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Parasite killing hundreds of catfish in CSPD pond

By LAURA CORTEZ
City Staff

Many of the fish in the pond on the grounds of the College Station Police Department are dying because of a parasite which gets under their skin and, in effect, suffocates them.

Lt. Bernard Kapella of the police department said several hundred catfish have died from the whitespot disease, or Ich, since about November.

College Station police cleared out the area around the pond, which had been covered with weeds, and stocked the pond with fish last September so that area children (12-years-old and younger) could fish in it.

But soon after the pond was closed for the winter, police officers noticed that many of the fish were dying, and called in Dr. S. K. Johnson, fish disease specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University, to figure out what the problem was.

Johnson said he knew immediately that the fish had Ich, which upsets their water balance and causes their gills to swell,

which produces breathing problems and eventually suffocates them.

He said that Ich is a common protozoan parasite which is passed from fish to fish.

"Ich is considered contagious where fish are cultured. A contagious parasite not only causes disease, but spreads readily from one fish to another," Johnson said.

But he said the disease is not affecting all of the fish in the pond. Many of the catfish have not contracted the disease, and there are also a few bass in the pond, none of which have been affected.

Johnson said the disease can be treated with chemicals, by removing the fish and draining the pond or by a "self cure" method of high temperatures.

He said that right now is the peak killing time of the disease because of the weather change.

"The fish have been in cold water and have not been able to build up resistance to the disease, but this will change when the temperature gets hot."

Johnson said that the length of time Ich spends as a parasite on a fish varies with the temperature of the water, and in a bulletin

which he has written on the subject, he said reproduction of the parasite ceases at 85-90 degrees F.

He said the Ich problem will decline in the warmer months, but it would be a good idea to drain the pond around midwinter and treat the bottom with hydrated lime, which serves as a disinfectant, and remove the affected fish.

Ich has no effect on humans, Johnson said, so even if a person was to eat a fish with the disease there would be no problem.

But Kapella said even though there would be no harm to the people who catch and eat the fish, people might not like the idea anyway, so the police department is considering draining the pond soon. But if they do this the pond will not be opened to the children in March as originally planned, but sometime later.

He said he is not sure how the plan would be financed, but said the police chief will talk to city officials about it.

The funds to purchase the fish for the pond are donated.

MSC council chooses new committee chairmen

By DILLARD STONE
Copy Editor

The final Memorial Student Center Council members, as well as chairmen for 18 MSC Directorate committees, were chosen at Monday night's MSC Council meeting.

The council filled the two remaining vacancies for the 1980-81 council: —Doug Dedeker was named vice president of administration. Dedeker, a sophomore from Dallas, currently serves as the council's comptroller.

—Mollie White, a junior from Fort Worth, will be director of public relations. Dedeker and White will join the seven other previously selected council officers in directing the programming of the 31st MSC Council and Directorate.

Committee chairmen named by the council include:

Aggie Cinema: Cindy Phelps

Arts: Kerri Kernan

Basement: Steve Schulte

Black Awareness: Reg Trammel

Camera: Ed Martinez

Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture: Priscilla Navarrete

Cepheid Variable: Carole Srala

Free University: Mary Helen Vetter

Great Issues: Kirk Kelley

Hospitality: Steve Noak

Opera and Performing Arts Society: Cary Wilkins

Outdoor Recreation: Bryan Hall

Political Forum: Sam Gillespie

Radio: Julie Montgomery

Student Conference on National Affairs: Tom Beecroft

Town Hall: Mike Parkman

Travel: Debra Lanham

Video Tape: David Dinwoodie

The MSC Recreation Committee's chairman position remains unfilled, and is still open to applicants.

Only six committee chairman positions were contested: Hospitality, Outdoor Recreation, Radio, SCONA, Town Hall and Travel. The public relations director's post

was also contested.

Each applicant was interviewed by three different groups of current council members, according to Brian Gross, vice president of administration. The three groups together comprised the nominating committee. In the cases of the contested chairmanships, each group agreed on one applicant; the groups' votes were then tallied. The selection rules allowed for discussion among nominating committee members on any office for which the group vote was not unanimous. In each case, Gross said, the groups agreed on their number one choices.

The 19 MSC committees and the council supervise all student programming at Texas A&M University. Next year's MSC Council and Directorate will operate with a \$1.9 million budget.

