

New file being created

Potential speakers listed

by Ed Alanis

Battalion Reporter

Beginning next week, finding a guest speaker will be made easier with a speaker resource file.

The file is being set up to inform the University community of potential speakers and the topics they are qualified to speak on.

Student Activities Advisor Charlotte Taylor, Off-Campus Center Advisor Nand Ludwig and Housing Prog-

rams Supervisor Nyla Ptomey worked together to create the file.

Three copies of the file will be kept so that it will be accessible to as many people as possible. The Student Activities Office, the Housing Programs Office and the Off-Campus Center will each have a file.

Speakers listed in the file mainly will be faculty members. The programs will be divided into five categories — educational, social, self improvement, cultural and

health and physical fitness.

"Right now we want to zero in on what is available on campus," Taylor said, "but we plan to branch out into the community later on."

There are a lot of resources to tap in this area, she said.

Taylor will send out letters periodically to attract new speakers for the file. She also hopes that various student organizations will contribute names of some of their speakers from the community to the file.

Organizations using the file will be provided with a program evaluation form. The evaluation will be sent to the speaker after the presentation, and a copy will be kept in the file for future reference.

Student groups are very active at Texas A&M, Taylor said, and because of this a speaker file should be very useful. Similar files have proved to be very successful on other campuses, she said.

Replay of lethal dialysis machine failure tried

United Press International
DALLAS — Technicians and federal investigators met Monday to try simulating a kidney dialysis machine failure that sent superheated fluid into the bloodstreams of seven patients and killed three of them, officials said.

Technicians examined the machine at Dallas Kidney Disease Center during the weekend and found faulty wiring caused a backup heater to cut in Friday, overheating dialysate fluid. An alarm also failed to sound and alert medics.

Center medical director Dr. Tom Parker said Monday federal Food and Drug Administration investigators were present during meetings Sunday with the manufacturers, Roy-Extracorporeal Inc., and center owners.

"What they're going to try to do (Monday night) is to reproduce the situation," Parker said.

Based on the findings of that simulated mechanical failure, the FDA could call for an inspection of the manufacturer's equipment nationwide.

"The FDA is trying to decide

if this is a systemwide problem or an isolated incident," Parker said.

Parker said manufacturer's representatives examined the equipment within hours of the incident and found faulty wiring in a logic board that shorted out the machine's alarm.

At the same time, a faulty rheostat allowed an auxiliary heater to come on even though its switch was taped in the "off" position, said Parker.

"Two similar machines in the same facility were examined closely by the manufacturer's personnel to determine that a similar problem did not exist in

them as well," said Jonathan Hubbard, spokesman for National Medical Care Inc. of Boston, owners of the center.

FDA regional medical inspector Dr. Frank Newman said the agency probably would not request a recall but could ask the company to inspect all its products in the field.

At the time of the incident, there were 43 patients in the center, seven of them hooked up to the faulty machine. The three victims went into cardiac arrest just after 4 p.m. as the heated fluid broke down oxygen-carrying red blood cells.

Brilab review refused again

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Gulf Mafia boss Carlos Marcello and a high-ranking Louisiana criminal lost their final battles Monday to have the U.S. Supreme Court review the legality of the FBI's Brilab sting operation.

The justices refused to consider pleas from Carlos Marcello and Charles E. Roemer II, top assistant to former Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards, to review their convictions for attempting to influence state officials with bribes.

"Seems as though it's all tricks and no treats," said Marcello attorney Arthur Lemann in New Orleans. "It's Halloween, and it all went against us."

The FBI operation uncovered a conspiracy to bribe Louisiana officials into buying public employee insurance policies that would have allowed the defendants to collect lucrative kickbacks.

The sting was dubbed "Brilab" because it began as an undercover operation to determine if there was widespread bribery occurring in labor unions in Louisiana.

Roemer, Marcello and three other people were indicted June 1980, for violating the Racketeer Influenced and Cor-

rupt Organization Act (RICO) based on an 18-month FBI investigation.

The key to the undercover operation was a convicted swindler named Joseph Hauser, who convinced Marcello to join him in a plot to bribe state officials into buying certain public employee insurance policies.

Lemann said the two defendants questioned the sufficiency of the evidence used to convict them, as well as the legality of the FBI law enforcement techniques.

"I'm disappointed not only as a lawyer," he said. "I'm disappointed as a private citizen. I just really feel the government ought not go beyond a certain point in order to test the virtues of a citizen."

"Everyone is susceptible to accept an offer too good to refuse. It's just a question of degree. I don't think it's proper for the government to make a citizen run the gauntlet like that."

Hauser told Marcello he would get a share of the commissions from the lucrative contracts. All the while, Hauser was actually an informant for the FBI.

During the conspiracy, Hauser, and two FBI agents posing as corrupt insurance brokers

offered bribes to state and local officials in an attempt to see whether they could be bought.

After the sting became public, virtually every major political figure in the state—including Edwards and several candidates attempting to succeed him—was called before the federal

grand jury in New Orleans.

Marcello, Roemer, Washington lobbyist I. Irving Davidson, New Orleans attorney Vincent Marinello and veteran state aide Aubrey Young were indicted.

Roemer and Marcello were the only defendants convicted.

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