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House

(continued from page 1)

Besides a feeling of solidness, an air of practicality prevails throughout the house. It was designed for low maintenance. It has a universal color scheme and is as simple in design as possible.

"Simplicity is the keynote of elegance," Hansen said.

The house was also designed to easily accommodate handicapped people. The house has no second story and no sunken rooms. Doorway, hallways and even doorknobs were chosen with the handicapped in mind.

"There is a good reason for everything," Hansen said.

Her favorite feature of the house is the natural light throughout the house, she said. The tall windows, which adorn the southside of the house, allow plenty of sunlight to come into the house.

Hansen said her biggest adjustment will be getting used to the complex electrical, telephone and alarm systems.

Hansen considers the house a treasure for the system. It will be a home for agriculture, engineering and extension representatives and other groups who visit Texas A&M, she said.

The residence is named for Dr. Chester J. and Billie Jean Reed, a Houston couple who paid for the majority of the construction last year. Chester Reed, who earned his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Texas A&M in 1947, was named Distinguished Alumnus in May.

The fountain and courtyard of the house was donated by August Berring, Class of '35, in memory of his parents.

Warped

by Scott McCullar



Rabies

Girl's death prompts harsher punishments

United Press International
HOUSTON — The first human victim of rabies in the United States in more than a year died without regaining consciousness, a hospital spokeswoman said Wednesday.

The 12-year-old girl, who moved to Houston with her family from Laos more than three years ago, died Tuesday night in Texas Children's Hospital.

"The cause of death was cardiac arrest," hospital spokeswoman Joan London said. Officials still do not know what kind of animal bit the girl. A spokeswoman for the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta said test results might be available Friday.

The girl, whose name was not released to protect her family's privacy, fell into a coma shortly after being admitted to Texas Children's on July 16. She remained in the coma on life support systems until her death, London said.

The use of the experimental drug ribavirin was not effective and doctors stopped administering it last

week. Doctors said when her case was diagnosed as rabies last month, it already was too late to save the girl.

Before falling into the coma, the girl told doctors she had not been bitten by an animal. However, doctors said the disease can incubate for up to 18 months.

Health officials said it was the first reported case of rabies in a human since an incident in Michigan in March 1983.

The director of rabies control for the city Health Department said the number of animals being brought to the city for vaccination against rabies continues to run eight to 10 times higher than usual. However, Dr. Robert Armstrong said he saw no additional increase Wednesday after the girl's death was announced.

City health officials have been working to improve enforcement of city and state laws requiring animals to be vaccinated, Armstrong said. They estimate less than 30 percent

of the 750,000 dogs and cats in the city are vaccinated.

"The ordinance now doesn't make it very uncomfortable for someone who doesn't abide by the law," Armstrong said. "We want to make it comfortable."

Armstrong praised Justice of the Peace Paul McClure, whose court Tuesday fined a woman \$200 for not having her pet vaccinated, \$50 for failure to have a license and \$50 for allowing the dog to run loose.

"That is a landmark decision," said Armstrong, who noted that health officials usually feel successful if a \$50 fine is issued.

"We have an environment where ruining with these hundreds of thousands of animals running loose."

County Health Department supervisor Jody Hellman said the recent rabies case may have had some impact on the fine.

40 A&M students complete tests for scuba certification

By KAREN GILES
Reporter

Although Lake Travis wasn't as clear and blue as the sky above it last weekend, it didn't keep 40 Texas A&M scuba students from successfully completing the required dives for certification.

"The water was really murky," John Heldenfels, a member of the class said. "We only had about five feet of visibility, so it was really hard to see what your buddy or instructor was doing."

On Saturday each student, along

with a partner, was required to complete a snorkeling test to get used to wearing the equipment, a rescue test in case of an emergency, and one dive with an advanced diver. Emergency procedures consisted of mask clearing, buoyancy neutralizing, and "buddy breathing" (sharing an air tank with your partner).

Sunday the students completed the underwater navigation dive.

"The idea is to learn how to orient yourself," Heldenfels said. "The instructor checked our breathing, then we began the excursion. We had to

figure out where we were without a compass and practice looking for obstacles. I can see how this would be useful, since it's so easy to lose track of where you're going while you're enjoying the scenery."

Some of the students stayed at the lake Saturday night for a barbecue provided by Dean Hollingsworth, one of the instructors. Many chose to camp out in tents, and Chris Jackson, one of the students in the class, came prepared to sleep under the stars on a mattress in the bed of his truck.

Police beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department through Wednesday.

- MISDEMEANOR THEFT:**
- A student's backpack containing two political science textbooks was stolen from the Commons Dining area.
 - Two wire hubcaps were stolen from a 1981 Pontiac in Parking Annex 50.
 - Two wire hubcaps were stolen from an Oldsmobile Cutlass in Parking Annex 50.
 - Four wire hubcaps were stolen from a Cadillac in Parking Annex 51.

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