

# State and Local

## U.S. court may force Texaco to post bond

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday it will consider forcing Texaco Inc. to post a potentially ruinous \$12 billion bond while appealing a multimillion-dollar judgment won in Texas by Pennzoil Co.

The justices agreed to review a ruling that Texaco need only put \$1 billion in security, a requirement the corporation satisfied by pledging stock in its Canadian subsidiary.

The court's decision is expected sometime in 1987.

A state court jury in Texas last year found that Texaco improperly interfered with Pennzoil's planned acquisition of an interest in Getty Oil Co.

The jury awarded Pennzoil \$11.1 billion against Texaco.

"We're pleased," said Joe Jamail, a lawyer for Pennzoil. "We've felt all along we were going to win that point."

But John O'Mahoney, a Texaco spokesman, said the corporation was confident it would prevail in the Supreme Court and also would succeed in reversing the state court damage judgment.

Arguments are scheduled for July 31 in Houston on Texaco's appeal of the jury verdict.

"On the case itself, we could win it before the bond issue is ever determined," Jamail said.

Texas, like most states, re-

quires the losing side in such cases to post bond to protect the winning side.

Texas law requires a bond posted equal to the judgment before the losing side may appeal.

But lawyers for Texaco succeeded in having U.S. District Judge Charles Brient in White Plains, N.Y., enjoin the \$12 billion bond. Brient ruled that such a high bond effectively denied Texaco the right to appeal.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the injunction, ruling last February that the huge bond amount "lacks any rational basis, since it would destroy Texaco and render its right of appeal in Texas an exercise in futility."

The injunction remains in effect, but interest on the award grows at about \$3 million a day.

In seeking Supreme Court review, lawyers for Pennzoil said the case represents "an unprecedented intrusion by a federal court into ongoing court proceedings."

Lawyers for Texaco urged the justices to reject the appeal, arguing that "such a narrow and unusual case" should not win Supreme Court review.

"The posting of a mandatory \$12 billion bond was impossible not just for Texaco but for any judgment debtor," Texaco's lawyers said.

## Wright chosen speaker at Democratic convention

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. House Majority Leader Jim Wright, who many Democrats expect to become the next speaker, will deliver the keynote address to the Texas Democratic Party Convention on Friday, it was announced Monday.

The two-day convention runs through Saturday.

In a marked reference to Texas Republicans, who will hear from Vice President George Bush and other potential presidential candidates at their convention in Dallas the same weekend, the Democratic

Party said it won't be worrying about presidential politics this year.

"The 1986 election is critical to Texas, too critical for the campaign to get involved in national presidential politics," said a news release issued by the Democratic party.

"Unlike the Republicans, who have to import convention speakers from around the country... we Democrats find it difficult to find time to allow all our outstanding Texans an opportunity to speak," the statement said.

## Businesses adjust to no-smoking law

AUSTIN (AP) — One month after the city's no-smoking law went into effect, a lack of signs designating smoking areas in businesses and offices remains the chief cause of violations, local health officials say.

"It's amazing how many business people and office managers are unaware that a law was passed," said

Laurel Schulze of the Austin-Travis County Health Department, who is in charge of enforcing the ordinance.

"I'll tell them a complaint has been filed about their establishment, and some of them will ask, 'When did they vote this in?'" she said.

In December, the Austin City

Council passed the Clean Indoor Air Ordinance banning smoking in all public places except for designated smoking areas. "Public places" include stores, offices, and restaurants.

Persons in charge of public establishments must post signs at entrances indicating the degree of

smoking allowed inside.

Signs must indicate whether smoking is banned completely or only in designated areas. Business owners can declare their entire buildings as a smoking area if they can prove through their own polls that at least 95 percent of their customers prefer smoking.

## Supreme Court to hear search-warrant case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to decide whether police may enter fenced-in property and look into a barn without first getting a search warrant.

The court said it will hear a Rea-

gan administration appeal aimed at reinstating a Texas man's federal drug conviction.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled last February that a federal drug agent and a local police officer violated Ronald Dale Dunn's

rights when they looked inside the barn at his ranch in Johnson City.

The appeals court threw out Dunn's conviction and 16-year prison term for manufacturing phenylacetone and amphetamines in addition to possessing the drugs with intent to distribute them.

