## Scientists come closer to finding asthma gene

The Battalion

Phone: 845-0569 / Office: Room 015 (basement) Reed McDonald Building

assified Ads

LONDON (AP) - Scientists believe they have come significantly closer to finding a gene that triggers asthma, a discovery that could lead to more effective treatment of the disorder, researchers said Sunday.

Dr. William Cookson of Oxford University said his team has determined that the gene is among a stretch of 100 genes on the 11th chromosome.

Scientists have long suspected the gene they are looking for is one of thousands on the 11th chromosomal pair. Asthma, which affects about

1 in 20 people, causes air passageways to narrow during at-

Medication now used to treat asthma opens the airways only temporarily.

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Dr. Allan Weinstein, a clinical professor of medicine at Georgetown University and consultant to the allergy section of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, said, "it's always been clear asthma tends to follow a hereditary basis, but it's also been clear that other factors such as the environment and or infectious diseases can influence the development of asth-

ma.
"It's also been thought that asthma involved more than one gene, which may still be the he said.

'This finding on chromosome 11 is an important discovery that awaits scientific publication and requires confirmation," he added.

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# Vietnamese deny moving POWs

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — U.S. intelligence compiled reports in the 1970s that Americans captured in the Vietnam War might have been sent to North Korea, according to government sources and a CIA document.

The reports were taken so seriously that U.S. officials from Seoul and Washington met secretly in Hawaii shortly after the war ended in 1975 to plan a possible prisoner release through North Korea, said a reliable source who attended the talks.

North Vietnam and North Korea were bitter enemies of the United States in two Asian conflicts to stem communist aggression. There has been no official indication they ever collaborat-

ed in holding prisoners. President Bush has made POW-MIA issues one of the subjects to be resolved before better relations can be formed with either Vietnam or North Korea.

Vietnam has repeatedly denied that prisoners from the Vietnam War were moved to any third nation.

Yet sources told The Associated Press that Washington considered as plausible the movement of U.S. prisoners from Vietnam to Korea and kept classified reports of suspected sightings of Americans in North Korea.

In addition, a former South Korean officer and prisoner of war says he was urged by both Viet Cong and Cambodian captors to go to North Korea, suggesting that a prisoner transit route had been established.

The CIA memorandum, from March 9, 1988,

is now being studied by the Senate Select mittee on POW-MIA Affairs.

The memo appeared in a heavily cens version of a committee report last year. It dresed to Col. Joseph A. Schlatter, U.S. chief in the Special Office for POW-MA purports to be a summation of reported ings of Americans in North Korea from 19

It lists two reports of the sighting of Americans on the outskirts of Pyongyan lowed by a sentence with all words dele except the words "about 10 military pilo tured in North Vietnam were brought to

The memo also lists a sighting of "as as 11 Caucasians, possibly American pris

## Professor claims YCT intimidates, censors

Continued from Page 1

have political bias, but the professors try to be

Gary Halter, an associate professor of political science, said censorship of any form should not be tolerated in a university environment. This is an attempt to censor and intimi-

supposed to be for the free exchange of ideas. They need to understand that different

doesn't mean wrong," he added. "Maybe they should be called the Young Truth Seekers of

date," he said. "University environment is

Keetch said he feels political bias is getting in the way of the education process at A&M and instead students may be receiving a political indoctrination from some professors, but instructors disagree.

The idea that professors grade on the basis of political bias is astounding," McWhirter "I'd like to see the basis for such claims. McWhirter also said students are entitled to

hear the political positions of the instructor. "Students have a right to get the whole teacher in the classroom," he said. "That obviously means expressing political beliefs and feelings. I am not a machine, I am a person."

ry, said it seems ironic that Keetch said Y simply looking for honesty in education the monitors are observing educators wi announcing themselves.

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My reaction is that anyone is free tol but if they are making judgments, pleased forward," Pierce said. "I'd like to haves honesty from the conservatives, too."

McWhirter said YCT is missing the wh objective of education.

'No knowledge comes without its bias he said. "At our very best that is what

#### Koldus tells of spring break hitchhiking home city to the next. "If we had contined to hitchpleasures, as people do now

Continued from Page 1

and the last that Koldus or Wagner hitchhiked.

In Levi's and T-shirts, the two young buddies, headed north, Chicago-bound, riding with plain folk from small town to small town. It started out as fun that Thursday afternoon in the April Arkansas sun. However, come sunset and a cold front, 150 miles from campus, the two friends bottomed out in Mound City, at the southern tip of Illinois.

