## BINATION & LOCAL



## Human cloning proposals trigger outcry from anti-abortion groups

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposal to allow lab experiments on human cloning but forbid the actual replication of a person drew immediate outcries Wednesday from antiabortion groups, who say that would permit "grave evils."

However, the partial-cloning recommendation from a federal advisory panel brought praise from biotechnology groups, who say it would allow valuable research while essentially calling a timeout on efforts to actually make cloned humans.

The panel, the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, meets Saturday to draw up final recommenda-

This means it is OK to clone as long as you kill."

John Cavanaugh-O'Keefe **Director, American Bioethics Advisory Commission** 

tions for President Clinton on the stance the federal government should take on human cloning.

Despite a basic consensus, members still disagree on many details of their recommendations, said one member of the advisory group, who spoke on condition of anonymity. He said those differences may not be re-

Partly cloudy

High: 94

Low: 72°

solved until Saturday. At the White House, the Clinton administration declined comment until the commission issues its fi-

nal report. Cloning became an issue of government concern after a Scottish scientist cloned a sheep, named Dolly, from cells taken from adult sheep. The experiment was the first to successfully clone a genetic duplicate individual from an adult mammal. The effort's success prompted a call for legislation to forbid human cloning. Clinton asked Congress to wait on

considering cloning laws until the group of scientists and ethicists could study the issue. Although final points remain unresolved, a consensus of the 18member group will call for laws to

forbid human replication through cloning, but to not address experimentation with cloned human cells that go no further than a laboratory dish, said the panel member.

The group's position means that research could continue on the "Dolly technique," the panel member said — research in which a human embryo is made from the nucleus of a mature cell joined in a lab dish with a human egg without its nucleus. However, such embryos could not then be placed into a woman's womb for development into a baby.

Such a recommendation by the commission permits "two separate grave evils," said John Cavanaugh-O'Keefe, director of the American Bioethics Advisory Commission, a part of the American Life League Inc. anti-abortion group.

## WHAT THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL AGREES ON:

Thursday • June 5, 1997<sub>ht</sub>

Human cloning that lead to the birth of a child should be strictly forbid-den in all U.S. labs, both private and public.

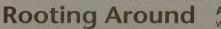
Human embryo research, including cloning re-search, that stops short of producing a child should not be addressed by fed eral law. But the morato rium on federal money for such embryo researd would continue.

The first, he said, was the crea in a lab of a cloned human embr the second was to prohibit impla tion and development of the emb which eventually would be killed. "This means it is OK to clone

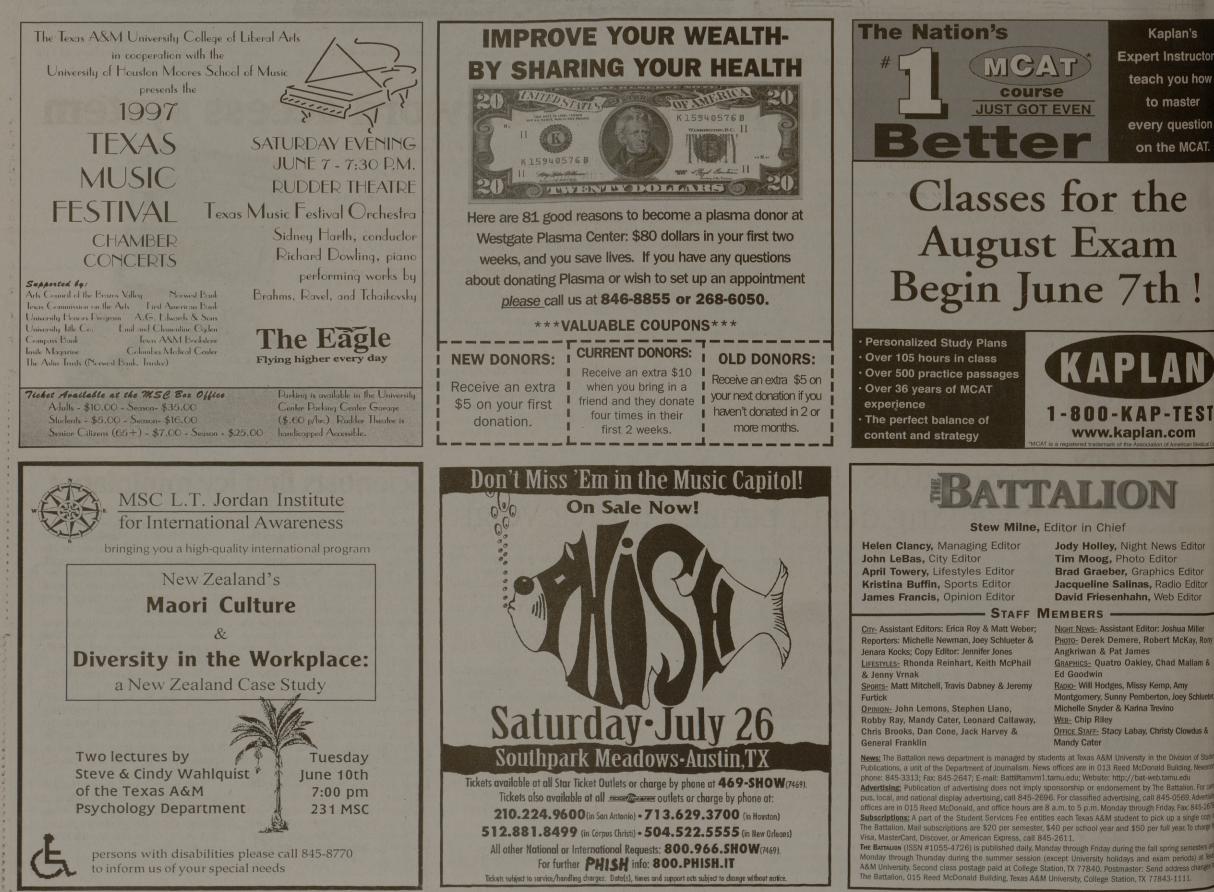
long as you kill," he said. His gro considers any human embryo to a human, he said. But Carl Feldbaum, president

the Biotechnology Industry Organ zation, which includes 700 com nies, applauded the proposed re

"What we had hoped is that the commission will draw a bright lin distinguishing between whole h man research and research which uses only tissue that has bee cloned," he said.



PHOTOGRAPH: Tim Moog A.C. Mitchell, a landscape maintenance worker of four years, removes weeds from the landscape in front of A&M's main entrance.





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