

College Bowl team defeats Rice in match

By RICHARD OLIVER
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M University College Bowl champions took a big psychological step toward a national tournament berth Tuesday by defeating the Rice champions two games to one in a challenge match.

"The great thing about our victory is Rice has already qualified for nationals," said Ted Hoef, staff adviser for Texas A&M's College Bowl team. "They qualified over a CBS radio network contest."

The Texas A&M team lost the first game, 185-155, but won the last two 270-240 and 225-210. Hoef said each game's outcome hinged on the final question.

College Bowl is a question and answer game played by two teams of four players. Toss-up questions are asked, and the team that responds first gets a chance at a bonus question. The questions are worth points to the team that correctly answers them, and the team with the highest score after two seven-minute halves is the winner.

Mike Smith, Camellia Pratt, Ruth Walters, and Ruvane Marvit make up the Texas A&M team. Mark Smith is the alternate.

The team won the Texas A&M College Bowl competition on Thursday, and will compete in the regional competition at TCU in Fort Worth Feb. 22-23.

"Some of the people at Rice were very impressed with our team," Hoef said. "We should do pretty well at regionals. They (Rice) say we've got a good chance."

City fasts for hostages

United Press International
CINCINNATI—Abie Ingber and 49 other Cincinnatians didn't eat Tuesday.

Another 50 residents will go without food today.

And, for every succeeding day 50 Americans are held hostage in Iran, 50 more Cincinnati residents will fast.

"It began bothering me that I was able to go about my daily routine so casually, while those 50 were being held captive," said Ingber, 29, a rabbi who originated the Cincinnati Fast for Freedom.

"The first 30 days of captivity, the hostages were our main topic of dis-

ussion. The next 30 days, sometimes it was brought up, sometimes not. And the last 30 days, it's really become a back pages issue.

"I want our fast to make it a personal, front-page issue for everyone involved. I hope other communities pick up the idea."

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SARITA'S SMOKE SHOP

Pacemakers causing unexpected problems

United Press International
ATLANTA — Nuclear-powered pacemakers — once hailed as the long-term answer to the needs of people with heartbeat irregularities — have not lived up to their initial billing, says a heart surgeon who has implanted hundreds of pacemakers.

Introduced in 1970, pacemakers powered by tiny nuclear generators were praised because of the expectation they would last for the lifetime of the patient. The problem is the nuclear batteries last even longer.

Dr. Kamal Mansour, associate professor of cardio-thoracic surgery at the Emory School of Medicine, says the plutonium-238 that provides the long-term energy raises the possibility of radiation problems from nuclear pacemakers that have become "lost" after the death of the patient.

He said, however, there have been no reports in the medical literature of radiation leakage from nuclear pacemakers inside the body.

Plutonium-238 has a half-life of 87 years. It is highly toxic when not properly shielded and it also is the material from which atomic bombs are made.

Mansour said a nuclear pacemaker extracted from the body of a patient could be a serious radiation hazard for many years if proper safety precautions were not taken.

"You just don't bury it with the

patient," he said. "You get control of it and send it back to the manufacturer. You always keep track of it."

Nuclear pacemakers, according to Mansour, have never achieved more than a fraction of 1 percent of the world pacemaker market. They are now used mostly in teen-age patients who have achieved most of their growth and have a long life expectancy.

Pacemakers are surgically implanted in patients whose heart rhythm is disturbed by disease or birth defects.

Mansour and his associates have installed 415 conventional battery-powered pacemakers in operations in Emory-affiliated hospitals in the last 10 years and average about 120 annually.

The first pacemaker was implanted in 1960. Today, more than 100,000 are in use in this country, Mansour said. He described the one-hour surgical procedure as a "routine, well standardized, safe operation."

Mansour is considered a pioneer in the use of the sutureless, screw-in electrode for pacemakers and says a non-nuclear, lithium-powered device has proved to be highly satisfactory in his patients. He said the lithium type is much less expensive than the nuclear, \$2,300 compared with \$6,000, and is good for an esti-

mated 12 to 15 years and possibly longer.

"Most companies guarantee the lithium battery for the life of the patient," he said. "We don't really know how long it will last. We do know it will go for 12 to 15 years and probably a lot longer."

The doctor's fee for implantation at Emory is \$800, Mansour said, with the charge in some other cities ranging up to \$1,200.

There have been no operative deaths and no deaths in followups related to electrode failure or to implantation techniques, he said.

False tooth rings true, picks up radio station

United Press International
RIVERHEAD, N.Y. — Town police have solved the mysterious case of a man who reported hearing the music of a Connecticut radio station inside his head.

George Dillard, 45, of Riverhead, phoned police at 4 a.m. Monday to report his problem. Police listened patiently to Dillard and then advised him to "take a couple of aspirin and go to sleep."

Dillard, back on the phone a few minutes later, said, "Send someone

over here. I'm picking up a Connecticut radio station in my right ear, and I can't stand it."

Officer David Cheshire was sent to the house, and when he pressed his ear against Dillard's, he could hear the music.

Cheshire learned that Dillard had recently been fitted with a denture. The officer told Dillard to remove the denture, and the music stopped.

Several dentists were called, but none could explain the incident.

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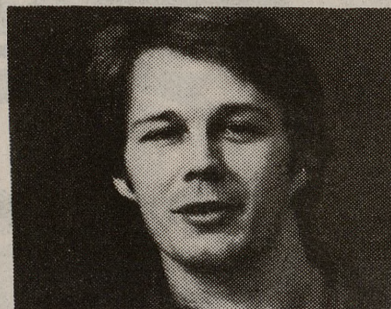
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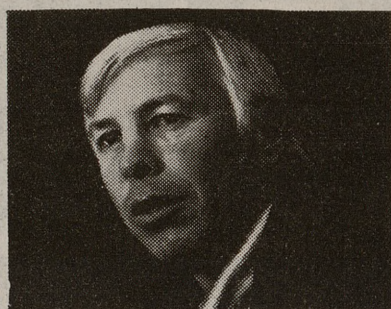
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