



Beating the heat

staff photo by Brenda Davidson

Tom Cox, a freshman physical education major from Houston, has a cool idea for boiling hot days on the Quad. Along with Jeanie Hundl,

a senior accounting major from Wharton, the two showed the rest of Texas A&M how not to lose their cool Sunday.

Warped

by Scott McC



Topics from A to G-string

Strippers hold convention

**United Press International**  
LAS VEGAS — Hundreds of strippers and exotic dancers discussed everything from A to G-strings, including the proper use of makeup to hide cellulite deposits at the first-ever exotic dancer convention.

Those attending the Strip-Tease Artist Roundup, called STAR '83, were also captured on film for an upcoming movie called "Stripper," a documentary to be released next year.

"It has been a lot more successful than I ever dreamed," said Joanne Hatch, 28, a native

Canadian who has been taking her clothes off in front of audiences for a dozen years. "We're going to be back again next year. We now know how to put on a convention."

The dancers gathered at the Riviera Hotel-Casino on the Las Vegas strip from Thursday through Saturday to compare notes, see the latest in skimpy fashions and hear tips from experts.

The seminar on "Bumping and Grinding" was heavily attended, as was a makeup ses-

sion on how to hide blemishes and, the undisputed scourge of the industry, those fatty deposits referred to as cellulite. There was help in the form of a discussion on how, as a stripper, to put your best foot forward, and the latest offerings in sexy attire, including pasties, feather boas and G-strings. In this era of X-rated video tapes and adult cable television, there is still a demand for the fantasy provided by strippers.

"A guy's going for a beer, right? And there's two bars. One has strippers, and one doesn't.

Which one is he going to? Anne Gordon, 28, of British Columbia, who helped the Vancouver Exotic Dancer Association to upgrade the image of strippers, said she works to raise money for the in the Canadian city.

"Our image is improving the time," she said. "We have telethons, car washes, all kinds of things. People like to go to a stripper for a beer, really do."

Rains bring plague cases

**United Press International**  
SAN FRANCISCO — Severe rain and early spring runoff that devastated many areas of the West this year have had yet another dreaded effect — the bubonic plague.

Dr. Thomas Quan of the Centers for Disease Control's Plague Center in Fort Collins, Colo., said this year his facility has been bombarded with an unusual number of human plague cases.

"The plague itself is not unusual in the Western rodent populations, but we are having a

bumper crop of human cases this year," Quan said. "The cold, wet spring may be a contributing factor, but we just don't know what is causing the outbreak."

However, Dr. Jonathan Mann, a New Mexico state epidemiologist, said he was convinced that the long, cool, wet spring had a lot to do with the outbreak because of that weather's effect on the lifestyle of the flea — the transmitter of the disease.

"When it's hot, fleas stay deep in the animal's burrow," Mann said. "But when it's cool, they are

more likely to be near the burrow entrance or outside, which makes it more likely they'll be carried away by the animal and come in contact with humans."

Quan said there had been at least six cases confirmed by the CDC so far this year and another nine that he was pretty sure were the plague. Four cases have been fatal.

"The cases usually are not fatal," Quan said. "However, what happens in some cases is that the symptoms are misdiagnosed and are not treated properly."

Symptoms of the plague include high fever, delirium and swollen lymph nodes.

"The largest number we have had in a year is 25 and that was in 1975," said. "The disease peaked in West about every five years and this peak is a couple of years away from being a spot."

Washing is the worst. The Fed dumped earlier in the year. "We were before ar Michigan said. "Bu records a ng. Reco thing. I Washing team."

Overseas research determines ways to improve dry climates

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — The United States could benefit from a variety of overseas research projects aimed at determining farm improvement techniques in dry climates, a congressional study says.

A report released last week by the Office of Technology Assessment said cooperation between nations could improve the quality of research into new methods of maintaining land productivity in areas with low rainfall.

The report cited other studies that indicate 20 percent of all the land around the world with potential for farming is in arid and semiarid areas, which 3 percent of that land in the United States.

Arid and semiarid lands

make up about one-third of the total land area in the United States, excluding Alaska, the report said.

"The maintenance of some land productivity in these fragile environments is a particular concern for the countries that have a major portion of their population engaged in farming or livestock production," the report said.

"It is also of concern to countries with more diversified economies, such as the United States and the Soviet Union, since populations and economies may also depend on the productivity of such lands," it added.

The Agriculture Department already is involved in several hundred international coopera-

tive research projects involving farm uses of arid land.

Among those is an agreement with Australia for research into the development of guayule, a shrub common in the Southwest and in Australia, as a source of natural rubber.

Guayule has been used for rubber periodically, most notably during World War II, after Japan invaded Malaya — now known as Malaysia — and virtually cut off the supply to the Allies.

A 1978 law provided for new efforts to develop the guayule industry in the United States, and the Agriculture Department and other federal and state agencies have since begun what the report describes as a modest program of guayule research.

U.S. projects have focused on production of guayule on irri-

gated land. Australia examined the possibility of improving guayule without the report said. The theorized that the eventually aid the security interests of by trying by giving them a stable source of natural

The report also cooperative research to improve production of beans. The work is Michigan State University involves nine other and 12 Latin American African nations.

The program, established 1980 with funds from Agency for International development, was part of to fight hunger and tion. It is partly financed by private and public instate the United States.

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