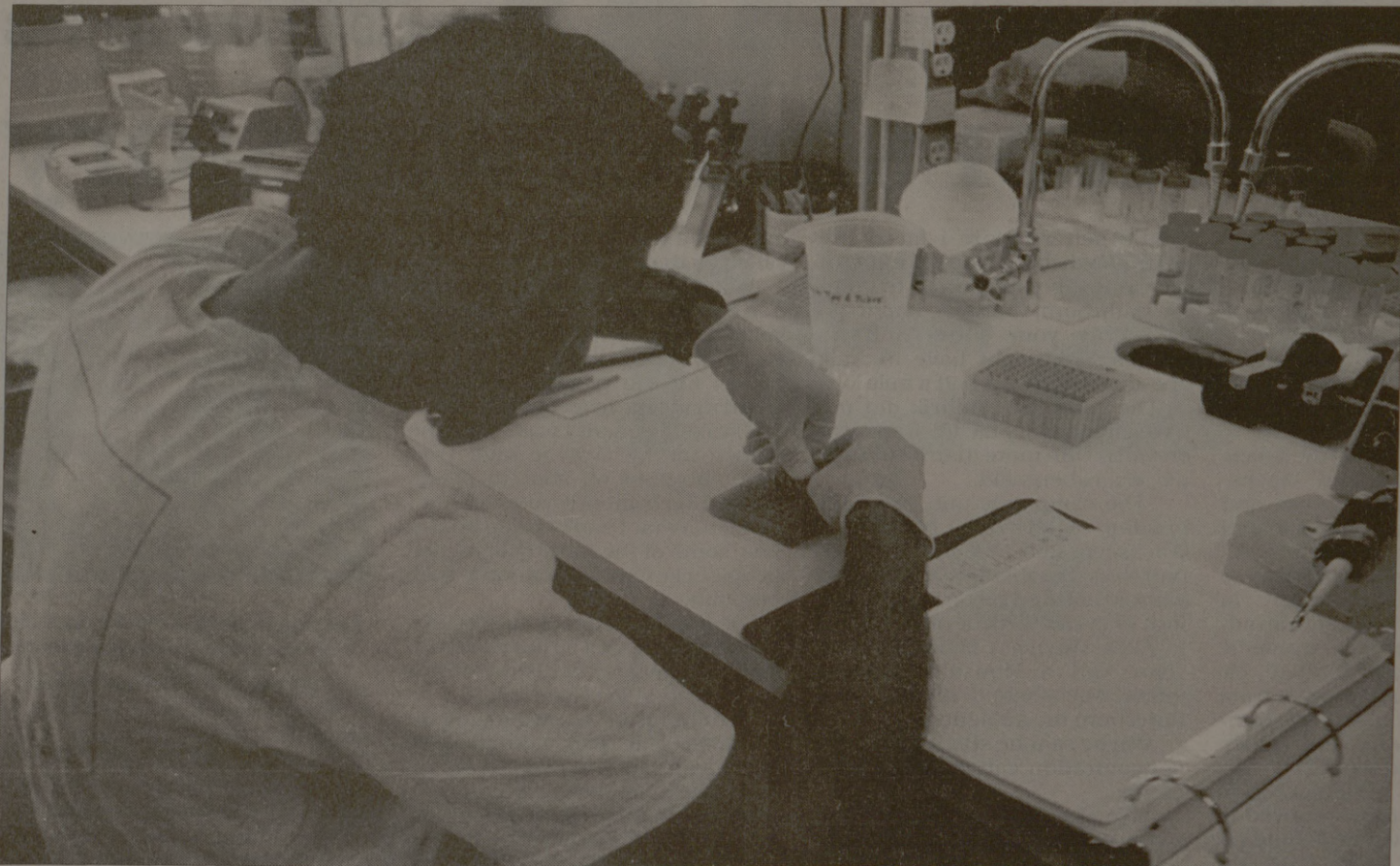


Little shop of horrors



R. Varma Penmetsa, a genetics graduate student, performs a research experiment on how a plant contributes to symbiotic nitrogen fixation for the department of plant pathology Tuesday. *JAKE SCHRICHLING/THE BATTALION*

Convicted Texas teen be executed in Huntsville

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Seventeen-year-old Joseph Cannon already was no stranger to trouble when Anne Walsh, a San Antonio attorney whose brother had represented Cannon, agreed to let him live at her home in September 1977 while on probation for burglary.

Walsh, a mother of eight, was dead a few days later — fatally shot by Cannon, who found a gun in her home.

On Wednesday, Cannon is scheduled to be executed for that slaying after spending more than half his 38 years on Texas' death row. Only an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court that cites international treaties setting 18 as the minimum age for executions stands between Cannon and the lethal needle.

"It's going to go through," Cannon said in an interview last week. "I've thought about it for about a year. I sort of expect the worst and hope for the best."

His impending execution, along with recent high-profile murder cases involving young teen-agers in Jonesboro, Ark., and Paducah, Ky., reopens discussion over the propriety of sentencing teen-agers to death.

In the wake of the Jonesboro shootings, a Texas lawmaker, Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, is proposing 11-year-olds, at the discretion of prosecutors and judges, be eligible for a death sentence for capital murder in Texas although the sentence not be carried out until the convict turns 17.

