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1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30

TRUE LIES (R)
1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50

THE CLIENT (PG-13)
1:15 4:15 7:15 9:40

Atom smasher to smash cancer

State plans to convert failed project into treatment center

DALLAS (AP) — Buoyed by the hope that "you can't keep good things down," Dr. David Pistenmaa is working on a proposal to turn part of the failed super collider into a high-tech cancer treatment center.

Pistenmaa, professor of radiation oncology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, moved to Texas in 1992 to be near the super collider, which was under construction near Waxahachie. He left Washington, D.C. with the understanding that he would be able to take advantage of the massive physics project's linear accelerator for medical purposes.

"When the super collider was canceled, we thought all hope

was lost," he said. "I thought that was it. But there were determined people in Texas."

Since Congress canceled the \$11 billion atom smasher in October, negotiators for the federal government and the state of Texas have been discussing how to repay Texas for its \$539 million contribution to the failed project.

On Monday the Texas National Research Laboratory Commission, which oversees Texas' investment in the super collider, approved a settlement with the Department of Energy.

The settlement would give Texas \$145 million in cash plus title to the buildings and land on the super collider's sprawling campus.

Texas could receive another \$65 million if the state's plan to turn the collider's partially completed linear accelerator into a proton-beam cancer therapy center is approved under peer review.

Pistenmaa is the medical director for a team of scientists analyzing the feasibility of the project. A report is due to the Department of Energy in late September.

Proton therapy is a form of radiation therapy available to treat cancer and other diseases. In some ways it is similar to X-ray treatment, but it is much more precise.

Because of the proton beam's precision, radiation oncologists can give much higher doses of radiation to destroy localized tumors. It will result in less damage to surrounding healthy tissue and fewer side effects.

The beam "stops within mil-

limeters of the place that you designate ... so that if you're treating a tumor from several directions, all of the tissues beyond the tumor get no radiation," Pistenmaa said.

In contrast, a high-energy ray beam goes through the body and treats everything it passes through.

Proton-beam therapy is being used for treating tumors that are difficult to reach because of the sensitivity of adjacent tissues. He cited tumors of the eye, the base of skull and adjacent spinal cord, as well as pituitary tumors and pediatric brain tumors, as examples.

A Texas treatment facility which Pistenmaa says could open no earlier than 1997, would be only the third in the country. Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif., and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston already offer proton-beam treatment.

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Card

Continued from Page 1

students during new student conferences this summer. An additional 1,300 cards have been produced for students who did not sign up for the athletic sports option when registering.

Kotch said the department is expecting students to request

the cards when they return in the fall.

"We think we're going to have quite long lines the first week of school," he said.

John Gerik, a junior accounting major, said the cards will be beneficial for students.

"This is a really good idea," Gerik said.

"I've encountered problems in the past when friends have taken my I.D. to get football tickets. This is definitely going to make getting tickets easier on students."

Health

Continued from Page 1

able to reduce their health benefit costs by encouraging employees to reduce their body fat content and to maintain better cardiovascular health.

Bonnie Corbett, Texas A&M program coordinator for Health Promotions, said the department on campus has several weight management programs available to University employees.

"The available programs educate, train and encourage the efforts of employees to take bet-

ter care of themselves," Corbett said. "They focus on five areas which include general health screening, health education, behavior modification, policy and insurance benefits."

"There are 14 different classes to choose from," she said, "with most of them starting in September."

Brizzolara noted that, statistically, the 413 employees whose health claims were analyzed for the study are not the same as the rest of the Texas A&M employee population.

"The estimates may be a little high," he said, "but there's not too much question that it's still a substantial portion of claims."

Firefighters

Continued from Page 1

Page said.

Page said this "hands-on" training is essential in properly preparing firefighters.

Drills are conducted on Brayton Training Field, and classes take place in classrooms on or near the Texas A&M campus.

The program, established in 1980 by the Texas Legislature, was created specifically to train smaller fire departments.

"A lot of the smaller towns just don't have the facilities needed to offer this kind of training to its firefighters," Page said.

Page said the program is virtually self-sufficient.

"The majority of our funds come from the tuition fees," Page said.

State funding for the program has been at a standstill for years, he said, but funds in the College Station have not.

Bryan-College Station firefighters to the area. Many establishments offer special events for the firefighters to offer discount coupons.

Debbie Kelley, manager of Rother's Bookstore, said a school boosts what would otherwise be a slow time for sales in the Brazos Valley.

"Without them in July, I think it would be really depressing," she said.

