

Campus names

**Dr. Joseph Natowitz**, a member of the Texas A&M University faculty since 1967, has been selected to head the University's nationally prominent chemistry department.

Natowitz, 45, assumed his duties June 11. He had served as interim department head of chemistry since Sept. 1, 1981.

Texas A&M's chemistry program, rated near the top in both size and academic standing, last year attracted research support totaling \$5.3 million from outside sources.

**Dr. E. Dean Gage**, 39, has been named associate dean of veterinary medicine at Texas A&M, which has the nation's largest veterinary medicine program.

Gage's appointment was approved by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Friday. He assumes his duties July 1.

Dean George C. Shelton said Gage succeeds Dr. W. W. Bay, who is retiring after 17 years with the veterinary program.

**Dr. Zerle L. Carpenter**, who was raised in a rural community and rose to become head of the Texas A&M University Department of Animal Science, has been promoted to the position of director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

The promotion was approved Friday by the Board of Regents. Carpenter, 46, assumes his post Sept. 1 and succeeds **Dr. Daniel Pfannstiel** who has accepted a new position in the College of Agriculture.

Three retiring members of the Texas A&M University faculty and a fourth who retired in 1977 have been named professors emeriti. They are: **John B. Beckham**, chemistry; **Bob M. Galloway**, civil engineering; **George M. Krise**, biology; and **Arthur Isbell**, chemistry.

The Board of Regents took the action Friday in recognition of their "long and distinguished service" to the University.

Border bandits, smugglers prey on illegal aliens

**United Press International**  
LAREDO — Illegal aliens are being snared in the pincers of terror and violence at the hands of border bandits and smugglers who authorities say "thrive on human suffering."

William Selzer, chief of the border patrol in the south Texas border town, said he has received 108 complaints of violent assault since March, mostly dealing with illegal aliens who were victimized after entering the United States.

He said most of the agents like the illegal aliens.

"They're just people trying to improve their lives," Selzer said. "But the smugglers are the worst kind of criminal. They thrive on human suffering."

Selzer said there is increasing violence by the smugglers and "river rats" who rob, rape, shoot and sometimes kill unwary Mexican aliens once they cross the border into the United States.

"The smugglers will intimidate the wets," said Selzer. "They'll take \$250 to get them across the water, then brandish a

gun or knife and demand more.

"And the river rats are worse. They just wait in the brush for the wets to come to them. Robbery, assaults, rapes and killings. It all happens here. And it's increasing."

He said only 10 percent of the illegal aliens coming across the border cause trouble.

"That means of the 4,000 a month we arrest, about 400 are real pains," he said.

Border patrol agent Joel Gomez said the most violent area is near downtown Laredo, around the two international bridges.

"Around sundown, you start seeing gangs of people gathering at the river, drinking beer and waiting for the wets to cross," he said. "And if we move in and the smugglers across the river begin shooting, we can't return fire."

Agents patrol the river bottom, but it is thick with high sunflowers and carozo, a bamboo-like growth, so the criminals are usually well hidden.

200 watermelons spill on highway; it's real sticky

**United Press International**  
BOSSIER CITY, La. — The tailgate and side of a watermelon-laden truck worked loose Monday, spilling up to 200 melons and forcing police to close westbound lanes of Interstate 20 for a half hour.

The watermelons were being transported from Florida to Fort Worth when the accident occurred. The truck driver, Timothy McClellan, 21, of Lake City, Fla., was charged with carrying an insecure load.

"We got the police department to come up with a front end loader and started pushing the chunks off the interstate while the fire department washed the melon juice and re-

mains off the divided highway," said Capt. Quincy Golihier of the Bossier City Fire Department.

The watermelons spilled over about 150 yards of highway. Traffic backed up two miles during the 30-minute clean up.

"We put approximately 500 gallons of water on it," Golihier said. "That melon juice, you know, it's sticky. Once it stayed there a little while and dried a little bit it would have been sticky-slick. And a little dampness on it would have made it really slick."

Police said the tailgate of the truck came open and then the side dropped off, allowing the melons to tumble to the pavement.

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Today's Almanac

**United Press International**  
Today is Tuesday, June 15, the 166th day of 1982 with 199 days to follow.

The moon is moving from its first quarter toward its new phase.

The morning stars are Mercury and Venus.

The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

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

On this date in history:

In 1752, Benjamin Franklin demonstrated the relationship between electricity and lightning by launching a kite during a storm in Philadelphia with an iron key suspended from the string.

In 1904, the excursion steamboat "General Slocum" burst into flames on the East River in New York, taking the lives of 1,021 people.

In 1960, Japan asked President Eisenhower to postpone a scheduled visit because of anti-American riots in Tokyo.

In 1963, Soviet cosmonaut Valery Bykovsky was launched on a space mission in which he orbited the earth 81 times.

A thought for the day: Scottish author John Buchan said, "We can only pay our debt to the past by putting the future in debt to ourselves."

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