

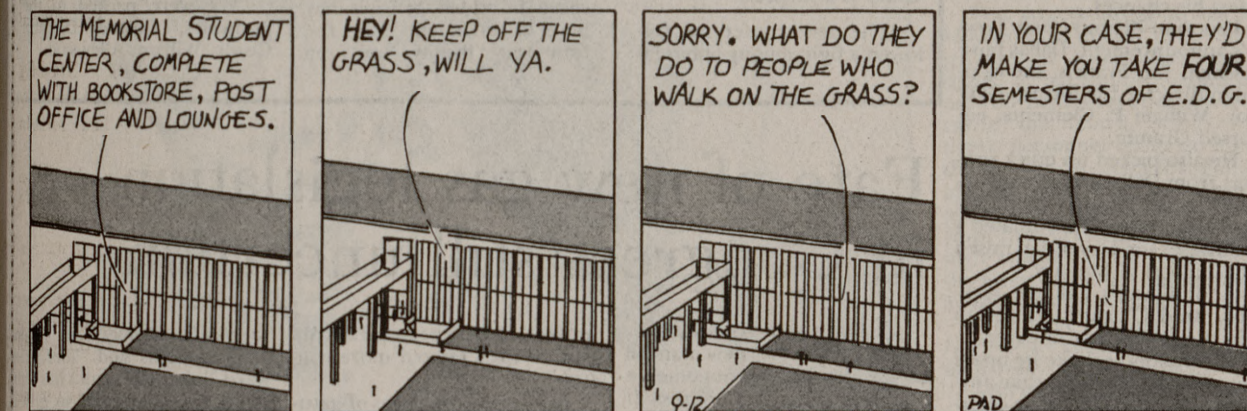
Warped

by Scott McCullar



R.I.

by Paul Dirmeyer



Test-tube twin boys born

HOUSTON — The mother and father of the first twins born at the University of Texas test-tube baby program say they were "surprised" to have twins but "grateful" to have two healthy boys.

The twin boys are the third set of twins born to an American test-tube baby program. Several multiple births have been reported in Australia and at least one set of twins in Canada.

As prescribed by its privacy guidelines, UT is not releasing

the family name but said the boys were given their grandfathers' first names, Brice and Blake.

The boys weighed 5 pounds 6 ounces and 5 pounds 2 ounces when born by Caesarean section at a Houston area hospital Friday. They were delivered about four weeks prematurely but were described as "super healthy."

"They are absolutely beautiful, but then I'm supposed to be prejudiced," the mother told The Houston Post.

"I was surprised when I learned I was having twins, but thrilled too. These probably will be the only children we'll try to have."

"We are both so grateful they are here, they are healthy and they are ours."

The mother, 36, met the father, 40, a National Aeronautics and Space Agency engineer, on a blind date and they were married four years ago. When they discovered the mother could not have children, they sought medical advice.

They qualified for the UT Health Science Center in vitro fertilization program for women in their 30s with fallopian tube blockage. Although it often takes several tries, the mother said fertilization occurred on her first try.

The UT program has had seven prior births over the past seven months and there are seven pregnancies underway, according to a spokesman for program director Dr. Martin Quigley.

'Astrorats' get early retirement

SPACE CENTER, Houston — The six "astrorats," who demonstrated the effectiveness of a space animal cage on the eighth shuttle mission, are being given an early, honored retirement, an official said Saturday.

"These are really special rats," said Dr. Malcolm Smith of Johnson Space Center. "They're really going to help us to plan future research on animals in space."

Smith said the six rats, safe and healthy after their flight aboard Challenger Aug. 30 through Sept. 5, will not under-

go any further tests even though they have four or five more years to live.

The rats were sent into space in NASA's new Animal Enclosure Module — or AME — which fits into a locker in the shuttle's middeck area. It was built by Convair Division of the General Dynamics Corp.

The cage and feeding system were being developed for future use, including a student experiment on an upcoming flight.

The rats breathed the same air the crew did and ate special nutrient bars developed by

NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif. Water was provided naturally by raw potatoes.

A total of 15 rats were raised in a sterile environment and six hours before launch six were chosen to fly while nine remained on the ground as a control test group.

Dr. William Thornton, mission specialist aboard Challenger, said the rats were unsettled immediately after launch and their first exposure to weightlessness, but he said they later adapted well.

Thornton said they groomed themselves and one another and did other things rats normally do. He could see them by opening the locker in the middeck area, pulling out the cage and looking through its glass top.

Smith said after landing the rats seemed puzzled.

"They seemed a little tentative, like, 'Gee, what's happening to us now?'" Smith said. "The very next morning they were playing bite the tail, running and jumping and grooming."

Fishermen, state win legal order

ANGLETON — A judge issued a temporary restraining order Saturday halting for at least a week dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway which fishermen claim threatens oysters and shrimp in East Matagorda Bay.

The order issued by District Judge Neil Caldwell was the latest round in a legal battle pitting the fishermen and the state of Texas against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Caldwell's order scheduled a hearing on a preliminary injunction in the dispute for Friday, said Houston attorney James Blackburn, who represents the fishermen.

Caldwell's order halting the dredging operation was sought by lawyers from the state attorney general's office who claimed the Corps of Engineers had failed to obtain a Texas wastewater discharge permit, Blackburn said.

