

## A&M takes part in breast cancer study

By MACK HARRISON

Reporter of THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M College of Medicine and the Scott & White Clinic have attracted 71 women from Central Texas as part of a nationwide study of a drug which may prevent breast cancer, an A&M researcher said Tuesday in Temple.

Dr. Charles Geyer, an assistant professor for internal medicine at A&M, said the drug Tamoxifen is already used to prevent secondary breast cancer in women with the disease. He said the drug decreases the chance

of a second cancer by 40 to 50 percent.

Geyer, a staff physician at Scott & White Clinic in Temple, said the drug has other possible benefits, such as preventing osteoporosis and reducing cholesterol levels.

However, some doctors are concerned about the drug's side-effects. Geyer, however, said the study is necessary.

"(Tamoxifen) may be an important agent for women's health overall," Geyer said. "We need to do a properly-done trial and find out the side-effects. It is a safe drug, but all drugs have side-effects."

The Breast Cancer Prevention Trial has

garnered 2,762 participants nationwide. Scott & White/TAMU College of Medicine is one of four institutions in Texas to join in the study.

Participants in the study are carefully screened before they begin taking the drug. Women considered for the study must fill out a questionnaire detailing their medical history and meet with Geyer four times before they start the study.

"There are a lot of built-in safety mechanisms in the (Tamoxifen) trial," Geyer said. "These women are being watched very closely, closer than anyone else in the country in health care."

## Richards says sex ed leads to wise choices

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Texans must realize the need to educate young people about sex so they can make intelligent choices, Gov. Ann Richards told a summit on preventing teen-age pregnancy Tuesday.

"I for one have never been able to understand those who would propose ignorance of sexuality as a solution," Richards said, to applause from those at the conference.

"It is truly mystifying to me when I hear the argument that an informed teen-ager is somehow going to become... promiscuous. I think it is absolutely absurd," she said. "Our children must know what is required to make wise choices about their lives."

Asked about a proposal to have age-appropriate human sexuality education in schools starting in kindergarten, Richards said she hadn't read a specific plan but asked, "Frankly, what are the fears?" about beginning it that early.



Richards

She said there are a number of children "who are in the room who are afraid to talk, who are afraid to tell their parents what's going on."

"I know that you are going to have to educate these kids about sex... They're being educated anyway. They're educated in the movie theaters, they're educated on the TV, they're educated in advertisements and magazines," she said.

But the idea of sex education in kindergarten was described as "absurd" by Price, president of Texas United for Life.

He contended the "mainstream, pro-life, pro-family organizations" had been largely left out of the summit.

"There are about 10 people who believe in abstinence-based sex education in the room," he said. There were 100 summit delegates.

"The rest of them believe in the whole Planned Parenthood program, the pass-out-the-condoms routine that has already been decided upon before this thing ever began," Price said.

Texas ranks second in California in total births to women age 19 and younger, according to figures from the Texas Summit on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention. In 1991, 64,581 teen-agers age 13 to 19 became pregnant.

## Gunman kills one, injures in HEB store

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — One man was killed and another seriously wounded Tuesday afternoon when one of their co-workers at a grocery warehouse walked into a freezer area and opened fire, authorities said.

The gunman surrendered to authorities shortly after entering the HEB Food Stores warehouse and firing at least 15 or 20 shots with a 9mm automatic weapon and a .22-caliber handgun, said San Antonio homicide Lt. Larry Birney.

Roger Martinez, 24, was charged with one count of murder and one count of attempted murder late Tuesday, according to San Antonio police. Martinez, an HEB employee was being taken to the Bexar County Jail where he will stay pending a \$150,000 bond, the city's magistrate office said.

One victim, a 25-year-old man whose name was not immediately released, was killed instantly, Birney said. Another man, 28-year-old Jose Galvan, was grazed in the head and wounded in the shoulder and was still being treated at Northeast Baptist Hospital.



SANDRA M. ALVARADO/The Battalion

Darrick Haines (left) and Chuck Nowicki practice their jumps on Mt. Aggie during their intermediate skiing class. Haines and Nowicki are taking the class to polish their style for the season. "If you can ski Mt. Aggie aggressively," they said, "you can ski just about any terrain."

## Grand jury issues indictment despite 'condom defense'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — A rape suspect who was cleared by one grand jury in a case where the woman asked him to wear a condom was indicted Tuesday by another grand jury.

"We think that the right message is

being sent now," said Travis County District Attorney Ronald Earle.

The grand jury indicted Joel Rene Valdez, 27, on charges of aggravated sexual assault and burglary with intent to commit aggravated sexual assault, Earle said.

The charges carry a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted. The grand jury

recommended that bond be set at \$100,000. Valdez remained in the Travis County Jail Tuesday.

It was the second grand jury to consider the case. The refusal of an earlier panel last month to indict the man sparked protests from various groups.

Earle said his office didn't believe justice

had been served when that grand jury failed to indict the man.

He said there was speculation because the woman asked him to wear a condom the grand jury thought consented.

"The issue here is survival, not alive," he said.

the aggie players association presents

by Eric Bogosian

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