son of angioplasty and clot-dissolving drugs eart attack victims has ended in a draw. he study, performed on more than 3,000 attack patient arrives at the emergency room. ents, found no difference in

death rate after treatment the rival approaches at orry community hospitals. ne issue of which is better

been a hot topic among the n's heart specialists, and the report is unlikely to settle

uring the past decade, cloting drugs such as TPA ged as the front-line treatt for heart attacks, used on ut 180,000 Americans at a of \$350 million annually. If n soon enough, they can kup blockages in the heart's arteries, pre-

ing death or permanent damage. ore recently, an approach called primary plasty has challenged the dominance of e drugs. Angioplasty is already a mainstay eatment for clogged heart arteries. Docpush a catheter into the artery and inflate balloon that squeezes open the blocko restore blood flow.

In its new application, some doctors are tive and good," Every said. "Right now, a lot of doctors and hospitals feel they should be doperforming angioplasty as an emergency procedure within an hour or two after the heart

Small studies at hospitals that specialize in this ap-"The bottom line is proach found that heart attack patients who undergo angioplasty have a 40 percent lower death rate than those who receive clot busters. However, many experts wondered if it would work so well at hospitals where doctors do the proce-

dure less often. The latest study, led by Dr. Nathan R. Every and colleagues from the University of Washington, was

conducted at 19 Seattle-area hospitals, mostly smaller, community hospitals. It was published in today's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Fewer than 20 percent of U.S. hospitals perform angioplasties, and fewer still are set up to do them on an emergency basis.

The bottom line is that in community hospitals, both of these treatments are effecing primary angioplasty because it saves more lives. I'm not sure that's true."

The doctors followed 1,050 heart attack patients who got primary angioplasty and 2,095 who received clot-dissolving drugs between 1988 and 1994. The death rate during recovery in the hospital was 5.6 percent for those getting the drugs and 5.5 percent for the angioplasty patients.

The clot-dissolving drugs did hold one significant advantage: The cost of treatment was about \$3,000 lower over three years of follow-up.

Dr. Cindy L. Grines of William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., an advocate of primary angioplasty, contends the approach has overwhelming advantages.

Despite the latest study results, she said in an accompanying analysis in the journal, heart attack patients getting angioplasty are less likely to suffer strokes and new heart attacks or to die.

Drs. Richard A. Lange and L. David Hillis of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center argued that "the preferred treatment is the one that can be applied more quickly, safely and expertly."

And for most patients, they said, that is clot-dissolving drugs.

MSC Film Society Now Showing Friday, Oct. 25 7:00 & 9:30pm A Clockwork Orange Saturday, Oct. 26 9:30pm The Rock Sunday, Oct. 27 2:00pm Persona lickets are \$3.00. All films shown in Rudder Theatre Complex. Questions? Call the Aggie Cinema Hotline (847-8478). Lersons with special needs call 845-1515 within 3 days of the film

Website: http://films.tamu.edu



regnant women's hormones kill AIDS-related cancer

Researchers found that hormones injected into Kaposi's sarcoma tumors make the cancer isappear.

BOSTON (AP) — The chance overy that some pregnant lab e are resistant to Kaposi's sarco-, a form of cancer seen almost usively among AIDS patients, yielded a promising new treatt for the disease

he treatment involves a hore derived from the urine of nant women. Researchers d that injections directly the tumor often make the er disappear.

he hormone triggers the cancells to commit suicide, algh exactly how it works reas a mystery.

an important finding," said othony Fauci, head of the Na-

ducted

Richardson

id Riedl

n Riels

Robertson

in Salinas

k Santos

Schmedthor

& Schwiff

e Seele

y Smith

Sparkman

her Sulliv

7aylor

Thomas

en Thomas

d Veach

Washbur

nt Zipp

343-1227

PHYS

7-11 PM

tional Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "It certainly has a of Medicine. dramatic effect and needs to be aggressively pursued.'

that in community

hospitals, both of

these treatments

Dr. Nathan R. Every

University of Washington

are effective

and good."

Kaposi's sarcoma is a form of skin cancer that is extremely rare except among AIDS patients, especially homosexuals, striking between 15 percent and 30 percent. The disease can be fatal and causes purplish blotches.

Researchers working with AIDS pioneer Robert Gallo, now at the Institute of Human Virology at the University of Maryland, discovered that an inbred strain of hairless mice, which are ordinarily susceptible to all sorts of cancer, could not be induced to get Kaposi's sarcoma if they were pregnant.

Eventually the researchers found that chorionic gonadotropin, a hormone made early in pregnancy by the human placenta, seemed to stop the cancer in the test tube.

