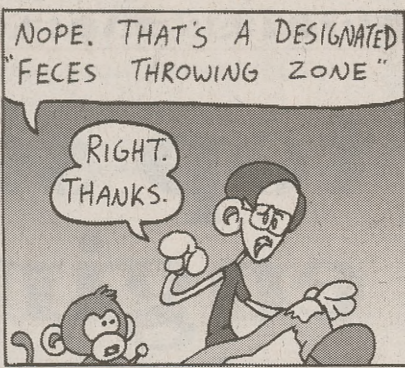


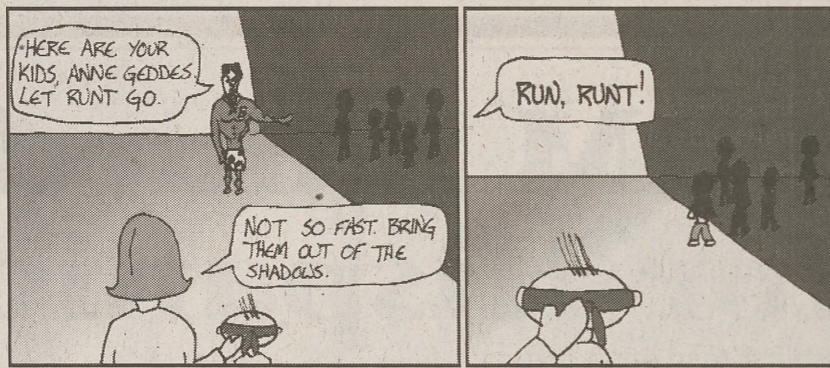
DIRTY APES



BY R. DELUNA



The Fantastico Chronicles



BY J. GOLDFLUTE



State tries to stop online doctors

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — State officials are working to regulate doctors who consult with patients solely via the Internet and telephone, and pharmacists who accept those doctors' prescriptions for drugs.

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy last week adopted a policy barring drug-gists from dispensing medications "if the pharmacist knows or should have known that the prescription was issued based on an Internet or telephonic consultation without a valid patient-practitioner relationship."

Similar language is included in recently approved legislation awaiting the signature of Gov. Rick Perry.

"They're making prescription medicine available to consumers without really knowing anything about the consumers," Tom Kelley, spokesman for the attorney general's office, told *The San Antonio Express-News* Sunday. "It's a violation of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act and it's a public danger situation."

Officials concerned about pharmacies accepting Net, phone doctor prescriptions

State officials say only three Texas doctors have been disciplined for their work prescribing pills via the Internet, and that two of them worked for Bill Stallknecht, owner of Pill Box Pharmacy.

One of them was Dr. David L. Bryson, who was offered work by Pill Box after losing his job at Kerrville State Hospital, being sued and filing for bankruptcy.

From 1999 until February, Bryson says he made as much as \$9,000 a week consulting with patients by phone from his Kerrville home and writing prescriptions for the San Antonio pharmacy to fill by

mail. He said the job also initially involved writing prescriptions based on patients' answers to online questionnaires. "I was very good at it," Bryson, 63, said. "I was very successful."

The State Board of Medical Examiners, which considers remote consultations an improper medical practice, suspended Bryson's medical license in February.

"It is unprofessional conduct for a physician to initially prescribe any dangerous drugs or controlled substances without first establishing a proper physician-patient relationship," says the board's Internet prescribing policy, adopted in December 1999.

The policy says a "proper" relationship requires, at a minimum, verifying a patient's identity, obtaining a patient's medical history and ensuring access to follow-up care. Such policies are being adopted across the nation by regulators.

Pill Box paid a \$15,000 penalty to Missouri in 1999 and agreed to cease drug deliveries there after being sued by the state.

Stallknecht said he still provides online services in 49 states, but declined further comment.

Bryson is fighting his license suspension and the notion that long-distance consultations cannot deliver a professional standard of care.

He will make his case June 25 in Austin before an administrative law judge, who could reinstate Bryson's license or take punitive actions ranging from a reprimand to license revocation.

TIPS

Continued from Page 1

Slack said. "If you study real well then you don't spend a whole lot of time studying."

On the other hand, he said poor study skills can come back to haunt you every few weeks or at the end of every semester.

Chris Burns, a junior civil engineering major, said it took him at least a couple of semesters to get comfortable with studying.

"Now I try to stay ahead," Burns said. "I like to read the chapter ahead of time so I already know what's going on in class."

Burns said he completes homework assignments the night they were assigned.

"This is so the material is fresh in my mind and I don't have to spend so much time going back and looking over material I already learned."

Burns views college as he would a real career.

"I act like school is a job and I go from 9-to-5," Burns said. "And if I don't have class until five, I still study until then. That way I get all my studying done, leaving me the rest of the night to do whatever I want."

Burns may have learned to obtain academic success on his own, but those who would like advice on how to improve their academic life may call Student Counseling Services (SCS) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 845-4427.

The SCS offers help with motivation, time management, study skills, note taking, test anxiety and other problems. Students who are currently enrolled at A&M are entitled to these services at no charge.

VETERINARY

Continued from Page 1

of rural large-animal practitioners. Texas A&M's veterinary school graduates 115 to 118 students a year, with many preferring to practice on small animals in urban areas, Allen said.

Increasingly, Texas is issuing veterinary licenses to students graduating from Caribbean institutions such as Ross University in St. Kitts, Allen said.

Also signing the letter to Montford were Sen. David Cain, D-Dallas; Sen. Todd Staples, R-Palestine; Rep. Barry Teleford, D-DeKalb; Rep. Mark Homer, D-Paris; Rep. Tom Ramsay, D-Mount Vernon; Rep. Bob Glaze, D-Gilmer; Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson; and Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler.

