

# Infants dying

## Poor mothers can't afford medical care

United Press International

BROWNSVILLE — Nightmares appear to be coming true for doctors who work in Brownsville with poverty-stricken pregnant women and their babies.

Less than a week after the expiration of federal funding that paid hospital care in indigent maternity cases, infant deaths have occurred that doctors said could have been prevented.

Last month, doctors at Brownsville Community Health Clinic predicted an increase in baby deaths after the Federal Jobs Bill — which funded prenatal care for impoverished mothers — expired at the end of September.

"It may be coming true even sooner than I thought," said Dr. David Smith, director of the BCHC maternity center.

A baby died during childbirth last Thursday, a death Smith attributed to the inability of the mother to afford hospital treatment.

There is no charity hospital in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The mother, because she could not afford other treatment, went to an unlicensed partera (midwife). When the midwife realized the woman needed additional care, she took her to Valley Community Hospital. But by then the infant already was dead.

"The head was already born," Smith said. "The rest of the body

was still in the womb."

Because the baby was unusually large, at 11 pounds, it should never have been born outside of a hospital, the physician said. But the mother had no insurance and no way to pay more than the \$150 parteras usually charge. Childbirth can cost \$1,000 or more at a hospital.

Some 18.5 percent of the Valley's babies are born in places other than hospitals — much higher than the average of 2.9 percent in Texas.

Last Wednesday night, after another expectant woman's water bag broke prematurely, the clinic had to fly her to Houston, where she had to take an ambulance to Galveston.

John Sealy Hospital in Galveston — more than 300 miles away — is the closest facility for serving indigent patients.

The woman underwent a Caesarean delivery the next morning in Galveston to prevent infection. The Brownsville clinic paid \$300 for the roundtrip flight and ambulance ride, because the case was not a "life-threatening emergency," and therefore, not eligible for treatment at the local private hospitals.

Valley hospitals may start hurting financially without the previously available funding, Smith said. Since they must accept emergency patients, regardless of their ability to pay, they often must absorb the unpaid bills of indigents.

If not dying, other babies already may be receiving inadequate treatment, he said.

"I have a patient that was born Thursday, that even though the baby needs to stay there a couple of more days (because of blood sugar problems), the family asked to take the baby out because they just can't afford it," Smith said.

The Task Force on Indigent Health Care presented details in a Harlingen meeting last week of a pilot program for providing health care to the Valley's poor.

The plan, to be presented for possible approval by the Texas Legislature next year, would not go into effect until September 1985 if funded.

Smith and Dr. George Gilson, associate director of the maternity center, said the pilot program would be helpful, but asked what they should do with indigent patients until then.

Referring to the baby that died last Thursday, Smith said, "We are four days into the loss of funding, and it is already making me worry that we are going to start seeing more of this preventable mortality."

The doctor said some local health professionals may travel to Austin and present a case to Gov. Mark White or his staff, in an effort to obtain emergency state funding.

# Bond set for four in pot case

United Press International

CORPUS CHRISTI — Four South Texas men were arraigned Tuesday on charges of possessing with intent to distribute 520 pounds of marijuana confiscated during a raid of a farm near Orange Grove.

Bond was set at \$20,000 for Bobby Franklin McGary, 30, of Ingleside, and at \$50,000 each for Eleno Guerra, 39, of Orange Grove; Juan Zavala, 53, of Uvalde, and Adolfo Romeo, 39, of Robstown.

Two juveniles arrested during the weekend raid "will not be prosecuted at this time," a spokeswoman for U.S. Magistrate Eduardo de Ases said after the arraignments.

Officers from the sheriff's departments of Nueces and Jim Wells Counties and the police department in Orange Grove arrested the six Sunday night.

# Car

(continued from page 1)

The Red Cross, said new seats now are being ordered because they expect an increased demand for them in the next few months.

"We have about thirty seats now, but are ordering more since the Bryan Lions Club donated \$500 for the cause," she said. "All of the seats we have now are designed for children up to six-months-old."

Stiteler said the seats they currently have in stock are the best for most people since they can only be borrowed for a six-month period.

"We have the smaller seats so people would not have to invest in something they will be able to use for only about six-months," she said. "When the children grow out of the seats they can return them and purchase one to suit their future needs."

