



Working out photo by Jane Hollingsworth

Ken Russell was working out his back muscles on the lat rows machine in the weight room of G. Rollie White on Wednesday night. Russell is an Austin sophomore building construction major.

Lifestyles biggest cause of cancer, Dow man says

United Press International
HOUSTON — The major causes of cancer come from personal pleasures prevalent in the American lifestyle, and not from vast majority of industrial substances, a toxicologist with a national chemical firm contends.

Dr. Richard Kociba, a senior toxicologist for Dow Chemical Co. in Midland, Mich., said Tuesday the alleged health hazards of hundreds of chemicals have been magnified "all out of proportion" in light of known carcinogenic properties of smoking, diet, alcohol and sunbathing.

"The major causes of cancers are inherent in the American lifestyles," Kociba said. "People truly are their own worst enemies when it comes to cancer."

He said current documented data show that more than two-thirds of all malignancies in this country are directly related to smoking or diet. But, Kociba said, fewer than 6 percent of all cancers can be linked to industrial agents.

He said the controversy about alleged excess brain cancer deaths among Texas Gulf Coast chemical and petrochemical employees a few years ago was

marked with unfair and unfortunate reports.

"After all the epidemiological information was in through cooperative evaluations with companies like Dow with the governmental agencies... it was shown there was no appreciable difference in the rate for those workers and the general population," Kociba said.

However, a different study by the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union documented the number of cancers was higher in the plant workers than in the general population.

Kociba said one good development from investigations is that industry now keeps better personnel and work records to facilitate studies analyzing disease trends, he said.

One reason the potential for chemicals or food additives causing cancer cannot be predicted better, he said, is that only 24 of more than 500 separate compounds that cancer in laboratory animals have been proven to cause cancer in humans.

"So, time-consuming and expensive animal studies are not always absolute predictors," he said.

More than 620 families seek relief

United Press International
AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements said Wednesday more than 620 families in Paris, Texas, have requested some type of disaster relief from the so good, I'm not sure that you about it that city two weeks ago.

The disaster application center where the applications are use the HL&P received closed at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The Federal Emergency Management Administration is preparing to bring mobile

homes from storage sites at Palo Pinto to Paris for use as temporary housing for the victims.

Clements' office reported 122 families had applied for food stamps, 363 asked for temporary housing, 52 sought unemployment compensation; 481 asked for small business loans; 472 applied for individual or family grants; 200 asked for IRS assistance; 98 sought insurance information; and 53 requested Social Security benefits.

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Potato seed developed for easier gardening

United Press International
This spring a new gardening experience awaits the estimated 38 million Americans who will plant vegetable gardens — growing potatoes from seed.

For over 400 years, potatoes have been produced from pieces of potato tuber called "eyes" or "tuber seed pieces." Now, after five years of laboratory research and field testing, potato seeds are available to gardeners.

The developer of the first true potato seed in North America, Pan American Seed Co. of West Chicago, Ill., calls it "the greatest introduction in home gardening since the stringless string bean."

The new seed is called Explorer and is available as seed in all major seed catalogs and as

plants in greenhouses and garden centers across the country this spring, Pan American spokesmen said.

Potato seed makes it possible for home gardeners to plant potatoes along with tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables. Using the seed, it no longer will be necessary to plant the potato "eyes" during cold weather, weeks before the start of the regular gardening season.

The seed developer also claims Explorer potatoes are "cleaner than potatoes grown from potato 'eyes' or tuber seed pieces" as most diseases cannot go through the seed stage.

The company says potatoes grown from the seed produce a small to medium-sized round white potato which can be har-

vested after 90-100 days for a new potato flavor, or grown until the vines die for a larger, mature potato. Depending on growing conditions, a hill of three plants can yield two to three pounds of potatoes.

The seed can be started in seed flats in a warm place, just like tomatoes or peppers, and transplanted to the garden after all danger of frost has passed. Or plants can be purchased from seed stores and garden centers.

The seeds are one-fifth the size of tomato seeds. One-fourth ounce of seeds, according to Pan-American, will produce the same number of plants as a ton of potato "eyes" or "tuber seed pieces."

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