

Dog Day Afternoon

Senior Paul Hinds contemplates graduation as he reads a card outside the Aggeland Station Post Office. His pet dachshund, Danke, keeps him company Sunday afternoon.

Photo by Jay Janner

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Medical students examine hard courses, dead bodies

By Adrienne Dunbar
 Reporter

The transition from an undergraduate university to a medical school is a drastic and difficult one. Texas A&M Medical School students must quickly adjust from from taking 12, 15 or 18 credit hours a semester to taking the equivalent of 18 or more hours in a quarter system.
 "We like to call it the 'blitzkrieg system,'" says Mike Clark, a second-year medical student. "You are overwhelmed the first quarter. They just give you more and more and more to know."
 One professor in the department seems to disagree.
 Tom Champney, a neuroendocrinologist and assistant professor of anatomy, describes a first-year medical student's curriculum. "They will take two anatomy classes, gross and micro, and a medical humanity," Champney says. "That's a relatively easy quarter."
 Microanatomy, called medical histology, studies the basic cells and how they function. Gross anatomy is

what one might guess, the study of the human body in its entirety.
 "The first day of class you go for a few hours of lecture and then they put you in front of the body," Dave Schneider, a second-year medical student says. "The head, hands and feet are all covered because a lot of people freak out when they see a body."
 — Dave Schneider, medical student

Although anatomy is the first class facing a medical student, it is the most important.
 "This is the instrument they will be working with," Champney says. "They need to know it well."

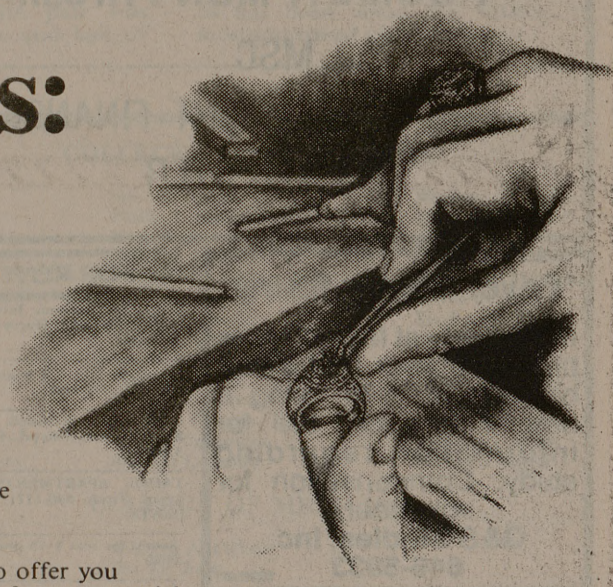
med school," Champney says. "There is a one-hour lecture four days a week, and four or five hours of lab every day. Micro is usually two hours a week, and a humanity is usually one hour. All the rest is free time, most use it to study."
 The undergraduate attitude is hard to shake, he says.
 "Students ask me 'What do I need to know for the exam?' and I try to stress that they need to know everything," Champney says. "Med school is not the same pace and volume as other schools, it's a lot more. Some just get blown away."
 Because students are training for a profession, they must be precise.
 "We don't want generalities," he says. "A lot of information comes at them (students) full-barrel. They have very little time to assimilate, yet they must take in as much as possible."
 "This is the instrument they will be working with," Champney says. "They need to know it well."

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Flag flies despite neighbor's complaints

COLLEYVILLE (AP) — Steve Symonds wants to fly his flag high and he's leading a drive to seek a referendum election against flagpole height restrictions set last week by the City Council.

Symonds, who has been at the center of the flagpole controversy, says he thinks the people should decide the height limit.
 Some skeptics contend that Symonds is using the flap to advertise

a flagpole business he owns in Irving.
 "I think that all he wants is the publicity," said Bedford Mayor L. Don Dodson. Symonds denies the allegation.
 "I'm in the flagpole business, but that's not why it's up there," Symonds told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in an earlier interview. "It's something we enjoy. I don't sell flagpoles from my home."
 The council Tuesday approved

an emergency ordinance, aimed at Symonds, requiring a building permit for any flagpole taller than 35 feet.
 Half of Symonds backyard is in Bedford and the other half in Colleyville.
 In February, neighbors in both cities complained of the flapping noise made by Symond's 20-by-38 foot flag and the spotlight he kept trained on it.

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