

National

Sick baby survives red tape

United Press International
AUGUSTA, Ga. — A 2-pound baby born three months prematurely had a chance to live Tuesday thanks to a hospital staff that carried a 24-hour battle against indifference, red tape and mechanical breakdowns all the way to the White House.

"It's amazing the baby even made it, it's beyond belief," said Becky Burke, who led the battle to get Stephanie Marie McElrath the treatment she had to have.

Alex Vaughn, a spokesman for Talmadge Memorial Hospital, said Stephanie was still in critical condition but "there's a little bit of optimism."

Stephanie was born Saturday night in Southeastern Medical Center, a small Miami hospital, to Carleen and Gary McElrath — who hasn't had his medical insur-

ance long enough to be eligible for a maternity benefit.

Burke, public relations director at Southeastern, said the hospital did not have the facilities to care for the critically ill infant, who she said had to have "level three" care — "the most advanced, most sophisticated care."

Nine hospitals in Florida with such facilities rejected Stephanie. One in Miami turned her down when they learned her parents had no insurance, Burke said. Others said they had no room. Still others, she said, gave no coherent reason.

The staff began calling out-of-state hospitals with level three neonatal care. It was Sunday afternoon when they put in a call to Talmadge Memorial Hospital in Augusta.

"They were super. They didn't

ask any questions, none of the financial questions we had been hearing. They said they had a bed and would hold it for us, and they would send an ambulance out to Bush Field at Fort Gordon to meet us."

"At that point," Burke said, "all we had to do is find a way to transport the infant. That's when the problems really started."

A commercial air ambulance wanted \$3,000 to transport the child, she said, and the McElraths didn't have that much money.

For the next several hours the hospital itself put "about 60 calls" through to Homestead Air Force Base in south Florida, Scott Air Force Base in Illinois — the Air Force emergency center — the Pentagon, the White House, the homes of all Florida congressmen and senators, and the governor's mansion.

Homestead Air Force Base said they would send a plane to Opa-Locka airport in North Miami to pick up the baby. At 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Burke said, she, three doctors from the hospital and Stephanie in an incubator were waiting at the airport.

But the plane didn't come. The Air Force said the mission was scrubbed because its policy was to

refuse such flights when commercial service was available.

At that point, Burke said she rounded up several maintenance workers at Opa-Locka and they began "calling everywhere. Every place we called thought it was a prank call. At the White House they put us on hold."

"Finally the Pentagon called back. A Col. Seltzer and a Maj. Fronzack called. They were absolutely wonderful. They said, 'We've heard what trouble you're having. We called Homestead and told them to get that plane in the air.'"

The plane took off with the doctors and Stephanie at about 7 p.m.

Fifteen minutes after the plane took off, Burke said, the respirator providing oxygen to the baby went dead. For the next two hours, the doctors took turns squeezing a hand pump to get oxygen in.

Shortly after the C-130 took off for Augusta, a man who identified himself as President Reagan called the airport and an airport worker who took the call said the man "just wanted to make sure the plane was there and the baby was going to be all right."

The White House could not confirm whether the president himself or an aide made the call.

Researchers' efforts transfer plant genes

United Press International
WASHINGTON — In a pioneering effort that may lay the groundwork for agriculture in the next century, researchers have developed a genetic engineering technique for transferring genes from one plant species to another.

In announcing the development Monday, Agriculture Secretary John Block said it opened "a whole new era in plant genetics."

In the past, sterility barriers between kinds of plants prevented creation of variations that will be possible now with gene splicing.

No one is expecting overnight results. John Kemp, an Agriculture Department biochemist who worked on the project, said it was "laying the groundwork for 21st century agriculture."

Block, who is pushing for more federal spending on agricultural research, said he does not agree with people who say the United States has reached its crop production potential and that greater yields will be harder to achieve in the future.