Kelley said noticeable gains have made firefighters welcome guests to businesses in the community.

Noise

Continued from Page 1

the University Police Department, said the department is notified when the engine is about to be turned on.

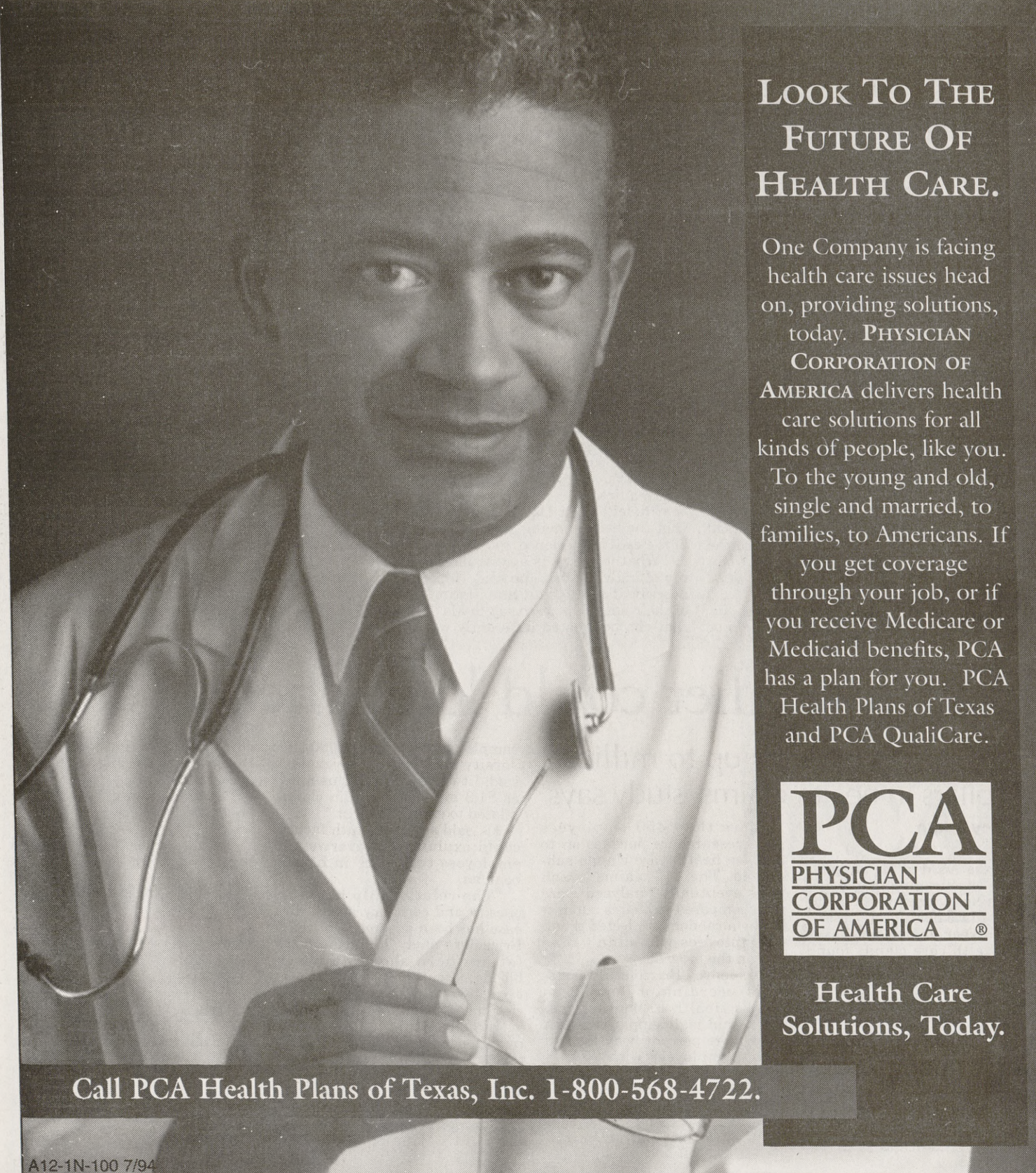
"Although we haven't received any complaints, we always get a phone call from the lab to let us know what is going

on in case someone is alarmed," he said.

"Several officers have heard the noise," Perry said. "It's off sounding like gun shots, then muddles down to a foghorn sound."

Grillo said the engine causing the loud noise is a large piece of equipment.

"The engine is made to fit a jet," he said, "but it is actually small enough to fit on a board."



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