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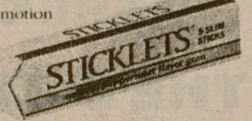


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Toddler needs more surgery on right foot

MIDLAND (AP) — Nineteen-month-old Jessica McClure will undergo more surgery on her right foot the day a parade is held to honor those who helped rescue her from an abandoned well, doctors said Tuesday.

The toddler was in serious but stable condition Tuesday following surgery Monday on the foot, Midland Memorial Hospital spokesman Sue Ristom said.

Meanwhile, thousands of West Texans were expected to sign a huge get-well card bound from San Angelo for Midland and Thursday's celebration.

The 6- by 6-foot card is being touted as the largest get-well greeting in Texas and includes a huge Winnie-the-Pooh on the front and the following message on the inside: "You brought hearts together from all over the world. Our hearts go out to you."

The card, sponsored by radio station KIXY, will be on a float that features hundreds of teddy bears and other stuffed animals sent to Jessica from around the world.

Friday morning, syndicated talk-show hostess Oprah Winfrey will tape her show in Midland. Officials said the program will focus on the efforts to save the toddler, who turned 19 months old Monday.

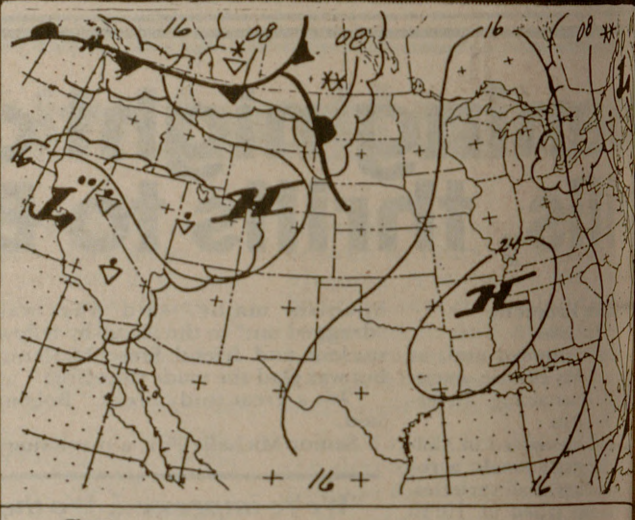
During the one-hour operation Monday, doctors cut away dead tissue from the side of the right foot and heel, Ristom said. It is a process that will be repeated Thursday.

Jessica injured the foot when she fell into an abandoned well in Midland almost two weeks ago. The foot was wedged between the well and her body during the 58 1/2-hour ordeal, cutting off the blood supply.

Doctors will have to cut away dead tissue several times before they graft skin from the girl's thighs onto the injured foot, Ristom said.

Jessica is eating well, playing often and undergoing three pressurized oxygen treatments daily, Ristom said. The oxygen treatments are intended to help the body replace blood vessels in the damaged foot.

Weather Watch



- Key:**
- ☁ - Lightning
 - ☔ - Rain
 - ⚡ - Ice Pellets
 - ☁ - Fog
 - ❄ - Snow
 - ⬇ - Rain Shower
 - ⚡ - Thunder
 - ☂ - Drizzle
 - ⚡ - Freezing Rain

Sunset Today: 5:40 p.m.
Sunrise Thursday: 7:37 a.m.

Map Discussion: Overcast skies and rain will continue to dominate the weather in New England. Mostly cloudy conditions will prevail over much of California and into Nevada and Utah. The high pressure cell centered over Memphis will produce another beautiful and mild day through the center of the nation, although temperatures will be in the mid to upper 30s over the Great Lakes during the early morning hours.

Forecast: Today: The weather will continue to be most pleasing in the Dallas Station area, which will be fair to partly cloudy and mild with a temperature of 79 degrees and wind east-northeasterly near 10 mph.

Tonight: Fair and cool with a low near 56 degrees and winds from the east.

Thursday: Partly cloudy and warmer with a high of 83 degrees and winds southeasterly at 7 to 12 mph.

Weather Fact: Frost — a deposit of interlocking ice crystals forms when air with a dew point below freezing is brought to saturation and cooling.

Jack Frost — frost personified.