"A few highly publicized cases make peo-

ple think this is the right course of action," says Deborah Deming, a University law professor and expert on violent crime and capital punishment. "Age is a really significant factor that should be taken into account."

Cannon said he was hit by a car and then suffered mental problems and got him tossed out of school and made him a frequent absentee.

A runaway from Houston, Cannon cut the case nearly 20 years ago. Walsh was convinced by her attorney Cannon in.

According to his confession, Cannon had been drinking and taking drugs since 1977, when Walsh came home and shot her at least six times with a pistol as she begged for her life. She died after she was shot and her daughter's car.

"His lawyers argued that Cannon was a young boy," Paul Canales, the county assistant district attorney who prosecuted the case nearly 20 years ago. "But the facts are so clear that the jury didn't buy it."

Cannon would be the fifth person convicted of murdering an adult in the death chamber and the first since 1976, when the U.S. Supreme Court lowered capital punishment to 18 according to research by Victor Strecher, the law school at Ohio Northern.

WHAT'S UP

Wednesday

268-1067 for details.

information call Molly at 862-2000.

at Rudder Fountain, Sbis, Quad Lounge B and Commons Lobby from 10 to 6 p.m.

Texas A&M Amateur Club: A special speaker will be held at 7 p.m. in MSC.

ATM Womens Rugby: Come join! No experience needed. Practices are from 5 to 7 p.m. at the pitch on the corner of Texas Avenue and University Drive Call Nikki at 694-0084 for information.

Muslim Students Association: An informal discussion about misconceptions in Islam will be held at 7 p.m. in 231 MSC. Call Muhammad at 846-4222 or email at islam101.tamu.edu. All are invited.

Environmental Issues Committee: Earth Week will be celebrated all day at Rudder Fountain with booths, free t-shirts, bands and more. Call Sarah at 847-8446 for details.

Texas Aggie Brew Club: There will be a product sampling at 7:30 p.m. at Fox & Hound. Call Joseph for more details at 696-7375.

VASA: Officer elections will be held at 8 p.m. For details call Marie at 847-3313.

Catholic Students Association: "Hot Topics" discussion session from 6 to 7 p.m. in St. Mary's Student Center Library, followed by Newman Mass at 7:15 and a Bible study in Rudder Tower.

Episcopal Student Center: There will be a celebration of holy eucharist followed by free dinner at 6:15 p.m. at 902 George Bush. Call Father Mark at 696-0774 for details.

Aggie R.E.A.C.H.: Part of a three day lecture series that focuses on stress and time management. Topics discussed will be recognizing stress, prioritizing tasks and learning how to relax in order to improve lifestyle and productivity. It will be held in 402 Rudder from 4 to 5 p.m. Call Judy at 696-4603 for details.

India Business and Technology Consortium (IBTC): There will be a panel discussion in 111 Koldus at 6:30 p.m. on "Swadeshi, Protectionism and Free Market Economy: Lessons from the Asian Economic Crisis."

What's Up is a Battalion service that provides profit student and faculty events and activities. Items should be submitted three days in advance of the deadline. Application deadlines and notices of events will not be run in What's Up. If you have any questions, please call the office at 845-3313.

Aggie Habitat for Humanity: A meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in 229 MSC. Call Rosalyn at 696-4603 for details.

TAMU Association for Professional Support Staff: The seventh annual luncheon will be held from 11:30 to 1 p.m. in 212 MSC. For more information call Molly at 862-2000.

Alpha Phi Omega: There will be a blood drive at Rudder Fountain, Sbis, Quad Lounge B and Commons Lobby from 10 to 6 p.m.

Society of Women Engineers

When: TODAY @ 6:45 p.m.

Place: ENPH 202

Guest Speaker: Geoff Crawley '96

from BP Exploration will be speaking on "Recent Graduate's Perspective on the Corporate World"

Spring '99 Study Abroad in Italy

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS in 154 Bizzell Hall West

-Monday, April 20
1:00-1:30 PM

-Friday, April 24
9:00-9:30 AM

Pick up an application at the meeting or drop by the Study Abroad Program Office.

Study Abroad Program Office, 161 Bizzell Hall West, 845-0544

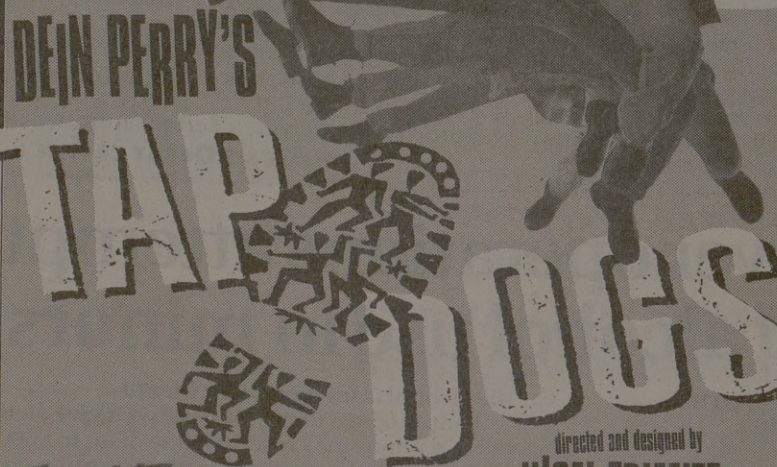
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Time/Days: M-F 2:00-3:35

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by Reisdorff and Henderson

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