Next, Dr. Parkash S. Gill and colleagues from the University of Southern California tested the treatment on 36 patients. They reported their results in Thursday's

issue of the New England Journal

They tried four commercial varieties and found that one made by Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories worked best. Cancerous spots went away completely in 10 of 12 patients who got the highest doses, although it is unclear whether the lesions will come back

Currently, Kaposi's sarcoma is treated with radiation and chemotherapy, which carry unpleasant side effects. In contrast, chorionic gonadotropin actually makes patients feel better.

"I have never used a drug before that has side effects that patients actually like," Gill said. "Some gain weight, have improved endurance, can lift more weight and have a feeling of well-being.

Gill said it costs about \$150 to treat one spot of cancer, and the approach is suitable for those with up to 10 or so cancerous outbreaks. Some patients have much more extensive cancer, involving even hundreds of tumors.

Researchers are now testing

bloodstream injections of the hormone to see if it stops Kaposi's sarcoma that has spread through the body. While not ready to release those results yet, Gallo hinted, 'There is an important future for this approach."

Also under way are studies of the hormone as a treatment for breast and prostate cancer, as well as AIDS itself.

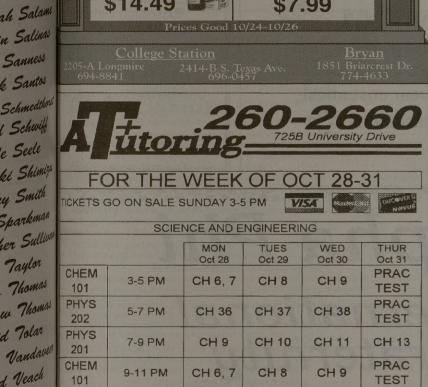
A major goal of research is to find exactly what body chemical is at work. Commercial preparations of the substance contain many other proteins besides chorionic gonadotropin, and researchers suspect that something else - perhaps a broken-down remnant of the hormone - is actually what stops the cancer.

Dr. Susan E. Krown of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York recommended more study before doctors use the treatment routinely.

"Should everyone be injecting their patients' KS lesions based on No," she said. "Does it have interesting potential? Yes."







BUSINESS ACCT 229 BEGINS NOV 4TH ACCT 230 BEGINS NOV 11TH ACCT 209 BEGINS NOV 11TH FINC 341 BEGINS NOV 11TH

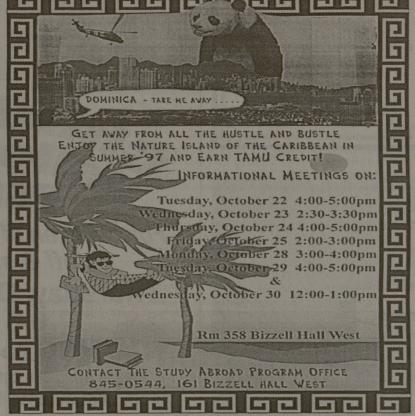
CH 26.

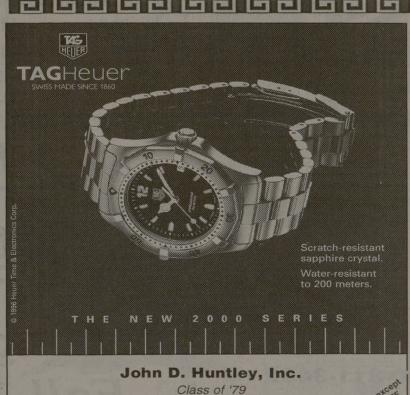
27, 28

TUES Oct 29

CH 29.

PRAC





Class of '79

313 B South College Avenue College Station, TX 77840 (409) 846-8916

Now You Can Drive To Italy In Less Than 10 Minutes

Welcome To The Vintage House Trattoria at Messina Hof.

You're sitting in a small, family-owned eatery on a small family-owned Estate. A soft breeze gently caresses the sea of grapevines...swaying in natural harmony.

Authentic Italian food so good you'll want to go home and paint your ceiling.

The pastel sunlight streams in through tall, stained-glass windows. The green clear lake mirrors the perfect sky. The large white cranes seem to shimmer in the reflected light.

Fresh. Gourmet. Handmade. Homemade. Casual.

You sip a superb glass of wine, made close by. Your spirits soar. Your palate rejoices. You've found the Mediterrean...the Southern coast of Italy...and you can drive here in less than ten minutes.

Open for lunch 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays - Sundays and open for dinner on Friday and Saturday evenings by reservation.

This is how it should be. This is how it is. The Vintage House Trattoria at Messina Hof.

(409) 778-9463

(Reservations not required for lunch.)