

STATE & LOCAL

National physical therapy week begins

By KIRK COLE

Special to THE BATTALION

The week of Oct. 26 - 30 is National Physical Therapy Week sponsored by the American Physical Therapy Association. The purpose of the week is to create awareness of the profession.

The physical therapy profession, along with Speech and Occupational Therapy, has become one of the largest growing job fields in the nation. The job opportunities are numerous and available world-wide. Physical therapy consists of many specialty areas, such as pediatrics, geriatrics, acute care, sports medicine, cardiac rehabilitation, wound care and Neurological Rehabilitation. Mimi Abernathy, physical therapist at the A.P.

Beutel Health Center, describes the profession as a "wonderfully rewarding occupation, not only financially, but especially psychologically."

Students interested in physical therapy are required to complete 60-90 hours of prerequisites at an accredited college or university prior to acceptance into an actual physical therapy program. The exact number of hours depends on the school and the state.

Currently, the state of Texas has eight physical therapy programs. Although several Bachelor of Science level, most are moving to the Masters level, most are moving to the Masters level. Both master's and bachelor's level physical therapy graduates are required to take a licensing exam.

The A.P. Beutel Health Center has an active physical therapy department providing preventative and rehabilitative services for conditions that affect the muscles, bones and joints.

The health center employs two licensed physical therapists who see patients upon referral by staff or an outside physician. Treatment programs include patient education and therapy to promote healing through various exercises, hot/cold methods, hydrotherapy and electrical stimulation. Services are designed to restore or improve joint motion, muscle strength, coordination and endurance.

The services are also designed to relieve pain and improve overall functioning in problem areas.

Clean Air Act on hold until 1995 in Texas

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Auto-emission inspections designed to help curb air pollution in the nation's most congested areas are being delayed in Texas until January 1995, further postponing the effects of the Clean Air Act, environmentalists say.

The Texas Air Control Board, designing the program to comply with the federal Clean Air Act, first discussed launching the new inspections on Jan. 1, 1994, for all 1968-model and newer vehicles fueled by gasoline.

Later, the board proposed a start-up date six months later. Now, state officials say the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has told them informally that they probably will be allowed to delay the new program until Jan. 1, 1995. In addition, EPA officials have indicated the state may start the program with 30 percent of the affected vehicles and phasing in the rest during the year.

Kirk Watson, chairman of the Air Control Board, said he "would support some sort of phase-in," if that is allowed by federal regulations to be published on Nov. 6.

One possibility might be requiring the new inspections first for government agencies' vehicle fleets, Watson said, before extending the program to the general public.

Susan Rieff, an aide to Gov. Ann Richards on environmental issues, said Richards wants Texas to have the authority to phase in the program.

Environmentalists say the delays could threaten the program designed to eliminate as much as a tenth of the combined smog-forming pollution from area industries, vehicles and other sources.

Another concern about a possible delay in the inspection program is whether Houston could meet the Clean Air Act's mandate for an overall 15 percent reduction in certain smog-forming pollutants here by 1996.



Michelle McDaniel, 6, of College Station, touches the whiskers of a mechanical replica of a Smilodon at the Brazos Valley Museum on Sunday. The Smilodon, which roamed the

Brazos Valley during the last Ice Age 10,000 years ago, is part of the Dimanation display at the museum. McDaniel says she would like to have him (the Smilodon) as pet if he didn't bite.

DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

Police Beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department between Oct. 16 - Oct. 22.

Misdemeanor Theft

- Sbsa Dining Center - a blue and grey Huffy Nova 10-speed bicycle was stolen.
- Neeley Hall - a gold and silver Seiko wristwatch, \$15 in cash and other assorted property were stolen from a second floor room.
- Parking Area 42 - an automotive immobilizing device was stolen from the parking area. It had been attached to a 1983 GMC pickup truck parked in the lot without authorization on 10/7/92.
- Underwood Hall - a dark, gray 15-speed Murray mountain bike was stolen from the bicycle rack on 10/19/92.
- Halbouty Building - a gray, purple and black Huffy Stone Mountain 18-speed bicycle was stolen.
- Heidenfels Hall - a green, unknown brand, 10-speed bicycle was stolen.
- Engineering-Physics Building - a blue, unknown brand, 10-speed bicycle was stolen.
- Kiest Hall - a light blue, GT Timberline, 18-speed mountain bicycle was stolen.
- Avenue A Apartments - a black, Murray children's bicycle was stolen.

Burglary of Vehicle

- Parking Area 40 - a grey vinyl cassette case containing 37 cassette tapes was stolen from the victim's 1988 Ford pickup truck by someone who broke out the rear sliding glass window to gain entry.
- Parking Area 64 - ten vehicles were damaged by someone who broke out at least one window in each car to gain entry. Two of the victim's reported property stolen. A Whistler radar was stolen from a 1989 Pontiac. A JVC stereo, Kenwood amplifier, 15 cassette tapes, and four speakers were stolen from a 1990 Honda.
- Parking Area 61 - the driver's side window of the victim's Dodge Dakota pickup truck was broken out and a set of jumper cables, a

pair of SAS white leather shoes, a frame jack, an entrenching tool, six towels and four skeins of yarn were stolen.

Minor in Possession of Alcoholic Beverage

•Five individuals received citations at various campus locations between Oct. 16 and Oct. 17th.

Criminal Mischief

- Dormitory 2 - while the resident was sleeping, an unknown person entered his room. The victim was awakened by the noise of the individual as he rummaged through the contents of the room. When challenged by the victim, the subject fled the room.
- Schuhmacher Hall - someone broke the plastic cover above the change receiver on a Dr. Pepper soft drink vending machine.
- Kleberg Building - someone damaged a fourth floor door frame in a failed attempt to pry open.

Assault

•Hobby Hall - a physical confrontation between two friends on the fourth floor of Hobby Hall ended when one struck the other with a bottle of salad dressing. The victim filed criminal charges.

Harassment

•Underwood Hall - the victim was recipient of an annoying and threatening phone call.

Official Oppression

•Easterwood Airport Control Tower - the victim is considering formal charges against a supervisor for harassment at the workplace.

Burglary of Habitation

- Underwood Hall - since the semester began, someone has removed a pair of brown leather shoes, \$10 in cash, a navy blue print dress, and a pair of Gap jeans from the victim's room.
- Krueger Hall - two student identification cards were stolen from the victim's residence hall room.

Midland Woman first American, study says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Not much was left of the Midland Woman, but a geologist has used a revamped technique to confirm that she was the oldest American — ever.

Like a modern-day Sherlock Holmes, Curtis R. McKinney examined fragments of a skull, ribs and other bones from a site near Midland to find clues to their ages.

Using a technique called alpha spectrometry, which calculates

age based on the ratio between uranium 234 and thorium 230, McKinney concluded the remains are about 11,600 years old. McKinney plans to present findings Monday at the Geological Society of America annual meeting in Cincinnati.

Michael B. Collins, a research fellow at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas, welcomed continued research on the Midland Woman, but cautioned against easy acceptance of McKinney's conclusion.

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