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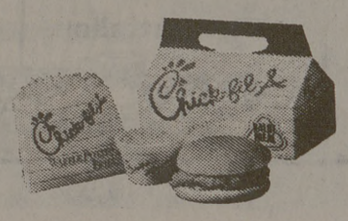

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State orders Texas Water Commission to prevent MERCO sludge dumping

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN— The state attorney general told the Texas Water Commission Tuesday to immediately revoke the permission it gave a company to spread New York City sludge on a West Texas ranch.

The demand comes a week after the water commission imposed a 75-day moratorium on all new and pending applications of sludge, a by-product from waste water treatment plants.

MERCO Joint Venture is spreading the sludge in West Texas and the water commission approved the spreading. The sludge does not meet all New York standards.

Attorney General Dan Morales said in a news release that state regulations prohibit the spreading of out-of-state sewage sludge in Texas if the sludge does not meet the more stringent requirements of the two states involved.

"We have conducted an independent review of the MERCO project and determined that the revocation of its permit is clearly warranted and we advise the commission to do so," Morales said.

Ed Clark, water commission spokesman, said the agency will consider Morales' request.

"The Texas Water Commission is absolutely determined to ensure this project is not a problem for the environment and never threatens the public," Clark said. "If we ever discovered we had issued a registration or any other approval and it was not in accordance with the law and didn't meet the letter of the law then we would solutely take action."

MERCO Joint Venture b spreading sludge in July 130,000-acre ranch on the skirts of Sierra Blanca, abo miles southeast of El Paso.

The company has said sludge will restore native gr to the ranch and tests will be ducted to ensure it poses no ger to the environment. Mo has sued MERCO and the E ronmental Protection Age That lawsuit goes to trial Nov Pecos.

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American, Frenchman win Nobel Prize for inventions

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STOCKHOLM, Sweden— An American won the Nobel Prize in chemistry Wednesday for theories explaining such phenomena as how plants store energy from light, while a Frenchman won the physics award for an invention allowing a closer look into the heart of matter.

Rudolph A. Marcus, 69, of the California Institute of Technology — a Canadian-born naturalized American — was honored for work involving the transfer of electrons between molecules.

Georges Charpak, a Polish-born Frenchman, was cited for his development of elementary particle detectors.

Both discoveries were made in the 1960s and are used by researchers worldwide.

Charpak, 68, suspected a prank when the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences called to say he had won the $1.2 million prize.

Not until an academy member who had met Charpak took the phone and confirmed the prize did he believe it.

Charpak (pronounced Shahr-PUCK) told The Associated Press he had not expected to win the Nobel Prize for "a little thing" he invented 24 years ago.

Since 1959 he has worked at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, near Geneva, Switzerland.

His invention, the multiwire proportional chamber, "revolutionized the way to register elementary particle reactions" allowing researchers to see in much more detail the behavior of the smallest particles of matter, academy member Per Carlson said.

The detector also made it possible to monitor reactions on computer screens and track down single particle trajectories within a pattern of a billion reactions.

Earlier equipment only registered the occurrence of particle reactions without revealing where they happened.

Carlson said Charpak's invention opened the door to some of the inner secrets of matter.

"Today practically every experiment in particle physics uses some type of track detector that has been developed from Charpak's original invention," the academy said.

Germany lowers limi on incoming refugees

Coalition to propose immigration la

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BONN, Germany— In a move to stem violence and outcry over a heavy influx of immigrants, leaders of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's three-party coalition government agreed Tuesday to change the constitution to limit the number of refugees.

Under a proposal to be introduced in Parliament on Thursday, the coalition also said the country must consider adopting its first immigration law. Germany is burdened with supporting hundreds of thousands who fled ex-Yugoslav republics, the former Soviet bloc and the Third World while it struggles to revamp post-Communist eastern Germany.

"We want Germany to remain a foreigner-friendly country," the coalition said in obvious reference to the rise in right-wing attacks on foreigners that have left over a dozen people dead since unification two years ago.

The coalition promised to respect international conventions on accepting political refugees, but proposed new regulations naming countries where political persecution would no longer be considered a threat, such as Poland and Romania.

The plan also effectively wo require refugees who come Germany via a "safe third cou try" to return to that country, a would refuse asylum to th guilty of non-political crimes their home country.

War refugees would be allow to remain in Germany for the d ration of fighting in their hom land, in a concession to those fle ing former Yugoslavia.

More than 300,000 people ha sought asylum in Germany in t first nine months of 1992, and o cials expect the year's total reach 450,000. The governme contends most come for econo reasons. Less than 5 percent of a plicants are judged to be genu refugees. The decision to reva immigration policy came after crisis session Tuesday morning Kohl's conservative coalition th includes his Christian Democra the Christian Social Union and t Free Democrats.

They announced agreement changing the constitution's bl ket guarantee of political asylum

A two-thirds majority is quired to approve a change in constitution, so any plan wo have to have support from the position Social Democrats.