ENGINEERING

Continued from Page 1

Overall, the University awarded 22 doctoral degrees to Hispanics, 12 to men and 10 to women, which is the eighth most in the country. A&M also ranked 10th in the nation for bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanics with 751 total, with 387 to men and 364 to women.

Taiwan's Chen in Houston with congressmen

HOUSTON (AP) — Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian spent Sunday in Houston lurching at a steakhouse with members of Congress and attending an Astros game, shadowed everywhere by expatriate Chinese and Taiwanese eager to be heard on the issue of Taiwan's status.

"Why have one country with two systems when one of the systems is bad? Why?" asked Chen supporter David Lu, who drove in from Austin with about 50 like-minded others. "Logically it is impossible."

Other demonstrators were organized by the Greater Houston Supporting One China Alliance, whose members say their goal is not to impose communism on Taiwan, but to foster eventual reunification and avoid civil war.

Sam Wong of Houston, who came to the United States from mainland China, likened the division between China and Taiwan to the U.S. Civil War.

"That's why Lincoln was so great: He preserved the American nation," Wong said. "The Chinese will look at it the same way. Nobody wants war."

Mainland China sees Taiwan as a province lost amid civil war in 1949. Chinese officials believe granting Taiwan's presidents visiting rights violates the U.S. one-China policy, which recognizes only one Chinese government, the mainland, but insists that unification must be done peacefully.

On his way in to lunch, Chen smiled and waved to the cheering, chanting hundreds greeting him at Taste of Texas restaurant before heading in to dine with U.S. House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas; Kevin Brady, R-The Woodlands; and Gene Green, D-Houston.

He did not address the crowd, in which his backers outnumbered opponents about 3-1.

DeLay told the crowd that the timing of Chen's visit on the eve of the anniversary of the June 4, 1989, crackdown at Beijing's Tiananmen Square was noteworthy.

About 47,000 Houstonians list themselves as being of Chinese descent, according to the 2000 Census. About 20,000 Chinese-Americans live in DeLay's district.

TOLDEO

Continued from Page 1

"El cambio ya llegó, Toledo ya ganó!" — Change has arrived, Toledo's already won — chanted the crowd that had gathered in front of Toledo's headquarters.

The crowd, composed of all races and economic classes, was representative of Peru's population.

"I am elated that Toledo won," said cab driver Marcial Bello. "I'm a businessman, but look at me! What am I doing driving a cab! Toledo will bring more work — more movement in the economy."

Toledo, a shoeshine boy who received a scholarship to Stanford and became a World Bank economist, relied heavily on his Indian features to gain support among Peru's indigenous masses. Many indigenous supporters refer to him as "Pachacutec," an ancient Inca emperor.

Garcia, the silver-tongued former president, narrowed the gap with Toledo to as little as four points the week before elections. The possibility of a second Garcia presidency worried many foreign investors, as well as Peruvian businessmen. During his presidency, from 1985-1990, inflation soared to more than 7,000 percent, he attempted to nationalize the bank system and terrorism reached peak levels.

As a result, the economy was a key topic during debates. Juan Jose Marthans, one of four economic advisers to Toledo,

said their team is confident they can save Peru from its crisis by reactivating its economy. Peru has one of the highest Latin American rates of unemployment, he said. More than 50 percent of the population in the active economy is unemployed or underemployed.

"The worries that were generated in Peru as a result of Alan Garcia's candidacy ... knocked Peru even deeper into recession," Marthans said. "In the next months there will be teams sent to New York and key

"I am elated that Toledo won."

— Marcial Bello
cab driver

financial cities in Europe in hopes to reactivate the economy by promoting investment."

Garcia left Peru in exile in 1990 amid corruption charges, returned in January after the accusations against him expired and ran a successful campaign behind the promise that he had learned from his mistakes.

Late Sunday, Garcia conceded and said in a televised speech that "[Toledo] will have a loyal collaborator in me ... I will give him all my help."

Many Peruvians were not happy with either candidate and cast blank or spoiled ballots. Voting is mandatory in Peru.

The elections signaled the

Enjoy the music of Bach, Bernstein, Haydn, Ponce, Schubert, and more!

Orchestra Concerts

Friday, June 8
Friday, June 29

Chamber Music Concerts

Monday, June 4
Monday, June 11
Monday, June 18
Monday, June 25

All concerts at the George Bush Conference Center except June 11 concert at Christ United Methodist Church, College Station.

IMMANUEL & HELEN OLSHAN

TEXAS MUSIC FESTIVAL

JUNE 3-JUNE 30, 2001
MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

TICKETS!

845-1234

Student \$5, Regular \$10

THE BATTALION

Jeff Kempf, Editor in Chief
Jen Bales, Managing Editor
Jason Bennyhoff, Radio Producer
Jessica Crutcher, Opinion Editor
Ruben DeLuna, Graphics Editor
Bernie Garza, Photo Editor
Stuart Hutson, News Editor
Mark Passwaters, Sports Editor
Brandon Payton, Webmaster
Lizette Resendez, Asst. Aggeli Editor
Karen Weinberg, Design Director

THE BATTALION (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University. Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, Texas A&M University, 1111 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Media, a unit of the Department of Journalism. News offices are in O14 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2647; E-mail: Thebattalion@hotmail.com; Web site: http://www.thebatt.com

Advertising: Publication of advertising does not imply sponsorship or endorsement by The Battalion. For campus, local, and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0559. Advertising offices are in O15 Reed McDonald; and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-2678.

Subscriptions: A part of the Student Services Fee entitles each Texas A&M student to pick up a single copy of The Battalion. First copy free; additional copies 25¢. Mail subscriptions are \$60 per school year; \$30 for the fall or spring semester and \$17.50 for the summer. In charge by Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express, call 845-2613.

