

'Wonder dog' still alive after snakebite

United Press International
BROOKSHIRE — Veterinarians worked throughout the night Friday to save the life of Arf the dog, who suffered a poisonous snakebite while shielding a 2-year-old boy from a deadly North American coral snake.

"That dog saved my son's life," said owner Oksana Sparks, 33, a Fulshear housewife. "I'll do anything I can to save his life."

The Chesapeake Bay retriever was attacked Tuesday. He went into a coma, but was brought out of it with large antivenin injections. But the dog is still not out of danger.

"Right now, it's looking real good," veterinarian Dr. Ginanna Crouch said. "He's got a good fighting chance, but if his kid-

neys shut down on us, no matter how good he's looking now, he's going to die.

"We've still got several more days of watching him and keeping the fluids going. Once we're over that crisis, we still have to deal with the serum sickness.

"We've still got several more days of watching him and keeping the fluids going. Once we're over that crisis, we still have to deal with the serum sickness. That could occur six days or more after administration.

"There'll be two or three of us here all night. You don't shut down and walk away from a dog like this," Crouch said.

So far, the family has spent \$1,200 on antidotes for the family pet.

Crouch estimated it could cost \$2,000 to save Arf's life, but

"I doubt I'll bill them for all of that."

Suddenly, the dog started running around and began nudging Eric away. Because of the dog's agitated state and previous experience with the dog pointing copperheads, she grabbed the boy and ran to the house.

Mrs. Sparks grabbed a shotgun, went outside and shot the snake. But Arf had puncture wounds on his nose and feet. Mrs. Sparks took him to the Brookshire Animal Clinic immediately. He went into a coma.

It took almost nine hours to find antivenin for the bite and Crouch said one expert she called in Indiana told her the dog had no chance of survival because of the delay.

However, she gave him big doses of the antivenin and he came out of his coma.

Synthetic insulin OK'd

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Synthetic human insulin manufactured by bacteria will go on sale by the end of the year, marking a major milestone in the use of genetic engineering technology in the treatment of diabetes.

The Food and Drug Administration announced Friday that it found the unique insulin safe and effective and gave Eli Lilly & Co. approval to begin selling it under the brand name of Humulin.

Lilly spokesman Ronald Culp in Indianapolis said the company has sent letters and mailgrams to 260,000 doctors nationwide advising them of the FDA approval. He said the

company plans a phased introduction within the next two months.

Humulin is now being manufactured in Indianapolis and at Liverpool, England. It was approved for use in the United Kingdom last month.

Lilly estimates there are 5 million diabetics in the world, and more than 1 million in the United States, who require daily insulin injections to help their bodies deal with sugars and starches in food.

Insulin for humans who don't make enough of the hormone themselves is now obtained from the pancreas of pigs and cattle after they are slaughtered. There is no shortage of animal glands to make

insulin today, but some specialists believe one could develop in the next decade.

The genetic engineering process can make unlimited amounts of insulin identical to that produced by the human pancreas.

FDA spokeswoman Faye Peterson said the synthetic product, however, has not been shown to have any therapeutic improvement over animal insulin.

The cost of Humulin has not yet been established. The trade newspaper Genetic Engineering News quoted Dr. John A. Galloway, senior pharmacologist at Lilly, as saying Lilly's initial price to wholesalers probably will be

higher than the price of currently available purified pork insulin.

The approval of the synthetic insulin came four years at the City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, Calif., and Genentech Inc., in South San Francisco. Scientists there announced they had succeeded in producing bacteria that could manufacture insulin chemically identical to that produced by the human pancreas.

This is done by artificially making the gene that carries the code to make the hormone and then inserting that gene into the genetic material of bacteria. As the bacteria reproduce, they make insulin.

Texas woman and pet pig leave city jail; police relieved

United Press International
WARREN, Ark. — Police officers were relieved with the release of a Texas woman and her pet — a 70-pound pig named Prissy — from the city jail.

An unidentified Little Rock man Friday paid Joanne Greer's \$210 fine for her charge of driving while under the influence of intoxicants, freeing the woman

and Prissy from city jail.

