

Survivor discovered in ship's air pocket

United Press International
HOUMA, La. — A cook who survived inside a capsized ship by standing on top of a locker with his head in an air pocket for more than 30 hours was in satisfactory condition Tuesday.

Hayes Bonvillian Jr., 47, who has a history of heart and lung problems, was prohibited by his doctors from speaking to reporters. He did talk about the dramatic rescue to the owner of the 155-foot ship, which capsized in the Gulf of Mexico last week 10 miles off Matagorda Island northeast of Corpus Christi.

Bonvillian told Dave Ohlmeyer, president of Houma-based Gulf International Marine, that he was asleep when the ship started listing late Wednesday or early Thursday.

He said he was awakened when the ship capsized. "There was a lot of confusion and he is not sure what happened," Ohlmeyer said. But he said Bonvillian does remember trying to get out, then ending up in another stateroom.

Ohlmeyer said Bonvillian knocked over a locker and stood on it as water poured into the room, stopping just two feet from the top. Sometime late Thursday Bonvillian saw a diver come within a few feet of him.

"There was too much debris in the room and the diver couldn't see him," Ohlmeyer said. "Also, the divers had only small emergency air compressors and small lights. When the diver left, he said, he thought it was the end."

Ohlmeyer said divers returned Friday with bigger lights and air compressors and went again into the stateroom where Bonvillian was standing.

Bonvillian said he heard the bubbles in the water and wasn't going to let an opportunity pass, Ohlmeyer said.

"He stuck his foot out and in minutes the diver reached out and grabbed it," Ohlmeyer said. "He jerked his foot back to let the diver know he was alive. The diver then patted his leg to let him know he'd be back."

Ohlmeyer said the diver returned with a diving suit for Bonvillian and within minutes he floated to freedom.

Policy changes pushed

SG will discuss new bills

by Stephanie M. Ross
Battalion Staff

A bill recommending research of three new topics by the Legislative Study Group is the first item for discussion at the Student Senate meeting at 7:30 tonight in 204 Harrington.

If passed, the bill would authorize the LSG to study the student insurance maternity benefit policy, copy center policy and administrative procedures act.

The LSG works to represent the student body, through the Senate, on issues concerning higher education. All topics the group studies must be approved by the Senate. Currently the group is studying minority recruitment funding, student service fees, foreign student user fees, tuition increases and other topics.

The finance committee will present a bill recommending that the student service fees reserve fund not be used to

finance the 1984 Varsity Level II sports program. The committee recommended using the reserve fund this year because financing from other sources was unavailable.

Varsity Level II sports are those on a varsity level of competition, but jointly administered by the athletic and intramural departments. Included this year is the women's soccer team and the rifle team.

The Senate also will vote on a bill which recommends a

study of the traffic congestion at the intersection of Anderson Street and Southwest Parkway. Traffic built on Anderson Street because of the constant flow of traffic on Southwest Parkway. Parents are stop signs on Anderson Street, but not on Southwest Parkway.

If the bill is passed, internal affairs legislative committee will study the problem and report the findings to College Station City Council.

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"Say you would have fever for five days," Monto said. "Amantadine will cut that three days or two days, take only aspirin, the fever goes back up. With amantadine does not."

Drug cuts flu symptoms

United Press International
DALLAS — An influenza expert said Tuesday that people who catch the flu this winter first can blame themselves, and then take a new drug that will cut the duration of their suffering in half.

"There is a stoic attitude toward this disease," said Dr. Arnold S. Monto, professor of epidemiology at the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. "People tend to think there's just not much they can do about it."

However, that is no longer true, he said. A vaccine is available which can prevent catching the flu virus. "And if people do get sick they shouldn't think there's nothing that can be done. We have come way beyond treating it with chicken soup, fluids and aspirin."

Monto, who is on a year's sabbatical as visiting scholar at the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., participated Tuesday in an influenza symposium at the American Public Health Association's annual convention.

The symposium was held to observe the 50th anniversary of the 1933 isolation of the flu virus in England.

"People tend to look at influenza as not a serious disease, as a disease which does not lead to death," Monto said. "That is not true, particularly among the high risk groups — those with respiratory diseases or those

over age 65. High risk in this context means those people who have a high risk of dying if they catch the flu."

The flu vaccine has undergone substantial fine tuning since its development in the 1940s, Monto said. It is safe and efficient, he said, and necessary for people in high risk groups and for anyone who does not want to be in bed during the holidays.

For those who catch the flu, Monto said, relief can be delivered by the drug amantadine, marketed by Du Pont Pharmaceuticals under the brand name Symmetrel. Monto said amantadine was developed in 1966, but was not approved for use against all Type A viruses

until 1979 and even now is not totally accepted by all doctors.

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AIDS Doctor says it will test country's moral fiber

United Press International
DALLAS — A member of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta said Tuesday that the search for a cure to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is going to test the moral fiber of all Americans.

"The intense effort to find a cause and cure for AIDS forces us to deal with the issues of homosexuality and intravenous drug abuse in the United States," said Dr. James W. Curran, a member of the CDC's AIDS Task Force.

Curran, appearing during a symposium at the 11th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, said AIDS research also informs the general public in great detail about the gay lifestyle.

The first AIDS case was diagnosed in 1979, and Curran said that as of last week, there were 2,687 cases and 1,102 deaths, a stunning mortality rate of 42 percent.

He said 72 percent of the victims were homosexual or bisexual men, 17 percent were intravenous drug users, 5 percent were Haitians and the remainder fell in no special category.

"Aids has a long incubation period, perhaps as long as two years," Curran said. "That means the cases we find two years from now already are programmed."

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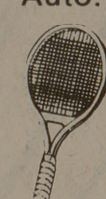


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