"We didn't get far," Koldus says with a laugh. "We had taken the direct but less-traveled route. All the traffic was local rather than get 20-mile hops going from one

"We thought hitchhiking would save us money. Because back then you had to be careful to use money for those things that you really needed. There were no credit cards. Whatever you saved, was what you had."

Chilly and stranded in Mound City, the two young men had had enough of hitchhiking. They rent-ed a room for the night in a small, rustic motel on the highway. The room had one tiny bed, a chest of drawers and a coal-burning stove. Rising early on Friday morning, still exhausted and freezing because the fire had gone out, Koldus and Wagner took the next Greyhound bus destined for

hike, we would never have made it home," Koldus remembers. Back then people did not worry about who they picked up in terms of drug addicts or thieves, but still, even in those days, peoole seldom stopped and picked up hitchhikers after dark. The bus arrived in Chicago and

the two friends parted. Young Koldus finally arrived in Gary, 35 miles east of Chicago, late that night. The next day, Saturday, brought him his favorite foods and catch-up conversations with his family. Easter Sunday brought church services, a festive meal and

"We had as much fun then, if not more fun, with our simple

all their fancy, expensive sures," Koldus says. "We good time, a good time enio people. People enjoy 't more in this day and time, they do people. And the shame because it's with pe that there is a lot of pleasure

Packed down with food pared by mom, young K drove to Chicago in his deep roon, 1937 Chevy to pick i friend, Wagner. Eighteen later, the two young men back in Jonesboro. cross-country trip and their spring break was over.

Dr. Koldus will spend! spring break in Europe with

# A&M fundraiser rakes in \$185 million

Continued from Page 1

"We can take what the founders and former students visualized and turn it into something real," McClure said. "If you can't visualize it, you can't do it."

McClure said having the extra

edge is what separates a good university from a great one, and that is what the campaign can do for

"If education is important to us, if this institution is important to us .. we need to bind together in just cause so A&M will have the extra edge," he said.

"Even though some have disigreed with the growth of the University, growth has put A&M on the path of excellence. A&M must be on the cutting edge, and getting there takes financial resources

McClure said, however, the challenge is not to just keep A&M competitive with universities across the nation, but to keep America's institutions competitive with the rest of the world.

The campaign includes specific goals for each University college, student program and other major units, such as the George Bush Presidential Library.

Some of the major gifts are:
•\$10 million from Walter Koepp, for the use of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

•\$5 million from Leslie L. Appelt, for the Leslie L. Appelt Aggieland Visitor Center in Rudder Tower, and to provide support for the Private Enterprise Research Center, the Division of Student Services and the Development Foundation.

•\$3 million from John and Sara Lindsey to establish two endowed chairs in the College of Liberal Arts. It will also benefit the Memorial Student Center Gallery, the Texas A&M University Press, the Institute of Biosciences and Technology and the George Bush Presidential Library, and will es-tablish a Normandy Scholarship. •\$2.875 million from Madlin

Stevenson for the Companion Animal Geriatric Center in the College of Veterinary Medicine. •\$2 million from Arthur An-

dersen and Andersen Consulting, for the College of Business Administration and the Graduate School of Business. •\$1 million in polling data

from the Gallup Organization to the Center for Presidential Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. The

Center will serve as the official archives for the Gallup Poll.

•\$1 million from E.M. "Manny" Rosenthal to promote advancements in animal science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

•\$1 million from The Vivian L Smith Foundation, to be divided between the Institute of Biosciences and Technology and the new Veterinary Medicine Large Animal Hospital.

There are 21 additional gifts of \$1 million or more, and 125 gifts of \$100,000 or more. Specific goals of the campaign

are: \$100 million for scholarships and graduate fellowships; \$40 million for the Sterling C. Evans Library and \$10 million for the Medical Sciences Library; \$10 million for the Honors Program; \$10 million for the Corps of Cadets, MSC and student leadership programs; \$125 million for faculty chairs and professorships; \$10 million for the Center for Teaching Excellence; \$78 million for individual college and unit programs.
Also, \$7 million for expanded

international programs; \$10 million for the University Press; \$5 million for visual arts programs; \$20 million to enhance research;

\$12 million to enhance comp capabilities; \$5 million for in tional administrative support million for the Association mer Students; and \$33 millio athletics and the Twelfth Foundation.

Donors may give to the Un sity through the campaign in eral ways, including outright of cash, securities or pro pledges; and deferred gifts si insurance policies or life estat

The money raised by the paign does not replace state! ing, which still provides about third of A&M's funding.

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