The 5th Circuit court said the barn was within an area where Dunn had a reasonable expectation of privacy and, therefore, law enforcement officials violated his rights by looking inside before they obtained a court warrant.

The officers crossed two fences Nov. 5, 1980 to reach the barn. They

said they saw drug-making equipment inside the barn and returned the next day with a search warrant for a closer look.

In a 1984 decision in a Kentucky case, the Supreme Court reaffirmed a 60-year-old legal doctrine by ruling that police may enter and search "open fields" without a court warrant.

In the Kentucky case, police seized marijuana growing outdoors on a farm that was surrounded by a fence with a locked gate. There were "no trespassing" signs posted.

## Correction

The Friday, June 20 issue of *The Battalion* incorrectly identified Dr. Richard Thomas, director of the Center for Strategic

Technology, as Dr. John Thomas, director for the Center of Strategic Studies. *The Battalion* regrets the error.

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## Cocaine linked to heart attacks

A&M study: Long-term use causes undetectable damage

By Scott Sutherland  
City Editor

A soon-to-be-published report by a Texas A&M researcher reveals that cocaine severely impairs cardiac function and may lead to sudden, unpredictable cardiac arrest.

Dr. Michael Trulson, professor of anatomy at the Texas A&M College of Medicine, found that long-term cocaine administration to lab rats greatly reduces enzymes that power the heart muscle. Enzymes act as catalysts to cells, speeding up their biological process.

Not all the enzymes that supply energy to the heart's cells showed a decrease, but four essential enzymes, including an enzyme that provides energy for the heart's contraction, were gravely affected.

Rats were injected with cocaine for 10 consecutive days and then taken off the drug. Three days later they showed greatly reduced levels of four enzymes crucial in supplying the heart with the energy needed to continue pumping.

Another set of rats injected for 10 days and examined 60 days later showed the same depletion of enzymes, suggesting that the heart does not recover from cocaine administered as much as two months earlier.

Trulson says it's significant to note that even though the body would have passed cocaine out of the system, the damage to the heart remained.

The enzymes are normally prevalent in the arterioles, small arteries that carry blood into the heart, and in the myocytes, the cells of the heart muscle. Myocytes assist in the contraction and expansion of the heart. The greater the enzyme depletion, the greater the chances of sudden cardiovascular failure, Trulson says.

Trulson, a 15-year veteran of drug abuse research, says that during the 10-day period of cocaine injection the rats' heart rate and blood pressure increased, which he says is common during cocaine use. However, shortly after being taken off the drug their vital signs returned to normal while the damage remained, he says.

There were no physical abnormalities that might aid diagnosis. The

rats' hearts showed no discernible size difference from a normal rat, so Trulson says it's likely that X-rays would not show discrepancies.

"There is no way that we know of that you can pick this thing up without taking the tissue out and examining it," he says.

A continued decrease in these enzymes could lead to sudden death in an individual who otherwise seemed perfectly healthy, Trulson says. In fact, he says, some of the experimental rats that exhibited a normal heart rate and blood pressure died from cardiovascular failure.

"A heart could be beating normally but all of the sudden just stop because of a lack of adequate perfusion of the heart with blood and oxygen," he said. "This is the type of thing you wouldn't pick up on an EKG or if you listened with a stethoscope."