In other action, the council also approved a Camera Committee proposal to sponsor a presentation by glamour and model photographers Peter and Alice Gowlan of Santa Monica, Calif.



Wheels have wings

James Fulbright, a junior Building Construction major, demonstrates that the skateboard isn't just for rolling along. Fulbright took advantage of a recent warm day to take his board out for a spin. But for the

last few days, the Bryan-College Station area has shivered from the effects of a cold spell. The area forecast says rain will fall for most of today, perhaps clearing in the late afternoon. Photo by David Einsel

Kennedy, Bush trying to keep campaigns alive

United Press International
BOSTON — Sen. Edward Kennedy and George Bush put their once-promising but now shaky presidential campaigns on the line in two New England primaries today. Clear skies and temperatures in the 30s and 40s, relative spring for the region, greeted voters in Massachusetts and Vermont. Election officials looked for heavy turnout, as many as 1.5 million in Massachusetts and 100,000 in Vermont. Polls close at 7 p.m. EST in Vermont; 8 p.m. in Massachusetts.

The stakes were high in Massachusetts with the leaders among the three Democratic and seven major Republican candidates to share 111 Democratic and 42 GOP delegates.

The Vermont vote was a "beauty contest" designed to show voter preference with no delegates at stake on the Democrats' side. The Vermont GOP primary also offered no delegates, although state party leaders said they would turn over 10 of their 19 delegates to any candidate who got 10 percent of the primary vote.

No one needed victories more than Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democratic senator who has lost political tests to President Carter three times in the last six weeks, and Bush, the transplanted Texan whose booming campaign was punctured last week in New Hampshire by Ronald Reagan.

The latest Massachusetts poll gave Kennedy 52 percent and Carter 37 percent as of last Thursday, but said it found "significant" erosion in the Kennedy lead as the primary approached. California Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. was a distant third.

The poll called the Republican contest virtually dead even with Bush at 36 percent, Reagan 33 percent, Rep. John Anderson of Illinois 17 percent, Sen. Howard Baker 6 percent and Rep. Philip Crane, Ohio Connally and Sen. Bob Dole all with less than 5 percent combined.

Publication of the Boston Globe poll revealed Bush's Massachusetts stock had plummeted; a month ago he had led the former California governor by a 3 to 1

margin. Losing in Massachusetts was inconceivable to Kennedy, whose family has dominated the state's politics for two decades. But apparently concerned a narrow victory would be perceived as a defeat, Kennedy returned from campaigning in the South and Midwest to blitz the Boston area during the weekend.

Repeatedly asked by reporters Monday if he expected to win, Kennedy said, "Yes."

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill predicted a Kennedy win by 8 to 18 points. Bush, who was born in Massachusetts and reared in Connecticut before he moved to Texas after World War II, needed vic-

tory in one or both New England contests to fade the image of Reagan's New Hampshire upset and give him a cushion against expected Reagan and Connally dominance of the South Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Alabama primaries coming up next.

Kennedy hoped to pull ahead of Carter in the race for the 1,666 delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination next summer. With 111 at stake in Massachusetts, Carter led Kennedy, 51 to 34.

On the GOP side, Reagan and Bush were dead even with 22 delegates. Baker had six, Anderson two and Connally one in the search for 998 delegates needed to nominate.

Consol board plans gifted kids' program

By KATHLEEN HARTNEY
City Staff

The A&M Consolidated Independent School District is trying to establish a program for gifted students in grades 5-12.

In the bi-monthly school board meeting Monday night, the board discussed the need for such a program and a draft of some of the goals to be accomplished with this program were established.

Assistant Superintendent H.R. Burnett said they began developing and implementing a program for the gifted children of the district at the elementary level in 1978.

The program currently includes children in kindergarten through fourth grade. One goal the school district would like to reach is to expand the program for gifted students in grades 5-12, Burnett said.

By gifted, Burnett is referring to children and youth whose abilities, talents

and potentials for accomplishment are so outstanding that they require special provisions to meet their educational needs.

Such a task force, Burnett said, has been set up to develop the program and the school sent out questionnaires to teachers and parents of all students in the school district to assess the need for the program.

He said a need was indicated by the questionnaires and the school board would like the program established by the fall of 1980.

Another goal of the program, Burnett said, would be to involve parents and other interested individuals in the program and also to provide a measure of compensation for teachers as extra planning and program management is required.