Instead, Block said, the new breakthrough "is the first step toward the day when scientists will be able to increase the nutritive value of plants, to make plants resistant to disease and environmental stresses and to make them capable of fixing nitrogen from the air."

Researchers led by Kemp and Timothy Hall of

the University of Wisconsin at Madison transferred a gene from a French bean seed to a sunflower cell and called the new tissue "sunbean."

The gene, which directs production of a protein, is stable in its new location and scientists are looking forward next to production of levels of bean protein in the "sunbean."

In a complicated process, the gene was spliced into a bacterium, called *agrobacterium tumefaciens*, which transmits crown gall disease in many plant species. The normal infection mechanism was used to transfer the bean protein gene to sunflower plant tissue.

The next step, for which technology is not available, will be to regenerate a sunflower from the "sunbean" cells.

Scientists said they did not know exactly what effect the bean gene will have on the regenerated sunflower plants.

The development was the second major agricultural research breakthrough announced to the public this month. Block announced earlier genetic engineering had produced an improved vaccine effective against foot-and-mouth disease which affects livestock.

That genetic engineering development promises for fighting other diseases such as cholera and hepatitis.

Man mugged, stripped, electrocuted in New York

United Press International
TORRINGTON, Conn. — Mugged and robbed of everything but the dungarees he was wearing, Gerard Courty telephoned his mother from Grand Central Station in New York City.

"He was really, really upset," Mary Courty recalled Monday. "He said, 'Get me out of here, Ma.'"

It was the last time she ever talked to her 26-year-old son, a former Fairfield University honor student and athlete.

About eight hours later — just before dawn Saturday — a teenage mob stripped Courty naked and chased him through Times Square to a subway station, where he leaped in desperation onto the tracks, and grabbed the electrified third rail.

The crowd howled with laughter.

"I was stunned," said transit officer Edwin Cassar. "They (the mob) thought it was a big joke."

Mrs. Courty, who couldn't wire money Friday night as her son asked, picked up a local newspaper Sunday morning and read about an unidentified young man — described by police as a vagrant — who had been electrocuted in a New York subway.

"I felt certain it was our Gerry," said Mrs. Courty. "I don't know why. I hoped it wouldn't be but I was afraid it would be."

That night she and her husband, Namir, identified their son's body in New York City's borough of Brooklyn. He was the youngest of their seven children.

Mrs. Courty said her son, who did not live at home, was "a good clean kid" who "had never been arrested for anything."

"He was an excellent student," she said. "He was in many of the clubs in Torrington. He was president of one or two of them. He was very active in sports and played football."

He attended Fairfield University, a Catholic liberal arts college, for three years, where he made the dean's list in his first two years. But Mrs. Courty said his junior year "wasn't so good. He came through, but he decided not to go back for awhile."

Currently out of work, Gerard had called Monday to say he was heading "to points south," to visit a close friend in New Jersey or to Washington, D.C., to get a job.

She said she didn't know why he stopped in New York.

He called her about 8 p.m. Friday from a police telephone in Grand Central.

Police in Grand Central confirmed Monday helped Courty, who they described as "coherent and polite," phone his mother.

A Conrail spokeswoman said Courty told officers he had been mugged in the city a week prior but was vague about the details. They said he was his mother to wire him money.

Mrs. Courty doesn't drive and her husband's vision in one eye so she said she didn't want to drive to New York City at night. The local New York Union office was closed and she tried to reach her son's friend in New Jersey.

When she called Grand Central back, Gerard had gone.

Her son's ordeal in Times Square began about 11 a.m. Saturday, when the area is given up to drug addicts, pimps, prostitutes, gangs of petty criminals.

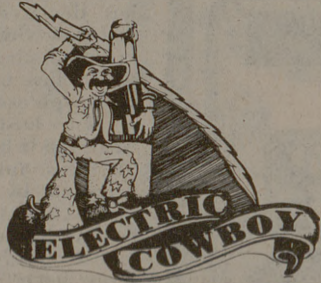
Cassar and his partner, Fred Ehlers, went up a fight when they saw Courty running down the street with about 15 youths in tow. People joined the chase until a mob of about 40 were chasing Courty. Cassar said they tossed leavies and cans at the fleeing man.