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U-Act creates mock university at retrea

By TANYA WILLIAMS
Reporter of THE BATTALION

Over the past weekend, 41 student leaders enrolled, took classes and earned their degrees from a university other than Texas A&M. At U-ACT University, students learned a lesson in diversity.

U-ACT, which stands for University Awareness for Cultural Togetherness, conducted its third annual student leader retreat at Brazos Valley Camp in Snook, Texas.

The camp, which was transformed by the 10 member U-ACT core committee into a fictitious university, mirrored any university in enrollment statistics.

Color groups, representing four different cultures and their hierarchical levels in society and on college campuses, were given different characteristics by the staff.

Each retreat participant was given a color, the descriptions of their culture, and the freedom to develop any extra characteristics that the color group wanted.

What each group did not realize was that other color groups, or cultures, were given stereotypes and misconceptions, much like the ones held today against many cultures.

These stereotypes caused dissension when later that evening, the cultures combined to create student organizations at U-ACT University.

Eventually, the cultures found that they must work together to get any work done in their organizations.

The preconceived notions held against any group were completely, in most cases, unfounded.

This activity, created by the U-ACT staff, enlightened many participants about racism and stereotyping in a university and in organizations.

"The purpose of the exercise was to put many in the position of experiencing many aspects of racism on a university setting," said Erin Taylor, a senior political science major and U-ACT core committee member. "It forced people to look at themselves and reevaluate their beliefs, and realize we're all victims and perpetrators of several forms of discrimination."

"The retreat helped me realize that there are a lot of diversity issues that aren't addressed which we overlook in our organization," said Aimee Barefoot, a senior accounting major and member of the Class of '93 Council. "It's given me a chance to plan some goals for our organization and hopefully make a difference.

"It was needed because some people don't realize that there are problems with their organizations, I never would have thought that Class Council could be different," Barefoot added. "But, we realized some problems th we have and we're going to try to chan them."

Edward Munoz, Jr., who is a member S.T.E.P. O.N.E. (Starting to Eliminate Preju Offering New Experiences) which promot racial understanding, also felt the retreat o fered an understanding of different cultures

"I believe it was an awakening to quite few people, and that's something we need Munoz said. "The winds of change are up us. Multiculturalism is the way of the future

"I learned to start seeing people with open mind, and not colorwise; to be unde standing and to be patient and to listen to pe ples views," said Connie Smith, a senior buil ing construction major.

The retreat also offered networking oppo tunities for student leaders. Recently-elect freshman class president, Todd Rice, said t offered him the chance to interact with oth student leaders.

"As a freshman, I haven't gotten a chance interact with a lot other people," Rice sa "This retreat weekend allowed me the cha to understand other organizations on cam and interact with people of other cultures understand them."

For information about programming p sented by U-ACT, please call the Departm of Multicultural Services at 845-4551.

NUTRITION AND FITNESS SEMINAR

If you are trying to change your body, you should see a difference every four weeks. If you don't, more than likely you are spending wasted hours exercising and/or dieting. Whether you work in an office or are a full time athlete, everyone reaches a plateau when trying to lose fat or gain muscle, or both.

So what do you do?

There is only one alternative and that is to create a healthy lifestyle which will enable you to obtain your ultimate fitness objective.

Neal Spruce, world renowned Nutrition Expert will arrive from Los Angeles to conduct the seminar at Gold's Gym in College Station on Thursday, October 15. Neal has appeared on several talk shows including Jenny Jones and Good Morning America. He has written articles for virtually every fitness magazine (including *Shape*, *Flex*, and *Muscle and Fitness*) and has lectured all over the world. Neal currently works with movie and T.V. celebrities, top fashion models, professional athletes, and pro bodybuilders.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

At the Nutrition and Fitness Seminar, you will receive all the information you need to reach whatever goal you desire. The seminar will provide factual information including:

1. How the human body works in response to nutrition and exercise.
2. How to gain muscle while losing body fat.
3. How to lose weight without rebounding.
4. Reasons why conventional diets fail.

Every workout should make a difference. However, a certain knowledge of nutrition and exercise is required for each individual to be able to continually make the desired alterations in appearance and body composition.

Each person is unique in regards to age, weight, height, sex, activity level, body composition (% fat, % muscle), rate of metabolism and rate of oxidation. At the seminar you will receive all of the information that you need to reach your personal fitness goals in the fastest way possible. ALLOWING YOU TO SEE A CHANGE EVERY 3-4 WEEKS.

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Therefore, more than anywhere else in the world, you need to be at this seminar.

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TIME: 8:00 p.m.
PLACE: Gold's Gym
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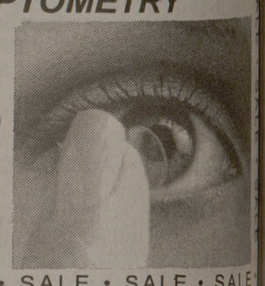

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