In other business, the school board rescheduled its next regular meeting from March 17 to March 24.

Rhodesia

Marxist leader Mugabe wins election

United Press International
SALISBURY, Rhodesia — Marxist guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe today won a stunning absolute majority in elections here to lead the new country of Zimbabwe.

Lord Soames, Rhodesia's British interim governor, immediately summoned Mugabe, who had not been expected to win an absolute majority, for a meeting to form a new government.

Britain will follow the formation of a government by granting the country formal independence.

Large crowds of blacks gathered in the streets, cheering and imitating roosters — Mugabe's symbol for the two-month election campaign.

Army helicopters circled over the center of Salisbury, and army and police staged a massive show of force throughout the capital in an effort to enforce calm after Mugabe's victory was announced.

The election triumph gave Mugabe 57 of the 100 seats in the independence Parliament. His victory was all the more remarkable since nine parties contested the 80 seats reserved for blacks.

Official results gave Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front Party 62.9 percent of the vote, Registrar General Eric Pope-Simmonds said.

Mugabe's one-time guerrilla co-leader, Joshua Nkomo, came in second with 24.1 percent of the vote and 20 seats and former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa polled a poor third with 8.2 percent of the vote and three seats.

The other 20 seats reserved for whites in the independence Parliament were won in an earlier election by former Prime Minister Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front Party.

A spokesman for Nkomo, who reportedly broke down in tears when he heard of his party's defeat, said he was open to Mugabe's offer to take part in a government that would give Mugabe's party a constitutional majority.

Pope-Simmonds said final tallies for the parties gave 1,668,992 votes to Mugabe's ZANU-PF, 638,879 to Nkomo's Patriotic Front, and 219,307 to Muzorewa's United African National Council.

None of the six other black parties won enough votes to gain a seat in the legislative body.

Both Nkomo and Muzorewa were strong enough in their own electoral districts to win seats for themselves in the Parliament. If the two men combined forces, they

would hold the two-thirds majority needed to pass constitutional amendments without the support of the white minority in Parliament.

Rhodesians got their first indication the urbane and bespectacled Mugabe had emerged the victor Monday night when he was the only black politician to go on state-run radio and television to appeal for calm and reconciliation.

"We must now all work for unity whether we have won the elections or lost them and this so whether we are black or white," he said.

"Our main concern should be to join hands in building our country so that we can create a new Zimbabwe with a new national faith, a new national love, binding all its people, a new sense of national togetherness based on a new way of life."

Baylor fires 3 editors; newspaper staff quits

United Press International
WACO — As an indirect result of Playboy magazine's efforts to photograph female students at Baylor University, the campus newspaper is without its top three editors and many staff members.

The editor-in-chief of The Lariat, Jeff Barton, was escorted from his newsroom, where he had been holding a news conference, by campus security guards Monday shortly before the school's board of publications announced the three firings.

The board's action was prompted by a controversy over an editorial saying female students should be allowed to decide for themselves whether to pose for the nude photographs.

Several staff members submitted sympathetic resignations, closing down the newspapers until after spring break, which begins Friday.

The board, made up of five faculty members and six students, announced the firings after a one-hour executive session that followed an open meeting where two of the editors and several of the 150 students present spoke against the expected terminations.

The board of publications of Baylor University has voted unanimously to terminate the three senior editors of The Lariat, the board said in a statement read by chairman Dr. Loyal Gould, head of the school's journalism faculty.

The controversy began last month when the men's magazine announced it planned a photo series on "Girls of the Southwest Conference" and school President Abner V. McCall said any Baylor student posing for a frontal nude shot and "representing Baylor University" probably would face disciplinary action. He said posing for the magazine would be a violation of Baptist tenets.

That prompted the student editors to editorialize that women should have a choice. McCall objected to the resulting series of editorials and news stories, saying Friday the editors would either have to change their stance or resign.

The newspaper's editor-in-chief, city editor and news editor threatened to quit their \$2.63-per-hour positions, but then decided to await the board's decision.

In the meantime, journalism faculty member Don Williams quit and members of the newspaper staff met Sunday and voted 17-7 to resign, with eight staff members not present.

"I expressed sympathy with the students," Williams said. "I thought the method of enforcing the publication policies were inhuman and insensitive. I never voiced any disagreement with the policies, though."

The firings, along with the sympathetic resignations of several staff members, closed down The Lariat until after spring break, which begins Friday.