Salutes

John E. Flipse, a Texas A&M professor, has been promoted to deputy director of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station. Flipse is president of the Marine Technology Society and chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere. He also is associate vice chancellor for engineering and associate dean of the Col-lege of Engineering. As deputy director, Flipse will have overall management responsibility for the experiment

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Distinguished teaching awards have been given by the Association of Former Students to two faculty members in Texas A&M's College of Education and a member of the Sterling C. Evans Library faculty. Receiving the awards in education were Dr. Robert A. Fellenz, professor of interdisciplinary education, and Dr. Clarence Dockweiler, associate professor of education and Dr. Clarence Dockweiler, associate professor of education and Dr. Clarence Dockweiler, associate professor of educations and curriculum and instruction. tion. The recipient from the library was Dr. Katherine M. Jackson, associate professor of library science and head of the reference division.

Edward J. Romieniec, Texas A&M professor of architecture, has been named recipient of the Texas Society of Architects' first Award for Excellence in Architectural Education. Romieniec earned a master's degree in architecture from the University of Illinois in 1948, and another master's degree from Harvard University in 1950. Following teaching assignments at Oklahoma State University, Texas A&M and Columbia University, he returned to A&M in 1963 to become the first chairman of the School of Architecture. He was named the first dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design in 1969. In 1972 the American Institute of Architects named him a Fellow, a lifetime honor in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of the profession.

Frank E. Vandiver, president of Texas A&M, has been named 1985 leader of the year in higher education by the Houston Chapter of the Achievement Rewards of College Scientists Foundation. This is the second time that Vandiver has been honored by a Houston organization this year. In April the Houston Civil War Round Table presented him its Annual Award of Merit and renamed the citation in his honor.

Dr. Rod O'Connor, president of Texas ROMEC, Inc. and professor of chemistry at Texas A&M, has been selected for listing in the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership. Selection is made from worldwide nominations by officials in the public and private sectors. Dr. O'Connor is the author or co-author of 24 books and booklets, and 50 technical and educational papers. He is the founder and chief executive officer of ROMEC, an inventions development company with offices and laboatories in College Station, a manufacturing plant in Livingston and an international marketing network. He is carrently on administrative leave from the University

Austin suicide brings promises of reform from state hospital

AUSTIN — The suicide of a 29year-old mentally ill woman within 18 hours after being discharged from the Austin State Hospital has brought a pledge of reform from hospital officials, it was reported Wednesday.

Adolph Supak, assistant hospital superintendent, told the Austin American-Statesman, "I'm pretty touched by this case and want to do

something about it."

Debra Oliver was found dead 18 hours after being discharged from the Austin hospital Oct. 11.

She was released despite records showing that for 13 years she had attempted to commit suicide, the Australia of the Australi tin American-Statesman reported.

Those attempts included taking

drug overdoses and slicing her wrist so many times her right hand was partially paralyzed from nerve dam-

Her death came after she swallowed a 30-day supply of Elavil, a drug is used to relieve depression. Oliver left a note saying all sources of support had dwindled. Hospital officials said that mis-takes by staff members may have

contributed to her death. They have pledged to change procedures for clinic until between two discharging suicidal patients, the month after discharge.

Austin American-Statesman reported.

The hospital released Oliver on Oct. 11, sending her and two other patients to a Houston boarding house "so shabby they stayed only 10 minutes," the newspaper reported Oliver left the others and took a

bus back to Austin. After midnight, she arrived at the home of a mental health worker she had known at the

hospital.

The worker and her family called the state hospital admissions office, but they were told Oliver needed to appear in person to be readmitted. They were told that if she needed a place to stay the night, she could go to the Salvation Army.

Her family and Salvation Army officials blame the hospital for directing Oliver to two residences un-suitable for an emotionally unstable

Supak said that in the two weeks since Oliver's death, Austin State Hospital has decided to:

• Give suicidal patients a smaller

amount of drugs upon discharge.

Shorten the time between discharge and the first appointment at an outpatient clinic. Now, most patients are not seen in a community clinic until between two weeks and a

Mothers worried about survival of youths receiving transplants

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Three mothers who say they once worried about such childhood mishaps as skinned knees now spend their time worrying about their children's survival following organ transplants.

These sentiments are being shared by Lisa White, Gwen Baird and Mary Jo McLaughlin whose children, Nona White, 13, Tracy Lynn Baird, 17, and Kenny McLaughlin, 16, have received tranplants at Houston's Methodist Hospital.

The mothers are doing their worrying alone — all are single.

"It would be easier if I had a husband here to lean on," said White, whose daughter received a new heart on her 13th birthday Sept. 7. Baird agreed. "It's hard to make

the decisions alone," she said. Her daughter underwent a heart-

lung transplant Sunday.
In all three cases, the illnesses

were sudden. "There never was a sign before," said White. It wasn't until she took her daughter to the doctor in March that X-rays detected an enlarged

For White, the burden is even heavier because Nona's twin sister, Dawn, has the same ailment.

"She may not ever have to have a transplant but they aren't ruling it out," White said of Dawn.

McLaughlin's son Kenny underwent a heart-lung transplant Oct. 24. His kidneys failed Tuesday, forcing doctors to put him on a dialysis machine. But his mother is still hopeful.

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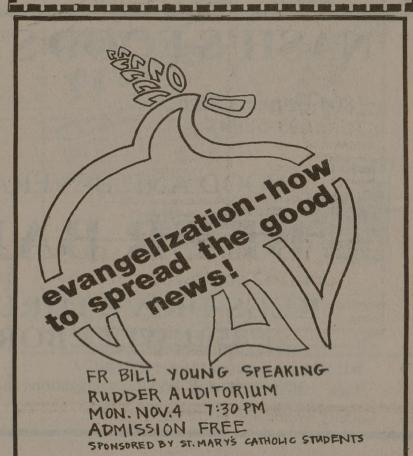
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