

Campus names

Dr. John B. Coleman of Houston, a member of the Texas A&M System Board of Regents, has been awarded an honorary doctor of humanities degree by Fisk University, his alma mater.

Coleman is chief of obstetrics and gynecologists at River Oaks General Hospital and owner of the Cullen Women's Center in Houston. He is president of the Human Enrichment of Life Program, president and chairman of the board of KCOH and serves on the Entex Inc. board of directors.

Coleman has served on the Texas A&M Board of Regents since 1977.

head of the University's Department of Poultry Science.

Creger received his bachelor's and master of science degrees in nutrition from Kansas State University and a doctoral degree in biochemistry and nutrition from Texas A&M. He has served on the faculty since 1958.

Dr. Thomas L. Payne, a Texas A&M entomologist has been named winner of the Humboldt-Pries Award for science by the Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation of West Germany.

Payne, an authority on the use of behavioral chemicals to suppress forest insects such as the pine beetle, will conduct his research for one year at the Institute of Forest Zoology at the Albert Ludwig University in Freiburg, West Germany where he will also serve as a visiting scientist.

Dr. Clarence R. (Dick) Creger, professor of biochemistry, nutrition and poultry science at Texas A&M, has been named

Braniff's secret closing kept planes from creditors

United Press International
DALLAS — With Braniff International's small cash reserves dwindling hourly, its top executives secretly decided to close swiftly before creditors could start "snatching airplanes wherever they could be found."

Braniff's chief spokesman, Sam Coats, offered an inside view of the final days of America's eighth-largest airline in an interview with United Press International.

Some \$1 billion in debt, Braniff declared bankruptcy last Wednesday, a week after the last meeting of stockholders on May 6 at which president Howard Putnam said bankruptcy proceedings would be the last resort.

Immediately after that meeting, however, a small team of Braniff's top executives was cloistered behind closed doors to discuss last-ditch rescue options.

Secret talks began with

other airlines and potential outside investors, but the news was grim.

A 12-member team was assembled on May 10, and told to prepare a plan to close Braniff — just in case.

That afternoon, Putnam flew to New York to testify in a suit brought by pilots who would lose their jobs if Braniff leased its South America routes to Eastern Airlines.

Putnam called headquarters almost hourly and Coats

said: "We decided then to go ahead and begin lopping off operations and repositioning aircraft."

The team began "creating" mechanical problems with aircraft and claiming bad weather prevented jets from returning to South America. The group tackled staggering security and logistical problems — compounded by the possibility of a leak every time more people were told.

As Putnam called again

from New York, top financial aide Phil Guthrie said the dreaded words: "We've got to start shutting it down. There's no way we can continue."

Putnam flew back to Dallas and high-level meetings lasted into the next morning. The airline's bankruptcy counsel, retained several months earlier, was present.

Finally came the point of no return — canceling flights to move aircraft closer to Dallas and out of foreign countries.

A&M researchers help executives develop firms' political clout

Public policy and management researchers from Texas A&M University will present a program to corporate executives on developing firms' political clout Thursday in Houston.

"Until recently, businesses haven't been willing to admit they need to devote more resources in the political arena," said Dr. Gerald Keim, a Texas A&M management professor

whose current research focuses on corporate political activity.

"Now, many have realized the importance of participating in public policy decisions rather than simply reacting to them," he said.

Keim heads a team of researchers from the Business and Public Policy Group at Texas A&M's College of Business Administration who will present

the program with the Social Science Research Group from the College of Liberal Arts.

These researchers will present the half-day program to help Houston executives evaluate their governmental and media relations. The program will cover broadcast media relations, strategies for lobbying and political action committees and building corporate constituency

programs among shareholders. "Individual corporate stockholders — for a long time the silent partners in big business — may become the political activists of this decade," Keim said.

During the program, Keim will talk about the potential for active corporate constituency programs with shareholders.

The presentations begin at 9 a.m. in the Houston Lighting and Power Company's Energy Information Center. The program is open to the public, but seats should be reserved in advance through Texas A&M's Research Foundation.

Registration begins Monday for Bryan swim program

Registration for the Learn to Swim program offered by the Bryan Recreation Division of the Bryan Parks and Recreation Department begins Monday and will continue until June 3. Classes for the first session will begin on June 7.

