



Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.
1013 Three Mile Drive, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1412*
Telephone/FAX: 313-884-4718

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ToxTalk

PRESIDENT

Mark B. Lewis, B.S., DABFT
N Y State Police Crime Lab
Bldg 22 - State Campus
Albany, NY 12226-0001
518-457-1208

VICE PRESIDENT

Vina Spiehler, Ph.D., DABFT
422 Tustin
Newport Beach, CA 92663
714-642-0574
FAX: 714-642-0574

SECRETARY

Vickie W. Watts, M.S.
Mesa Police Crime Laboratory
130 N. Robson
Mesa, AZ 85201
602-644-2077
FAX: 602-644-2478

TREASURER

Joseph J. Saady, Ph.D., DABFT
Virginia Commonwealth University
Medical College of Virginia Station
Richmond, VA 23298-0597
804-786-8165
FAX: 804-786-7722

ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS

Ronald C. Backer, Ph.D., DABFT
H. Chip Walls, B.S.
W. Lee Hearn, Ph.D.
Barry S. Levine, Ph.D., DABFT
Marilyn A. Huestis, Ph.D.
ex officio:

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(Past President)
Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT
(ToxTalk Editor)

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

Patricia Mohn-Monforte
313-884-4718
FAX: 313-884-4718

TIAFT/SOFT 1994

SOFT Hosts:
Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D.
Horton McCurdy, Ph.D., DABFT
P.O. Box 10856
Tampa, FL 33679-0856

SOFT is a supporting
organization of the
**American Board of
Forensic Toxicology**

EDITOR: Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT **EDITORIAL BOARD:** H. Chip Walls, B.S., Jim Wigmore, Carl Selavka, Ph.D.
PUBLISHER: Patricia Mohn-Monforte

TIAFT/SOFT '94 "MEETING AT A GLANCE" *Mark your calendars NOW!*

- Sun. Oct. 30 Pre-conference tour to Cape Canaveral/Kennedy Space Center
Mon. Oct. 31 Workshops: *Human Performance Testing - Drugs and Driving Impaired (a.m.)*
Legal Aspects of Urine, Blood, and Hair Drug Testing (p.m.)
Current Analytical Approaches in Forensic Toxicology (all day)
Halloween Welcoming Reception
Tue. Nov. 1 Special Lectureship presented by Bryan S. Finkle, Ph.D.
Platform and poster presentations, exhibits, "Prologues & Epilogues"
Wed. Nov. 2 Workshop: *Plant and Insect Toxicology (all day, Busch Gardens)*
Thu. Nov. 3 Platform and poster presentations, exhibits, Elmer Gordon Open Forum, "BYOS"
SOFT and TIAFT Presidents' Reception
Fri. Nov. 4 SOFT and TIAFT business meetings, platform presentations, exhibits
Finale International Banquet
Sat. Nov. 5-7 Optional tours to Disney World, Universal Studios and Sea World

Getting the FAX straight: V.P. Spiehler now has a dedicated FAX line, that number is 714-642-2852. The information on the letterhead (left) and in your 1994 SOFT Directory is not current.

IN THIS ISSUE

REGULAR FEATURES: Journal Club & Career Opportunities & Professional Calendar
Blutalkoholkonzentration & Communiqué

TECHNICAL NOTES: Formaldehyde and Related Compounds (J. Cody) &
Case Notes: The Schizophrenic, the Transvestites and the Growth
Rate of Hair (Selavka)

INSERTS: TIAFT/SOFT 1994 Joint Congress information:
Preliminary Program & Hotel Registration Form
Call for Papers & Registration Options & Forms
"Tox Crock" Questions & Call for "Ambassadors"
SOFT Hair Conference registration form

ToxTalk is mailed quarterly (bulk mail) to current members of the *Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.* It is each member's responsibility to report changes of address to the SOFT Administrative Office. Non-members may now receive ToxTalk for \$15 per calendar year. Mail a check, payable to SOFT, to ToxTalk at the address below. All members and others are encouraged to contribute to ToxTalk. Contact the Administrative Office for SOFT membership applications.

DEADLINES: Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, and Nov. 1.

NEXT DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 1994

*Alternate mailing address for SOFT: **SOFT MAIL SERVICE, 8503 N. 104th Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85345**

TIAFT/SOFT 1994 JOINT CONGRESS

October 31st to November 4th

Tampa, Florida (Hyatt Regency Westshore)

❖❖PS! Correction - The registration fee for Workshop #3, "Current Analytical Approaches," is \$55 SOFT/TIAFT members and \$75 non-members. The fee printed on the Palm Tree registration form inserted in the March issue of ToxTalk was not correct. Discard the old form. Thank you!