Last week, a federal judge in Galveston refused to halt the dredging despite claims from fishermen that slime dumped into East Matagorda Bay during the operation threatened the breeding grounds of shrimp, oysters and other fish.

Representatives of the Corps of Engineers have maintained they had no other place to dump the spoilage from the dredging. They also have claimed a halt in the dredging could cost the federal government \$20,000 per day.

The dispute first developed in July when fishermen staged a symbolic blockade of the waterway to protest the dredging.

The Corps of Engineers moved the dredging to another site pending a possible compromise, but no agreement could be reached.

"They were right at the critical point," Blackburn said of the renewed dredging. "We had to have the restraining order to stop them."

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Pollution deadline faces state officials

HOUSTON — State officials are working against a Nov. 7 federal deadline for easing pollution in Harris County and face the threat of federally imposed sanctions that could stop industrial growth in Texas' biggest city.

The Environmental Protection Agency has threatened to impose the sanctions, which could restrict industrial expansion and cut federal funds, unless the state works out a limited automobile emissions testing program.

The Nov. 7 deadline is the result of a 60-day extension of

an old deadline. Federal authorities for years have been pressing for action to reduce pollution in the Houston area. Federal law mandates sanctions for non-compliance.

The latest demand is for steps to reduce automobile and truck pollution 25 percent, and federal and state officials are trying to work out a limited testing of automobiles and light trucks built in the last three or four years.

EPA wants tests of automobiles built since 1979. The state wants tests only of automobiles built since 1980.

On Friday, Texas Depart-

ment of Public Safety Director Jim Adams complicated the state's breakneck effort to come up with a solution by saying DPS did not have authority to conduct some vehicle emission tests.

Adams said in Austin a state law passed by the legislature earlier this year only gives the DPS authority to conduct visual inspections as part of the annual vehicle safety inspection program.

Adams said his agency does not have the authority to conduct more elaborate tests, such as rubbing lead-sensitive paper inside a tailpipe to see if leaded gasoline has been used in violation of vehicle restrictions.

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Refunds: Workshop fees will be refunded 100% four days prior to the first class meeting, provided your cancellation does not place the class below its minimum enrollment of five students, and 50% after the four days prior to class limit. Full refunds are issued if the class is cancelled.

Day	Class	Dates	Times	Location	Student Fee	Non-Student Fee	Instructor
MONDAY	Beginning Pottery	Sept. 19, 26 Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24	5:00-7:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.00	\$21.00	Ann Dobbs
	Beginning Pottery	Sept. 19, 26 Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24	7:30-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.00	\$21.00	Ann Dobbs
	Quilting	Sept. 19, 26 Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24	7:00-9:00 p.m.	MSC 137	\$18.00	\$21.00	Norma Metzger
	Watercolor for Beginners	Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Nov. 7	6:00-8:00 p.m.	MSC 137A	\$18.00	\$21.00	Helan Finney
TUESDAY	Introduction to Calligraphy	Sept. 27 Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1	7:00-9:00 p.m.	MSC 137	\$18.00	\$21.00	Stacia Ogles-Smith
	Basic Drawing	Sept. 27 Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25	6:00-8:00 p.m.	MSC 137A	\$14.00	\$17.50	Helan Finney
	Beginning Stained Glass	Sept. 20, 27 Oct. 4, 11, 18	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Connie Hester
	Batik	Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 Nov. 1, 8	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.00	\$21.00	Lucia Athens
WEDNESDAY	Woodshop Orientation	Sept. 21, 28 Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Woodshop	\$18.00	\$21.00	Larry Gardner
	Woodshop Orientation	Sept. 21, 28 Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Woodshop	\$18.00	\$21.00	Larry Gardner
	Airbrush for Beginners	Sept. 28 Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.00	\$21.00	Helan Finney
	Intermediate Pottery	Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Brian Dougan
THURSDAY	Beginning Pottery	Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2	4:00-6:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Brian Dougan
	Beginning Stained Glass	Sept. 28 Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov. 2, 9	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Connie Hester
	Basic Watercolor	Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov. 2, 9	7:00-9:00 p.m.	MSC 137	\$18.00	\$21.00	Betty Graham
	Matting and Framing	Sept. 21, 28 Oct. 5, 12	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$11.50	\$14.00	Russell Cox
FRIDAY	Matting and Framing	Oct. 19, 26 Nov. 2, 9	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$11.50	\$14.00	Russell Cox
	Matting and Framing	Nov. 16, 30 Dec. 7, 14	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$11.50	\$14.00	Russell Cox
	Intermediate Stained Glass	Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov. 3	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Connie Hester
	Intermediate Pottery	Oct. 13, 20, 27 Nov. 3, 10	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Craft Center	\$18.75	\$21.25	Brian Dougan
SATURDAY	Jewelry Casting	Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov. 3, 10	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$14.00	\$17.50	Pamela Hamlett
	Matting and Framing	Oct. 20, 27 Nov. 3, 10	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Craft Center	\$11.50	\$14.00	Russell Cox
TUESDAY/THURSDAY	Design and Color Workshop in Art	Nov. 8, 10	7:00-9:30 p.m.	MSC 137A	\$9.00	\$10.50	Connie Hester

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