Before leaving however, the Texas woman fed her pet and gave the animal another bath.

Prissy attracted considerable attention after being locked up when her owner was arrested on DWI charges Oct. 23. Officials transferred the pig to the jail after it refused to eat while confined at the city animal pound.

Police fed Prissy apples and

cat food through the ordeal and allowed Greer to bathe her on occasion. The woman had owned the pig since it was about two weeks old, officials said.

"That pig would follow her around just like a dog," said police chief Tommy Dunaway. "She is really the only mother — or whatever you could call it — the pig has ever known."

President defends policies

Reagan hustles for GOP

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan isn't making any predictions on next week's congressional elections, many of which have focused on his economic program as a major campaign issue.

Reagan, in a two-day, western campaign swing for GOP candidates, repeatedly maintained his program is working and heading the economy toward recovery.

On the way home, however,

Reagan and his top aides declined to give any assessment on the outcome of Tuesday's elections.

"Ain't nobody going to give figures," deputy press secretary Larry Speakes told reporters aboard Air Force One en route from Roswell, N.M.

"That's just the way we are," he said. "We have consistently refused to be drawn into the numbers game."

Reagan was asked by reporters about the elections as he

boarded Air Force One in Roswell, but refused to reply.

The president spent the weekend at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland. He made his regular radio address on Saturday and was to make campaign pitches on national television Sunday and today.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., planned to give the Democratic response to Reagan's radio address Saturday and former Secretary of

State Edmund Muskie planned to give a Democratic message on national television Sunday.

Campaigning Thursday, Reagan said Democratic charges that he intends to cut Social Security benefits or weaken the system if he wins enough support in Congress is a falsehood.

An aide said Reagan was the only one with enough credibility to bat down the Democrat's Social Security charge.

"He delivered the message he wanted to," Speakes said.



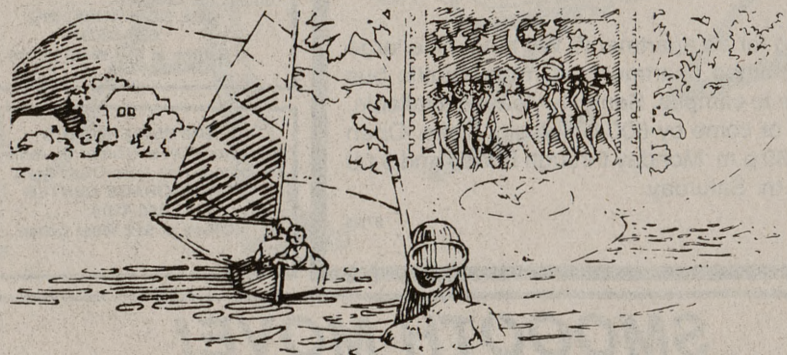
GRAND OPENING

MONDAY NOVEMBER 1 POST OAK MALL COLLEGE STATION

20% OFF SALE

EVERY ITEM IN STOCK
THRU SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

REGISTER FOR GRAND
OPENING TRIP FOR TWO
AND WARDROBE GIVEAWAY
WORTH OVER \$4,000.00



At Club Med Playa Blanca in Mexico, you can spend a sunny beach vacation enjoying all kinds of water sports, playing tennis, sailing, disco dancing, feasting on gourmet food and more, without ever reaching for your wallet.

CLUB MED

The antidote for civilization.

"THE SUNWEAR LEADER OF TEXAS"



GREETINGS FROM PORT ARANSAS

Pat Magee's started in Port Aransas, Texas, in 1969, handling beachwear and surfboards. In the formative years, it has evolved into the leading sunwear store in Texas with fashions for the entire family. Pat Magee's carries sunwear for every season of the year specializing in outerwear and sweaters for guys and gals in fall and the largest selection of swimwear in Texas during spring and summer. So hurry in and help us celebrate our newest store. Also shop our other locations in Austin, San Marcos, San Antonio, and Port Aransas.

STORE HOURS: 10:00 A.M.-9:00 P.M. MONDAY-SATURDAY