

Around town

Cut-a-thon planned for Sunday

If you need a haircut and are feeling charitable, **Courtea II** and the **March of Dimes** are sponsoring a cut-a-thon, Sunday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. in the Ramada Inn complex. With every \$10 donation to the March of Dimes, Courtea II hairstylists will cut your hair for free. The Ramada Inn will be providing refreshments and local celebrities will be there to serve the champagne. Appointments are not required.

Education association honors prof

Dr. Robert I. Berridge, professor of Educational Administration and Director of the Center for Community Education here, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the National Community Education Association.

Berridge will serve a three-year term and will represent Region IV, which includes Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri.

He has been director of the Center for Community Education at Texas A&M for 11 years. During that time, more than 100 Texas school districts have become involved in community education.

Parks department offers basketball

The **College Station Parks and Recreation Department** is organizing an adult basketball league and would like to invite any interested group to participate.

Entries will open Dec. 13 and close Jan. 4. The season begins Jan. 10. The league will have separate divisions for women, men, and men six feet and under.

An entry fee of \$125 will be required for teams who want to participate in the league. For further information call the College Station Parks and Recreation Department at 696-4753.

Regents appoint TAES director

Dr. E.W. Trew has been appointed assistant director emeritus for the **Texas Agricultural Extension Service**. He was appointed by the Texas A&M Board of Regents.

Trew retired last August after serving as assistant director and state agricultural program leader for the Extension for 10 years. He began in 1943 as an assistant county agricultural agent and later served as county agent, agronomist and pasture specialist.

Workers give to MH-MR gift drive

Texas Public Employees Association is sponsoring a **Christmas gift drive** for Mental Health-Mental Retardation. They are urging all Texas A&M employees to attend a program in the MSC lounge on Dec. 13 and to bring a gift.

If you are unable to attend, gifts may be left at collection stations at the Printing Center, Zachry Engineering Center, the Oceanography and Meteorology Building, the copy center, or the dean's office in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

The gifts will be distributed by the MH-MR facility. Appropriate gifts would include toys, handkerchiefs, socks, panty hose, scarves and wrapping paper.

Today is final day for nominations

Today is the last day that nominations will be accepted for the **College of Liberal Arts Teacher Excellence Awards**.

Boxes are on the first floor of the Academic and Agency Building and the Academic Building to accept nominations.

You need not be a Liberal Arts major to nominate your favorite Liberal Arts professor.

Debate tournament to start today

The **Aggieland Debate Classic** starts today with debate teams from 13 schools participating. The tournament, which will run through Sunday, is divided into senior and junior divisions.

Teams participating include: Baylor University, the University of Arkansas, the University of Houston, the University of Texas, Missouri Southern State University, Houston Baptist University and the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

If you have an announcement or interesting item to submit for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald or call Tracey Taylor at 845-2611.

Defense rests in Wood trial

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — A federal agent testified Thursday he is convinced Charles Harrelson either killed federal Judge John H. Wood Jr. in 1979 or was sitting in a car beside whoever pulled the trigger.

Mike Taylor, an agent for the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Bureau in Houston, said he had a long conversation with Harrelson while driving him back to Houston after Harrelson's 1980 arrest in Van

Horn, Texas. "There's no question in my mind after the trip who killed Wood," Taylor said.

Then quoting his own earlier testimony to a grand jury, Taylor said, "He convinced us he was actually present and either pulled the trigger or was sitting there when it was done." Taylor was called as the last defense witness for Harrelson, but as with several other defense witnesses, the testimony backfired and proved to be incriminating.

Harrelson's defense attorney, Tom Sharpe, rested his case after Taylor testified.

Harrelson's wife JoAnn, charged with obstruction of justice, was to call her witnesses

next. Elizabeth Chagra, wife of Las Vegas gambler Jimmy Chagra — accused of hiring Harrelson to kill Wood — is also on trial.

Taylor said Harrelson threatened to kill his friend Pete Kay on the same trip to Houston because he believed Kay had informed on him in an unrelated weapons case.

Harrelson's defense has been that Kay was responsible for the judge's death and is framing Harrelson.

But Taylor said Harrelson told him and two other agents on the trip to Houston that "Judge Wood was not murdered, he had committed suicide by the way he sent people to prison." He said Harrelson

was angry because Wood had sentenced a friend of Harrelson's to federal prison.

"He said Judge Wood had done him wrong," Taylor said. "He said he never killed anyone who did not personally harm him or his friends."

In testimony Wednesday, a defense witness who was supposed to place Harrelson in Dallas when Wood was shot became frustrated and admitted he was not sure when he saw Harrelson that morning.

When questioned by defense attorneys, Richard Thomas testified he visited Harrelson in the gambler's Dallas apartment between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. May 29, 1979, the morning Wood

was gunned down in front of San Antonio townhouse. Wood died at 8:40 a.m.

But the Dallas wholesaler buckled when questioned by prosecutors.

"All I know is it was a morning, and it was before o'clock," he finally said.

Thomas admitted he given three different times the visit when questioned by FBI and a federal grand jury investigating Wood's death, ranging from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Three other alibi witnesses have also testified they saw Harrelson in Dallas the morning Wood was shot. But like Thomas, they left open the possibility Harrelson could have Wood and flown back to Dal-

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FDA approval expected

Kidney stone drug found

United Press International
DALLAS — A drug found to be effective at inhibiting some kidney stone formation could receive Food and Drug Administration approval by Christmas, says the doctor who tested the drug for 15 years.

