



## Which way to Kyle Field?

SCOTT D. WEAVER/The Battalion

Chris Smyth (right) stands at attention with the helmet he must wear when he calls his squadron to dinner. John Coulson (left) and Andy Watson wait with him. All are freshmen in Squadron 7. Smyth must wear the helmet when he "blows chow," or calls the outfit to attention with whistle to let them know it's dinner time.

## Medical breakthroughs don't mean cure: doctor

Expert says society equates advancements with modern miracles

By Mack Harrison  
The Battalion

The concept of medical progress often takes the form of a moral imperative, a medical ethics expert said Wednesday in the MSC at Texas A&M.

Dr. Daniel Callahan of the Hastings Center in New York said many people believe since doctors have the ability to cure an illness, they have a duty to cure everyone with that illness.

Callahan spoke on "Biotechnology and the Moral Logic of Progress," and was sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Center for Biotechnology Policy and Ethics, and Institute of Biosciences and Technology.

Callahan, co-founder and director of the Hastings Center, an

organization that conducts research on ethical problems in medicine and biology, said people immediately want to put medical breakthroughs to use.

"Technology makes action possible," Callahan said. "From most positions it's preferable to do something than nothing."

Callahan said society expects medical progress to improve overall living conditions, and also to take care of any unforeseen problems the solution might cause.

"People favor short-term, rather than long-term, gains," he said.

He said scientists and doctors often enact new medical breakthroughs without considering the ramifications of these developments.

Medical advances have eliminated most causes of premature

deaths, diseases like typhoid fever and smallpox, Callahan said. He said now people die when they are older, from illnesses such as cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

"Death once came at all stages of life," he said. "Now it comes mainly in old age."

These people must be cared for, and there is an increasing demand for health care professionals. This takes resources away from other areas of medicine, Callahan said.

Medical advances have given people a range of choices they never had before, he said. People can change their appearance, decide whether to have children and live longer lives.

The chance of a longer lifespan means people must evaluate

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## Report: A&M affiliate loses endowment increase

AUSTIN (AP) — West Texas State University in Canyon lost the opportunity to increase its endowment by up to \$2.5 million through apparent mismanagement, the state auditor said in a report issued Wednesday.

State Auditor Lawrence Alwin said the university, prompted by heavy athletic department losses, also used funds restricted for other purposes to finance operations of the university's auxiliary enterprises since 1988.

Both matters raised "questions of legality" and had been reported to appropriate authorities, Alwin said.

The auditor's office said it started in-

vestigating West Texas State after receiving information that the university had lost \$200,000 on an investment in Mesa Limited Partnership, T. Boone Pickens' oil and gas company.

That charge proved inaccurate, the auditor said. But the report criticized the way university endowment fund transactions were handled while Pickens was chairman of the university board of regents and Ed Roach was president.

The school was merged into the Texas A&M University System on Sept. 1, 1990.

The transactions "appear to have

been handled almost exclusively by the board chairman and the president," the report said.

"The type of 'arm's length' relationship which should be maintained between a donor and the university did not exist," it said.

Mesa President Paul Cain issued a statement challenging the report. The company "stands by its donations and is proud of the university's efforts to maximize the value of those charitable gifts," he said.

"Mesa disagrees with the statement that university officials lost the opportunity to increase the donations by as

much as \$2.5 million. In reality, the university gained more than \$1.3 million through its aggressive pursuit of corporate funding," Cain said.

According to the auditor's report, the university purchased Mesa stock equal to a \$500,000 matching grant from Mesa and a \$100,000 personal matching gift from Pickens given in late 1987.

But the school failed to raise the necessary matching funds and began refunding the money to Pickens and Mesa — plus capital gains and dividends — in September 1988, the report said.

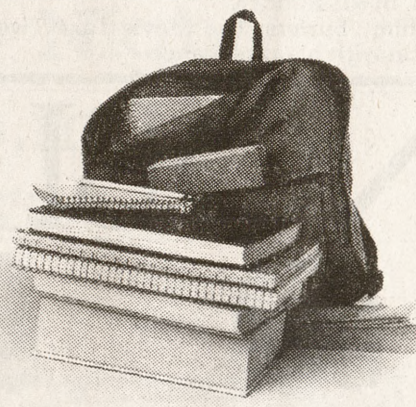
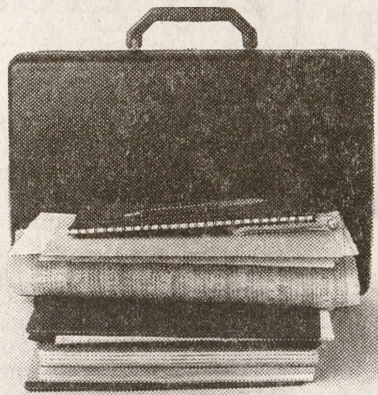
Four days after the university's original stock purchase, Roach and his family bought 20,000 Mesa shares through the same Dallas broker the university had used, paying 50 cents less per share, the report said.

Roach sold his stock in August 1989, three days before reports were published that Mesa had a \$13.4 million quarterly loss. He realized a capital gain of more than \$15,000, the report said.

But the university held its interest until seven months later, when the shares sold for more than \$4 less.

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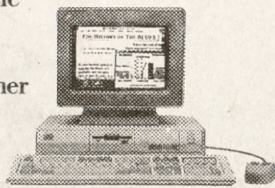
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