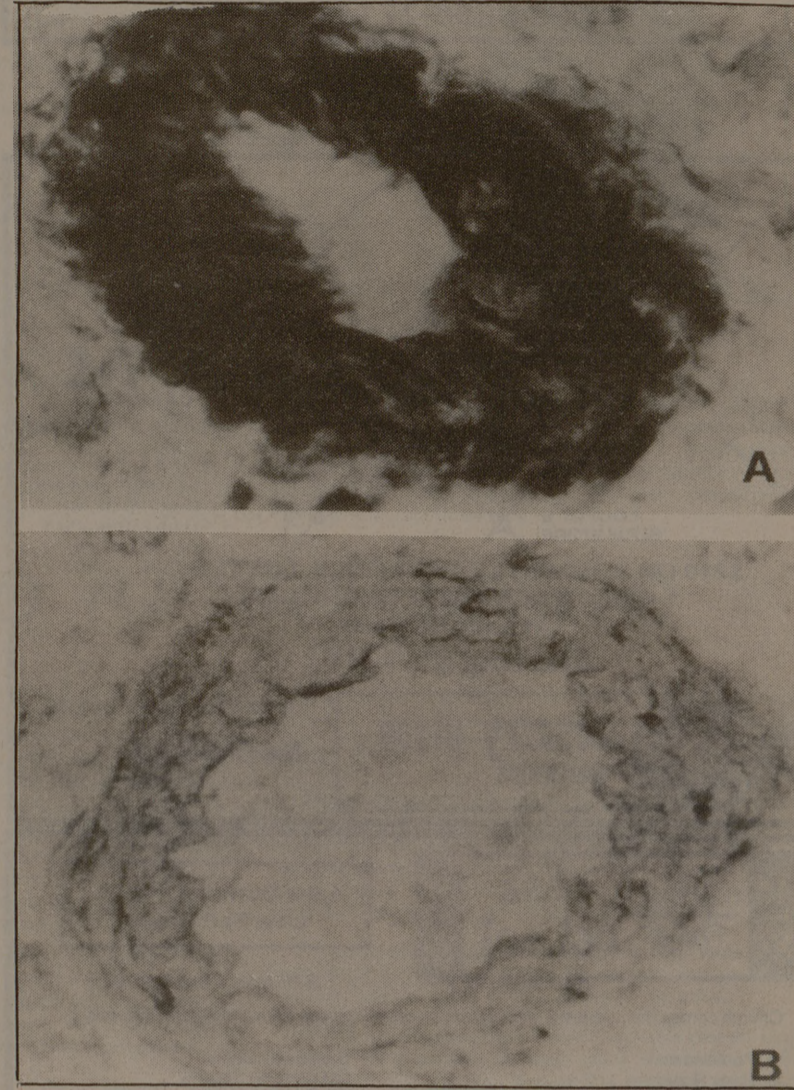
Autopsies probably won't reveal enzyme depletion because the tissue must be gathered and frozen almost immediately after death before enzymes begin to break down, he says.

The cocaine given the rats would be comparable to a three-quarter gram dosage for an adult, Trulson says. He adds that a three-quarter gram daily dosage is not uncommon for cocaine abusers.

The four enzymes showed varying degrees of depletion after 60 days:

- Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, which produces pentoses that are involved in synthesis of nucleic acid and protein. It decreased by 44.6 percent in the arterioles and by 48.1 percent in the myocytes.
- NAD isocitrate dehydrogenase, a key enzyme in the aerobic pathway of the heart, dropped off by 80 percent in the arterioles and 84.1 percent in the myocytes.
- Lactate dehydrogenase, a key enzyme in the heart's anaerobic metabolism, was depleted in the arterioles by 40.6 percent and in the myocytes by 42.3 percent.
- Myosin ATPase, a key enzyme that provides the energy for the contraction of the heart, was depleted in the arterioles by 39.8 percent and in the myocytes by 46.3 percent.

Trulson used a sophisticated microscope-computer combination



A. Cardiac arteriole of a normal rat stained for enzymes. Intense staining shows a healthy condensation of enzymes.  
B. Cardiac arteriole of a rat 60 days after termination of 10-day cocaine treatment regimen. Nearly total lack of staining in the arteriole wall shows depletion of enzymes.

that allows researchers to quantitatively analyze microscopic parts of the heart.

Trulson says the degree to which humans can be affected depends on their specific metabolic makeup. But his prognosis is grim.

"There could be a lot of people walking around right now with a very high risk of dying of a coronary because of cocaine abuse," he says.

**What's up**

**Tuesday**

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** applications for External Communications and Public Relations will be available through the summer months. Please come by 221 Pavilion from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up applications. For more information call 845-3051.

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE:** any junior or senior in the department of biology, chemistry, mathematics or physics who entered his current major prior to catalog 107 and who has not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to do so this semester. The exam will be administered by the English department on July 1. Please see Marilyn Radke in 151 Blocker for details and questions. Advance registration is required.

**ON CAMPUS HOUSING INFORMATION:** students currently living on campus are required to indicate their Summer II housing intention Wednesday and Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Residents of Hobby, Neely, McInnis and Schumacher must sign up in the C-1 Lounge. Residents of Spence, Briggs, Underwood, Lacy, Fountain and Keist must sign up in the A Lounge. For more information contact your residence hall staff.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to *The Battalion*, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three days prior to desired publication date.

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