Registration for the four summer sessions will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Mondays at Thomas Pool in Bryan; on Tuesdays at the Bryan Municipal Pool, on Wednesdays at Haswell

Pool and on Thursdays at Henderson Pool.

Carla Deviney, a spokeswoman for the department, said lessons will last about 45 minutes each, five days a week for two weeks. The first summer session runs from June 7 to 18, and second session from June 21 to July 2, the third session from July 12 to July 23 and the last session from July 26 to August 6.

All lessons will be taught by American Red Cross certified

instructors.

She said lessons will be offered in seven categories: water babies, ages six months to two years; tots, ages three to five years; beginners, six years and older; advanced beginners; intermediates; swimmers; and advanced lifesaving.

Classes for water babies, tots and beginners will be given free of charge, she said. The cost for advanced beginners' lessons and above will be \$5.

Today's almanac

United Press International
Today is Wednesday, May 19, the 139th day of 1982 with 226 to follow.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Taurus.

American philanthropist John Hopkins was born May 19, 1795.

On this date in history:

In 1945, more than 400 American "Superfortress" planes bombed Tokyo.

In 1964, it was revealed American diplomats had found at least 40 secret microphones hidden in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

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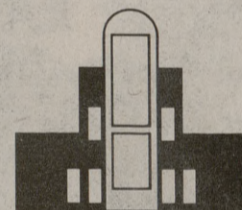
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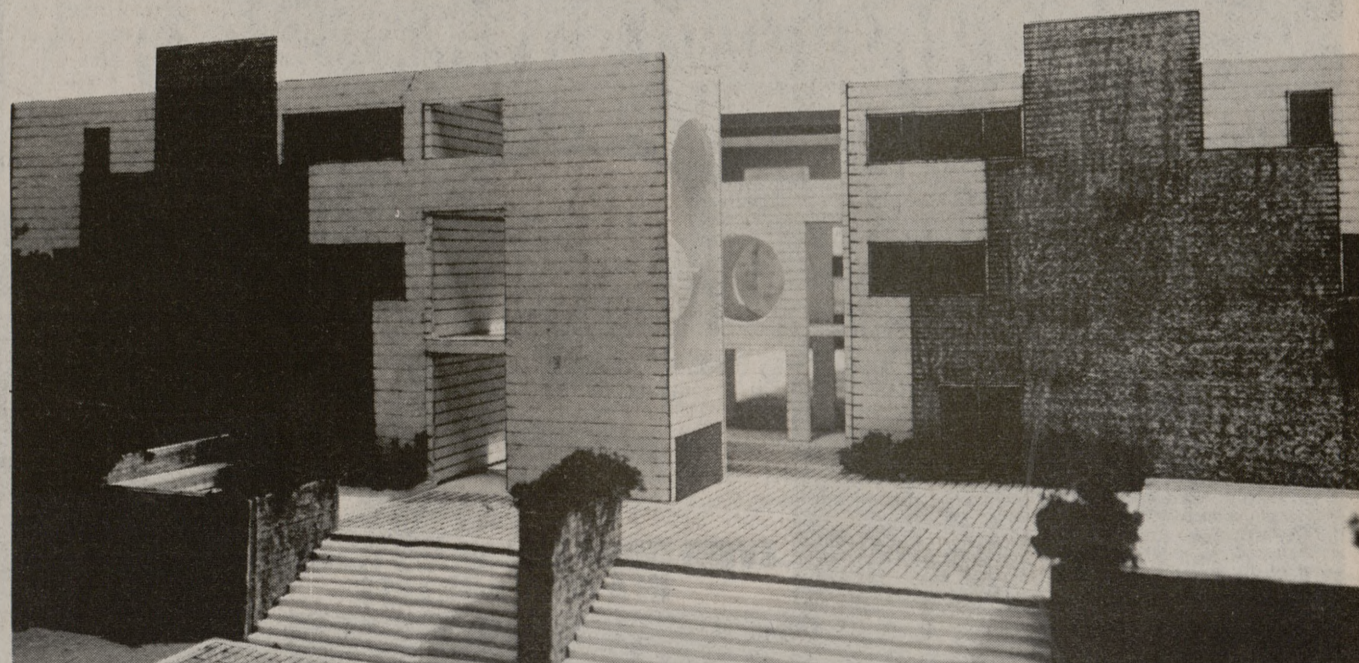
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