Prepared by: Charlie...
Staff Meteorologist
A&M Department of Meteorology

A&M researchers develop new teaching certification

By Jeffrey L. Jones
Reporter

College graduates can get the skills needed to be certified as a teacher in Texas with an alternative teaching certification program developed by researchers at Texas A&M.

Dr. Jon Denton, a professor of curriculum and instruction in the College of Education, said the program tries to train individuals for their certification without repeating courses they have already taken.

Denton said many of the people who have gone through the program were professionals who decided to change to the teaching field.

"The first year (1986), most of the candidates were from the petrochemical field," Denton said. "Others were recent graduates who had prepared to go into various industries, but for whatever reasons changed their minds."

The research began in 1985 when Denton and his colleagues responded to a proposal by the federal government expressing the need for such a program. Denton said A&M is one of 29 institutions in the United States that received this grant.

"Our first group came through in June 1986," Denton said, "and our second group started in June of this year."

The popularity of programs like this may be increasing with the passage of a Texas law saying Texas universities can no longer offer an undergraduate degree in education, Denton said.

Many students caught under the law will receive a degree in some discipline other than education and go on to earn a master's degree in education. Denton said this program will provide these students with an option other than a long graduate program.

Denton said it takes 15 months to complete the program, which has two summers of classwork at A&M and a year of internship at a participating school district.

During the first summer, courses include topics such as teaching methods, classroom management and instructional planning. The second summer is made up of more advanced courses dealing with curriculum development and instructional analysis.

"The program assumes the students have had all the necessary courses for their professional field," Denton said. "It results in cutting out probably 15 to 20 undergraduate hours in courses they've probably already had and aren't essential to their teaching certification."

The internships are spent in school districts such as Conroe, Spring, Tomball and Iola. As interns, the students are paid one-half the starting teacher's salary by the

school district. The program is a four class periods each week. Some cases spend a fifth period as a mentor teacher.

The good news, Denton said, is that the program has been successful in providing qualified educators to the state. The A&M program has 555 drug-free students of both the intern and teacher candidates. Students performed as well as their counterparts.

"Much of the success can be attributed to the mentor teachers and assistance," Denton said.

The only disappointment, Denton is that he has been getting more school districts involved.

"We tried to get seven more districts involved," he said, "but they backed out."

While 16 people passed the program, only six were certified. Denton said, possibly school districts are wary of such a new program.

"Our biggest frustration," he said, "is having qualified people not being able to place themselves in the program."

Denton said they are looking for ways to remedy this through means such as a program, which would pay internships similar to teaching jobs.

Sources: Teens charged in death of officer were troubled youths

MIDLOTHIAN (AP) — Two teen-agers charged with slaying an undercover police officer were troubled youths, one a policeman's son who considered dropping out of school and the other a self-professed Satan worshipper who delighted in scribbling the word "slayer" in blood, acquaintances said.

The two Midlothian High School students, one 16 and the other 17, have been charged with capital murder in the shooting death of George William Raffield Jr., who was posing as a high school student while investigating drug use and sales.

The 16-year-old, whose name was not released because he is a juvenile, is the son of a 18-year veteran of Dallas' police force, and his school guidance counselor said he was considering dropping out of school.

The 17-year-old, Richard Goeglein, moved to the area over the summer and was still making friends, acquaintances said. But others who knew him said the youth boasted that he worshipped the devil.

The 16-year-old's lawyer, Jim Jenkins, said that at least two police officers told him that in the statement, Goeglein implicated the 16-year-old as the one who actually shot Raffield.

Goeglein can be tried as an adult, because he is 17, and a district attorney says she plans to have the 17-year-old certified to stand trial as an adult.

"This is a very serious offense, and I intend to prosecute it to the fullest extent of the law," District Attorney Mary Lou Shipley said.

Raffield, who authorities believe was a high school senior, was discovered, was found dead in a field eight miles south of Midlothian, a suburb of Fort Worth. He had been shot twice in the chest with a .38-caliber revolver.

Midlothian students said they had seen Goeglein, 21, planted at the school as an intern. He was a narcotics officer.

Raffield's fiancée, who asked not to be named, said one student threatened the officer.

"One of those kids told him about a girl who knew you're a narc and so does my dad. I'll tell your brains out," the woman, 19, said.

But Texas Ranger George Turner said he had known his cover was blown, he'd have signed.

Vaughn also said his department was notified of the students had identified Raffield.