Cassar said he managed to catch Courty at a subway entrance, but Courty broke away and ran the sprawling station.

Courty stopped briefly and tried to grab a jacket in an apparent effort to clothe himself. He fled to a dingy lower-level platform on the Flushing Line and leaped onto the tracks.

Cassar watched as Courty touched his head to the third rail and shrieked. He then touched his head to the third rail and screamed again. Then he

ELECTRIC COWBOY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT

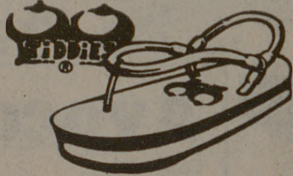
50¢ Frozen Margaritas and 50¢ Draw Beer ALL Night. No Cover Charge for Ladies

THURSDAY NIGHT

\$1.00 Frozen Margaritas all night. Ladies — come in before 11 p.m. and get two free drinks. No cover charge for Ladies

Next to Skaggs
846-2277 303 University Square

Sound Waves



BIG SALE ON TIDDIES!

Lowest priced Tiddies in the world!

2 Layers — 13.95

3 Layers — 15.95

We also carry a complete line of car stereos

BEST SELECTION IN TOWN

Disco Lite - Water Beds -
Nighttimes - Incense - Pipes

2919 Texas Ave. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. 779-0065

HOW DOES \$90,000 A YEAR GRAB YOUR ASSETS?

Accountant	\$29,744/yr*
Attorney	\$56,964/yr*
Chemist	\$48,961/yr*
Engineer	\$45,221/yr*
LUBY'S MANAGER	\$90,000/yr

Seem hard to believe? The average Luby's Cafeterias, Inc. manager did earn over \$90,000 last year. The average training period to become a manager is 6 to 8 years. Managers attain these earnings by collecting a share of the net profits from their own cafeteria. The average associate manager last year earned \$50,000. This earning level is attainable in 3 to 5 years.

To become a manager of one of our cafeterias is a very special business opportunity. You'll be joining an ambitious and progressive company that requires more of its managers than any food chain in the Sunbelt. Local managers are decision making businessmen who are responsible for all purchasing, menu planning, and hiring of personnel. We grant our managers a great deal of autonomy, and treat them as business partners. Luby's Cafeterias, Inc. is a firm believer in promoting from within; hence, most Corporate Officers are former unit managers.

Luby's Cafeterias, Inc. is not restricting interviews to only Business majors; we're open to all degrees. We're looking for people who are interested in becoming dynamic, aggressive, and well paid business people. If that's your goal, then we're looking for you!

*Average salaries; highest level of experience, difficulty, and responsibility, from the National Survey of Professional, Administrative, Technical, and Clerical Pay, March 1979 — U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bulletin 2045.

INTERVIEWING AT YOUR PLACEMENT CENTER JUNE 30 AND JULY 1.

Luby's

LUBY'S CAFETERIAS, INC., P.O. BOX 33069, CENTURY BLDG., SUITE 200E, 84 N.E. LOOP 410, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78286
Luby's is a Registered Trademark of Luby's Cafeterias, Inc.

for anything...for everything...WANT ADS

MSC Cafeteria

Now Better Than Ever. You Will Be Pleased With These Carefully Prepared and Taste Tempting Foods. Each Daily Special Only \$2.13 Plus Tax. "Open Daily"

Dining: 11 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. — 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy Whipped Potatoes Your Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w chili Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Chicken Fried Steak w cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>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</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>BREADED FISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Yankee Pot Roast (Texas Salad) Mashed Potato w gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</p> <p>ROAST TURKEY Dinner Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of One vegetable</p>

FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS.

"Quality First"