A FEW WORDS FROM 1994 POSTER SESSION COORDINATOR

submitted by Beth Marker, Ph.D.

The TIAFT/SOFT organizing committee is looking forward to seeing forensic toxicologists from all over the world at the joint meeting in Tampa, FL. As has been mentioned many times, there will be a great emphasis on poster sessions at this meeting. To encourage our presenters to put their best foot forward we anticipate awarding prizes for the best posters in a number of categories, such as: Best Method Comparison/Evaluation ■ Best Case Presentation ■ Most Innovative Method ■ Best Use of Visual Media ■ and many others.

Nor are we forgetting those attending the poster sessions. We would like you to meet many new colleagues, and so there will also be prizes for those who have spent some time talking to the presenters. The more people you talk to, the better the potential prize.

Regardless of any incentives, we hope you will join us in Tampa to find many new ideas and meet a world of forensic toxicologists. ☺

COMING SOON: THE FIRST ANNUAL TOXICOLOGY "CROCK"

What is it? Teams of forensic toxicology players will compete in a Jeopardy-style contest to challenge our knowledge of toxicology - for fun and prizes.

When is it? During the 1994 TIAFT/SOFT Joint Congress

How can you participate? Mail or fax the enclosed flyer with your questions and join a team.

Any questions? Read the flyer or contact Chip Walls (315-435-3802) or Al Poklis (804-786-0272). ☺

GUIDELINES FOR '94 TIAFT/SOFT SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

Are you planning to present a paper at the 1994 TIAFT/SOFT meeting in Tampa? Lee Hearn, Chairman of the Audiovisual Arrangements Committee, is preparing guidelines for effective slides. Copies will be sent to all authors whose abstracts are accepted for platform presentations. If you would like a copy to get a headstart on slide preparation for your presentation, contact Lee at 305-545-2450 or write to:

Dr. W. Lee Hearn, Dade County Medical Examiner Dept., Number One on Bob Hope Rd, Miami, FL 33136-1133

BE SURE TO READ ALL THE MEETING-RELATED INSERTS

For more meeting information contact: TIAFT/SOFT 1994 JOINT CONGRESS
P.O. Box 10856, Tampa, FL 33679-0856

SOFT CONFERENCE ON DRUG TESTING IN HAIR

October 29 and 30, 1994 -- Hyatt Westshore, Tampa, FL

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 1994 *No on-site registration*

The SOFT Hair Conference Organizing Committee, SOFT President Mark Lewis (chair), V.P. Vina Spiehler, and Directors Chip Walls and Marilyn Huestis, are currently developing a specific program. Speakers are being informally contacted, and their names will be announced when their participation is confirmed. Tentative topics include "Pharmacology of Drugs in Hair," "Epidemiology," "Environmental Contamination and Washing," "Analytical Questions," "Open Forum," "Standards and Interlaboratory Studies," "Experience and Cases," and "Conclusions." The two-day program will begin early Saturday morning with attendees' sign-in and distribution of materials. **Remember, no on-site registration will be permitted.** The registration deadline is September 30th. Registration forms (inserted in this issue of ToxTalk) and fees (SOFT/TIAFT \$60, others \$100) should be sent to The CDM Group (phone: 301-654-6740).

The Hyatt Regency Westshore will extend the discounted TIAFT/SOFT meeting rates (\$129 single/double) to include conference participants, but you must make your hotel reservations by September 30th (1-800-233-1234).

The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Workplace Programs. ☼

TREASURY NOTES

Treasurer Joseph Saady announces that members will have the **option of paying for both 1995 and 1996 dues** when the 1995 dues notices are distributed. The **1995 dues notices** will be included in the September and December issues of ToxTalk. Remember, to meet bulk mail requirements, dues notices are mailed to all persons who receive ToxTalk. Only actual SOFT members who have not yet paid their dues should respond. ☼

ATTENTION: SOFT and AAFS/Toxicology Section Members

SOFT/AAFS COMMITTEE ON DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS Materials Offer No. 2

The requests for the cocaine and marijuana monographs and the bibliography disk are coming in. By the time **ToxTalk** is printed, the distribution should be fairly current (about a 3 week turnaround time). There had been an initial delay due to the necessity to obtain additional disks. Remember, this offer applies only to current, dues-paying SOFT and AAFS/Tox Section members (another perk!). A database has been established at the SOFT Administrative Office and will be utilized to track the distribution of materials. At this time, there is no mechanism by which these materials can be distributed/sold to non-members, although this may change at some undetermined future date.