The seats can be picked up at the Red Cross office, 207 W. 29th St., Bryan, weekdays from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., Stiteler said. A \$5.00 deposit must be made and users are expected to pay a 50-cent monthly usage fee.

Prices for car-safety seats at local department stores range from \$20 up to \$60 depending on how they are made.

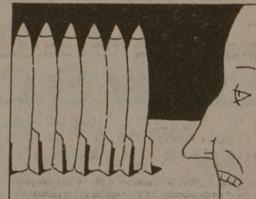
<b>TAMU Stadium Seats</b> \$14.95 Maroon & white vinyl cushioned seat Aggie emblem	<b>Stadium Cushions</b> \$3.95 Maroon & white vinyl cushioned seat Old Sarge emblem
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## "NUCLEAR DEFENSE OR DEBACLE?"

Freeze Forum '84 presents  
Col. Don Clark, USAF (ret.), of Montana State University, former advisor to the Joint Chiefs of Staff on SALT 1 and 2, Conference for the Committee on Disarmament, European Security Conference.

Wednesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m., 601 Rudder sponsored by Aggie Peace Action, in cooperation with Peace Links and Brazos Valley Peace Action

**FREE**



## CO-OP FAIR

On Monday, October 15, the employers listed below will have booths in Zachry Engineering Center. These employers will be primarily interested in hiring co-op students, but if you are interested in either summer employment or full-time employment, please feel free to stop by. The Co-op Fair will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. with the exception of a lunch break from 11:45 to 12:30.

EMPLOYER	LOCATION
Dow Chemical, USA	Freeport
General Dynamics	Fort Worth
Houston Lighting & Power	Houston
IBM Corporation	Austin/Clear Lake
Lockheed Missiles & Space	Austin
MCI Telecommunications	Richardson
Motorola	Austin
NASA-Johnson Space Center	Clear Lake
National Security Agency	Washington, D.C.
Rockwell International	Dallas
TRW-Optron	Carrollton
Trane Co., Inc.	Tyler
U.S. Army Aviation Center	Fort Rucker, AL

# Nuke freeze educator talks

United Press International

EL PASO — Not only is Johnny not learning to read in school, he is also not learning about peace, a nuclear freeze advocate said Tuesday.

Mary Ann Gleason, psychologist and educator, told a University of Texas at El Paso audience that teachers on all levels need to take time to teach students there is an alternative to war.

Gleason's speech was part of a week-long series of anti-war lectures being sponsored by the El Paso Peace Coalition.

"The entire issue of national security has been tied to nuclear weapons," she said. "If we only define answers to technical terms, instead of ethical, we buy into the idea of only one solution to the problem of peace, nuclear arms."

Students need to be taught about the world's interdependence, she said.

"They need to be shown how to get along and how to negotiate

peace," she said.

Gleason said her Boston-based organization encourages educators to develop a curriculum that stresses peace and responsibility in the nuclear age.

"We're just as concerned that Johnny can't conceive the idea of peace as most parents are that Johnny can't read," she said. "There is entirely too much emphasis in the schools today on science and math and not enough on the humanities."

Gleason said her organization is training teachers on all levels to be more aware of the alternatives to war.

"On the elementary level, children should not be taught about the horrors of nuclear war, because they cannot handle it at that level," she said, "but they know about interacting with each other and can learn the process of negotiating peace."

In high school, Gleason said, students are capable of understanding

all the intricate problems of national

security. Teachers, she said, must take time to develop peace studies in the classroom because of the precarious situation the world is in.

College curriculum should include a study of decisions relating to war and the possible alternatives, she said, adding that students in some colleges and universities are already studying the alternatives available to the United States at the time of the decision to drop the atomic bomb on Japan.

"Americans are capable of making good decisions on war and peace and should be involved in the decision-making process," she said. "Americans are frightened at the prospect of nuclear war and are beginning to realize that although we have nuclear arms, we are in danger ourselves, as well as the rest of the world."

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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese- Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing—Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p> <p>FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS</p>		
<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Fried Catfish Filet w/Tartar Sauce Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b> Roast Turkey Dinner Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Coffee or Tea Gibley Gravy And Your Choice of any One Vegetable</p>

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