The drug, sodium cellulose phosphate, was researched and tested by Dr. Charles Y.C. Pak, director of the National Institutes of Health's General Clinical Research Center in Dallas.

Pak said Wednesday his tests showed the drug successful for people suffering from severe forms of absorptive hypercal-

ciuria, a common kidney stone-forming disorder usually associated with increased absorption of calcium from food. Sodium cellulose phosphate is a purified wood-fiber powder attached to phosphate, he said.

About a fourth of all kidney stone sufferers, between 25,000 and 50,000 people, have absorptive hypercalciuria, said Pak, a professor of internal medicine at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas.

"The main thing to remember is that there are many different causes for kidney stones. It is not a single disease," Pak said. "It therefore demands many different modes of treatment."

About 1 million people in the

United States suffer from the rough and spiny kidney stones formed by excessive deposits of calcium in the urine. The stones generally become trapped in the urinary tract, causing excruciating pain.

Pak said sodium cellulose phosphate has been in use in Europe since 1963, but his work defined its effectiveness in treating kidney-stone patients and provided the necessary research to obtain FDA approval.

The FDA has indicated approval possibly will be given by Christmas, he said.

Mission Pharmacol Co. in San Antonio will market the drug, which comes in a powder form and is mixed with water or juice and taken at mealtime. Pak said

cost of the drug, of which patient may consume up to 10 pounds per year, had not been established.

"It will depend on the mode of usage," he said. "If it is used widely it may be very expensive. I hope not. I hope cost does not make it prohibitive to use."

The procedure for determining the cause of a person's kidney stones requires three outpatient visits to a clinic over a month period and is a bargain \$500, Pak said.

"Compared with the cost of having a stone removed or treated in the hospital, the cost of the initial tests is very reasonable, about 10 percent of the cost for hospitalization," he said.

NASA increases next space walk to 5 days

United Press International
SPACE CENTER, Houston — The space administration has lengthened the next space shuttle mission by two days to include a space walk — a make-up for an aborted walk during the shuttle Columbia's fifth flight. Don Peterson and Story Mus-

grave, two mission specialists slated for the maiden voyage of the shuttle Challenger, are already in training for the walk, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announced Wednesday. Their walk will be the first by Americans in nine years.

"Planning is under way to conduct an EVA (extravehicular activity) spacewalk. That would extend the duration of that mission from three to five days," NASA spokesman John Lawrence said.

The launch of the Challenger is tentatively set for Jan. 24.

Peterson and Musgrave will use the same pair of \$2 million space suits that malfunctioned on astronaut Bill Lenoir and Joe Allen. The men were to make a three-hour walk outside the Columbia, but that had to be canceled.

NASA technicians scheduled a 2 p.m. news conference Thursday to present findings on the suit malfunctions.

At a news conference Wednesday, Allen and Lenoir both expressed disappointment about their scrubbed space walk.

"We tested the suits pretty early. But why we ran the tests. That's the way it goes," Allen said.

A failure of a fan in Allen's suit and a malfunction in the regulator of Lenoir's suit led to the cancellation of the walk.

Aside from that one hitch, crew of the fifth shuttle flight seemed pleased with the results of their mission and showed oil drillin' movies and slides of their day flight.

"We had a super spacewalk that performed like a charm. Two satellites went off without hitch, and that tells me that control is magnificent," said Mission Commander Van Land.

The crew comically narrated a videotape and 40 slides of the flight, the key satellite deployments and several cabin views themselves hamming it up.

One showed Lenoir catching peanuts in his mouth and wide-eyed Allen spinning spoonful of fruit cocktail into a mouth.

"These were to show we had fun, just in case you didn't see it," Lenoir said.

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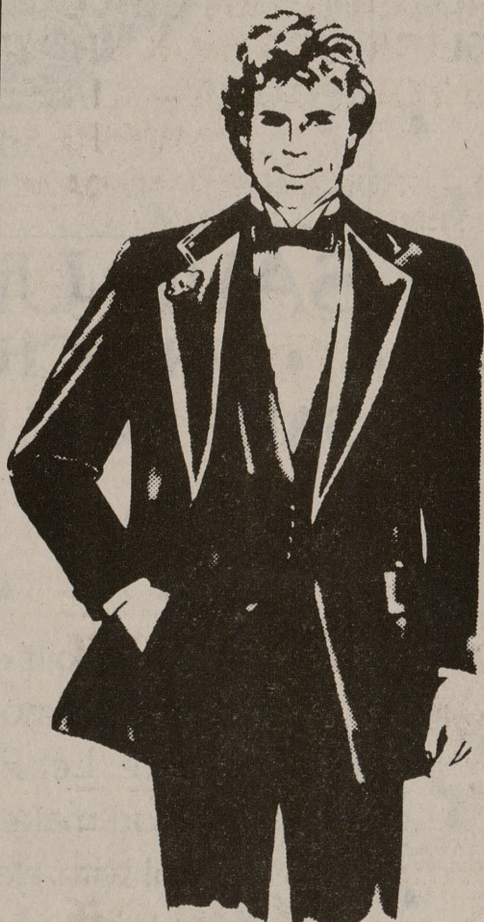
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