AN UPDATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DISK with more than 1500 references will be available at the next SOFT and AAFS meetings. A specific pre-order distribution system will be described in the next issue of ToxTalk. Again, this offer will be limited to current, dues-paying SOFT and AAFS/Tox Section members only. The SOFT/AAFS D.U.I.D. Committee hopes to be able to provide disk updates annually. The committee is also preparing another monograph - **Benzodiazepines**.

Look for more information and an order form in the September issue of **ToxTalk**. ☼

ARIZONA BOUND? The "for sale" sign is once again in the front yard. Mail materials to the Michigan address *only if you know we are still here*. Otherwise, play it safe and mail to:

SOFT MAIL SERVICE, 8503 104th Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85345

1996 SOFT MEETING SURVEY responses, totalling 61 as of May 2nd, indicate the probability of SOFT members attending a meeting in Puerto Rico as follows: 26 would definitely attend; 14 would probably attend; 5 might attend; 10 would probably not attend, and 6 could not attend.

APPLICATION MATERIALS are available from the Administrative Office by phone or FAX (313-884-4718, or mail via SOFT Mail Service address (see above). *SOFT members who are interested in changing their membership status must also request appropriate forms from the Administrative Office.*

Pat's reminder to respond to these important dates:

- July 01** TIAFT/SOFT abstracts due (form inserted in ToxTalk mailing)
- Aug. 01** Free T-shirt if you register for meeting by today
- Sept. 30**
 - Registration deadline for SOFT Hair Conference (*no on-site registration allowed*)
 - Deadline for reduced rates at Hyatt Westshore, Tampa (call 1-800-233-1234 today)
 - Pay a late fee for meeting registrations *received* after today
- Oct. 20** Last day to register for TIAFT/SOFT meeting by mail
- Oct. 29-30** SOFT Hair Conference (Tampa) - if you didn't pre-register, don't show up
- Oct. 31-Nov.4** TIAFT/SOFT 1994 Joint Congress (Tampa)

Now you can't say you haven't been warned! Why wait until the last minute? Avoid the rush - register today! ☺

SOFT MEMBERSHIP ROLLS INCREASING

As of April 20th, 14 new members have joined SOFT in 1994. Since the March issue of **ToxTalk** was published, the following have successfully completed the application process:

- #600 (F) *Lenox Abbott, Ph.D.*
- #601 (F) *Dwight Reed, B.S.*
- #602 (F) *Susan Rasmussen, B.S.*
- #603 (F) *Vincent Papa, Ph.D.*
- #604 (A) *William Brewer, Ph.D.*

Also this year, (#382) *Donald Cannon, Ph.D.*, and (#386) *Glenn Harden, M.P.H.*, have been promoted to Full Member status. Congratulations to all!

There are approximately 20 applications currently in various stages of completion or review. ☺

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

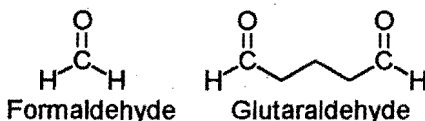
Positions available are listed for the consideration of SOFT members. There is no fee for this service. The information will be repeated in the next issue only if the information is confirmed by the person who submitted it. file on available positions is also maintained at the SOFT Administrative Office exclusively for member reference.

No items were submitted for this issue. ☺

FORMALDEHYDE AND RELATED COMPOUNDS

submitted by: John T. Cody, Ph.D., Member of the SOFT Health and Safety Committee

Formaldehyde is a gas at room temperature but is commonly found in the laboratory as a 37% solution known as formalin. Formaldehyde is used in a number of different industrial applications and is sometimes seen in post-mortem work following toxic environmental exposure. It has also clinically been found in high concentrations following industrial exposure or in patients living in a home where urea-formaldehyde foam insulation was installed. Formaldehyde is metabolized to formic acid and subsequently to carbon dioxide and water. Glutaraldehyde, commonly used in tissue preparation for electron microscopy, has many of the same hazards as formaldehyde and can be treated essentially the same as formaldehyde.



