate dean of science.

Gelderd said almost a third of the rats treated with pressurized oxygen alone showed a return of function. The success rate rose to 60 percent in the group given both oxygen and DMSO.

In a control group which did not use the oxygen and DMSO treatments, not a single animal regained use of its hindquarters, supporting the widely held belief that mammals are unable to regenerate injured spinal cords under natural conditions.

Gelderd, who participated in the inauguration of the Kent Waldrep (injured TCU football player) International Spinal Cord Research Foundation at Arlington last month, has received \$21,375 from the Paraplegia Cure Research Foundation to continue his studies with two other Texas A&M medical researchers.

The current study was funded by Organized Research, special allocation established by the Texas Legislature to foster experiments that will benefit all Texans.

Crystal



gayle

MSC TOWN HALL PRESENTS

Thursday, August 2

8:30 pm

Rudder Auditorium

Tickets:

TAMU Students 5.50

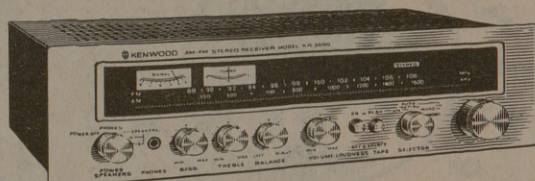
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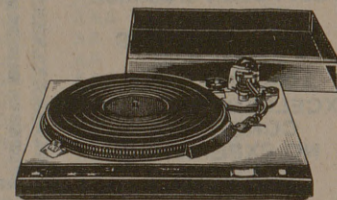
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