

Baby named for dead mother

United Press International
FORT WORTH — The family of fire victim Brenda Smith made plans Wednesday to bury her and her son, and the woman's namesake — a daughter delivered from her near-lifeless body — slowly gained strength in a hospital.

Dr. John Jeffers, who performed the emergency Caesarean Monday morning at Arlington Memorial Hospital, said Mrs. Smith was brought in with no heartbeat and third-degree burns all over her body except for the sole of one foot. "I knew the baby was going to die if I didn't do something and that if I was going to do it I had to do it that second," said Jeffers, calling the decision to deliver the infant the most difficult of his life.

Vernon Smith, who saved his 1-year-old daughter Darla from the blaze that destroyed their suburban Arlington apartment and killed his wife and 3-year-old son Bryan, decided Tuesday to name his newborn daughter Brenda Renee in honor of his late wife.

Mrs. Smith, 24, had picked the name Tanya if her third child turned out to be a girl. She was due to give birth in early February.

Brenda Renee, weakened by lack of oxygen when her mother stopped breathing, was in critical condition Wednesday at John Peter Smith Hospital but officials said she was breathing on her own and slowly improving.

Graveside services for Mrs. Smith and her son, who were to be buried in the same casket, were scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday at Laurel Land Memorial Park in Fort Worth, a spokesman of Guardian Funeral Home said.

Jeffers, who said Brenda Renee was born weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces, said he hoped he never had to work under such circumstances again as a physician.

"Nobody in that emergency room who worked to save that woman and her baby will ever be the same," he said. "I hope to Hannah her husband didn't see her long in that condition and I'm glad he didn't have to see her suffer long."

Anita Landrum, Mrs. Smith's mother, said the family had planned to move Wednesday from their apartment to a home in Fort Worth. She said she had been looking forward to the birth in the next few weeks of her newest grandchild and was stunned by the death of her grandson.

Geoscience annex will be open soon

By SONDRA HOS-TETLER
Staff writer

Some of the departments in the College of Geosciences will move from the past to the present in the next couple of months when they occupy the new \$4 million addition to their present building.

The college has been cramped and crowded in the Halbouty Geosciences Building, which was built in 1932. The new wing has spacious laboratories, ample office space, and a faculty lounge.

After the move is complete, the older structure will be shelled out and completely remodeled, Christopher Mathewson, a geosciences faculty member said. Mathewson is user coordinator for the new building.

The essence of the 1930s architecture will remain the same, he said. The renovation of the present structure is pending approval of the program of requirements by the Texas A&M Board of Regents, he said. Proposed changes include the addition of three classrooms, an auditorium, and a lecture hall.

Mathewson said he hopes funding is included in the 1985 budget so renovation can begin in the same year.

Some classes and offices will remain in the older portion of Halbouty until renovation begins. During renovation there will be temporary crowding because the offices remaining in the original structure will move to the new addition. After a complete modernization of Halbouty some offices and classes will move back to their original building.

The Halbouty Geosciences Addition, with 59,572 square feet, will be occupied by the geology and geophysics departments. The Center for Engineering Geosciences also will have offices there.

The remaining departments in the College of Geosciences and offices of the O&M Building will remain there.

Construction on the Halbouty addition led to the closing of part of Parking Area in the fall of 1983. In February, the remainder of the building will be closed so construction can begin on the new engineering/physics building. The construction site for the building is located between the Cyclotron and the Doby Building.

A service drive and 30 reserve numbered parking spaces located behind Halbouty will be complete in a couple of weeks.

Despite winter weather the four-story Halbouty addition is ahead of schedule by a month.

The library will house a collection of Halbouty's geological books.

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Democratic delegates chosen

O'Neill favors Mondale

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Former Vice President Walter Mondale enjoyed the best day so far of his presidential campaign Wednesday, picking up the endorsement of the nation's most powerful Democrat, House Speaker Thomas O'Neill.

Convention and about half of them were in the Mondale column.

The delegates actually were selected last week, but they could not be named officially until Feb. 1.

O'Neill, who remained neutral in the 1980 battle for the Democratic nomination, told a news conference he is backing the former vice president because it is critical for America to defeat Ronald Reagan.

"Thirty-two years I've here and never have I been frightened of the cold war today," he said.

"I will do all in my power to make sure that Walter Mondale is elected president of the United States," the speaker said.

Mondale, who was not sent for the endorsement arranged to meet later with O'Neill, then walked to a nearby House office building for a party given by a supporter, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill.

The caucus officially endorsed O'Neill the first delegate election in 1984 — 20 days before the Iowa caucus and 28 days before the New Hampshire primary.

Mondale, according to United Press International, has at least 73 endorsements among the Democratic delegates, far more than the rival Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio. The Mondale camp claimed nearly 100 were publicly or privately committed to the runner.

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