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Pennsylvania to participate in anti-huff program

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pennsylvania will be among six states that will participate in an anti-huffing program for teenagers who use inhalants to get high.

The experimental program was to be announced Tuesday in Washington, D.C., the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported, and will provide schools with information about inhalant abuse.

The Alliance for Consumer Education and the American School Counselor Association are sponsoring the program. The organizations estimate that nearly half of parents mention the abuse of inhalants - more commonly known as huffing when discussing drug abuse with their children.

About one of every five students has abused inhalants by eighth grade, according to the Alliance for Consumer Education. Though deaths are relatively rare, huffing can cause brain, heart, lung, kidney and liver damage.

Pennsylvania was chosen in part because the state's new driving under the influence law addresses huffing, according to program spokesman Edward F. Tate III.

"We wanted a state that had an awareness of the problem and

a strong interest in it," said Tate. C. Stephen Erni, executive director of the Pennsylvania DUI Association, said the group supported the addition of inhalants to the recent DUI law revisions. The group is scheduling workshops to teach law enforcement officers how to detect inhalant abuse.

"Unless the suspect is vomiting or there is a strong chemical odor, inhalant abuse is hard to spot," Erni said.

Ohio, Virginia, Texas, Alabama and Alaska will also participate. As many as 90 percent of elementary-school children in Alaska have at least tried huffing, according to some estimates,

NEWS IN BRIEF

Preventable obesity deaths on the rise

WASHINGTON (AP) - Americans are sitting around and eating themselves to death, with obesity closing in on tobacco as the nation's No. 1 underlying preventable killer.

The government is offering constructive, even lighthearted, advice to fight what it calls an epidemic of expanding waistlines. Americans will be told in a new ad campaign they can lose midsection "love handles" and double chins one step at a time if they eat less and exercise more.

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Pakistan tests missile capable of reaching Indi

By Paul Haven THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan on Tuesday test-fired the most advanced missile in its arsenal, capable of delivering a nuclear warhead deep inside rival India.

Although advance word to India averted a crisis, the launch of the Shaheen 2 is a vivid reminder of the stakes at play as South Asia's traditional enemies try to cement a fragile peace.

The missile has a range of 1,250 miles, meaning it could easily hit Bombay, New Delhi, Lucknow, Jaipur and other major Indian cities.

'Pakistan today successfully carried out the maiden test fire of the Shaheen 2 surface-to-surface ballistic missile," a military statement said.

Pakistan made certain to inform India in advance, and the test was not likely to damage relations that are rapidly improving. India's external affairs and defense ministries declined comment on the test.

The timing seemed more linked to internal Pakistani politics, with President Gen. Pervez Musharraf facing anger at home over an investigation into a black market run by rogue Pakistani scientists that allegedly sold nuclear know-how to Iran, Libya and North Korea.

Many Pakistanis feel the scientists have been made scapegoats and accuse Musharraf of jeopardizing the nation's nuclear program under pressure from the West.

The president, a key ally in the U.S.-led war on terror, announced plans to test-fire the Shaheen 2 at the same Feb. 5 news conference in which he pardoned Abdul Qadeer Khan, the father of Pakistan's nuclear program, who

Pakistan tests long range missile

On Tuesday, Pakistan tested Shaheen 2 surface-to-surface ballistic missile, capable of carrying a nuclear warheada hitting targets deep inside Ind



confessed to heading the nuc proliferation ring.

Khan has been under house arrest since the pardon, a at least six other scientists administrators are in custody.

"This is internal politic said Shahid ur-Rehman. author of a widely read by about Pakistan's nuclear p gram. "It was basically aimed quieting the Pakistani per who have been accus Musharraf of rolling back to nuclear program.

The tests did cause abroad, however.

Japan said it Pakistan test-firing a balli missile amid the internation community's efforts to preve the proliferation of weapons mass destruction and ballis missiles," the Kyodo ne agency reported.

There was no imme reaction in Washington or Israel. Jerusalem is 2,200 mil from Islamabad, almost twice far as the range of the missile

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THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY STUDENT MEDIA BOARD IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR

> Editor THE BATTALION

Qualifications for editor in chief of The Battalion are:

- Have at least a 2.00° cumulative grade point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) and at least a 2.00 gade point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the sense of appointment and semester during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, at least six " hours (4 if a graduate student) must have been taken for that semester; Have completed JOUR 301 (Mass Communication, Law and Society), or equivalent

Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on The Battalion of

Editor AGGIELAND

Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing Land II), and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Qualifications for editor in chief of the Aggieland yearbook are:

Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six graduate student) during the term of office (unless fewer credits are required to graduate

Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) and at least a 2.00 gale point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) in the senseter immediately prior to the appointment, the sensit of appointment and semester during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, at least in hours (4 if a graduate student) must have been taken for that semester;

Have completed JOUR 301 (Mass Communication, Law and Society) and JOUR 302 (Graphics), or equivalent;

Have demonstrated ability in writing through university coursework or equivalent experience

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Dell Bomnskie, Student Media business coordinator, in Room 011A Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: noon Tuesday, March 23, 2004. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Media Board Meeting beginning at 8 a.m. Thursday, March 25, 2004, in room 221F Reed McDonald.