For most laboratory personnel, the exposure to formaldehyde is from the use of formalin fixative for tissue preparation. Depending on the equipment used and adequacy of ventilation, the exposure during normal tissue preparation may be only trace levels or potentially substantial. Common sense tells us that a chemical which is used to fix tissues will do exactly that when given the chance, whether that be a tissue specimen or our own tissue. Therefore, exposure to formaldehyde will cause problems for any part of the body it contacts. Inhalation causes irritation, coughing, sore throat and shortness of breath. Contact of formaldehyde vapor with the eyes causes redness, irritation, pain and blurred vision. If splashed into the eye, the consequences are even more extensive. Skin contact, either vapor or liquid causes redness, irritation and, depending on the extent of the exposure, burns. Chronic exposure to formaldehyde can induce hypersensitivity which leads eventually to contact dermatitis. Repeated high dose exposure can also cause an allergic reaction, vision impairment, and liver damage (augmented by the methanol component of formalin used to prevent polymerization).

In addition to the obvious chemical hazard posed by formaldehyde, it is a hazardous chemical and must therefore be treated as such in its storage and disposal. Disposal of hazardous waste is not only troublesome but expensive. Proper disposal requires accumulation, storage and transfer to an approved hazardous waste disposal site, typically through a third party.

Avoiding the difficulty and expense of hazardous waste disposal is advantageous. Even in laboratories where formalin is used in a safe manner with all appropriate safety devices (eye and personal protection) and adequate ventilation, the ultimate disposal is problematic.

Several options are available to decrease or eliminate the hazards associated with the use and disposal of formaldehyde. One option is to substitute another compound to replace formaldehyde. An example is the product "SafeFix", a water based fixative advertised to be a viable alternative to formaldehyde in manual and automated tissue fixation. This product does not cross-link tissue as does formaldehyde, therefore immunohistochemistry and nucleic acid probes react better with the tissue than does formaldehyde fixed tissues. It is probably better to refer to this product as a preservative rather than a fixative, since it does not actually fix the tissue chemically. As a result, the tissue is softer which can cause some difficulty in sectioning. Reports of difficulties with this "fixative" make the use of this product something that must be tested before it is routinely implemented.

Disposal of used formaldehyde can be accomplished after treatment with a number of different products which convert it to a non-toxic substance which can be disposed of in solid waste containers or poured down the drain. One product, ALDE-X, comes in two versions; one treats the formaldehyde but remains liquid, the other treats the formaldehyde and solidifies. Other products used to treat formaldehyde include Formalex and Vytex, which are available from a number of different suppliers - check your laboratory supply catalogs. All are intended to eliminate the hazards associated with disposal of formaldehyde and glutaraldehyde. ☘

Comments regarding the SOFT Health & Safety Committee should be directed to the committee chair: Amanda Jenkins, Toxicology Laboratory, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 111 Penn Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Editor's note: The SOFT Health and Safety Committee's report for the September issue of ToxTalk will be "Carcinogens" by Daniel Isenschmid

Happy Birthday, NIDA!

CASE NOTES

The Schizophrenic, The Transvestites and the Growth Rate of Hair

submitted by Carl M. Selavka, Ph.D., National Medical Services, Willow Grove, PA

Among the unusual cases on which we have recently worked, perhaps none is more intriguing than the case of "LP". LP was accused of two counts of first degree murder, two counts of attempted first degree murder, four counts of aggravated assault, and one charge of possessing an illegal weapon (a sawed-off Iver & Johnson double-barrelled .410 gauge shotgun) related to a Halloween 1991 rampage. We reported some of the analytical details of this case in a poster (Number K33 in the Abstract Book) at the AAFS Annual Meeting in San Antonio earlier this year.

LP had problems during his early adult years. By the time he was 30, he had shot a coworker and buried a hatchet in his sister's head. In both attempted homicides, LP was found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity, and was hospitalized in a State Mental Health facility. Treatment for schizophrenia was started, including IM injections of the psychotropic drug haloperidol decanoate (Haldol®). After a few years, LP was released to the community.

By this time in his life, LP had become a racist, was homophobic and distrustful. It happened that LP's next-door neighbors were bisexual males who had very open lifestyles, which included transvestitism. After learning of LP's homophobia, the neighbors slid taunting notes under LP's door, and played their stereo loud at night to bother him. This brings us to the fateful Halloween night party that the neighbors held. The music was loud, and LP was annoyed.

LP took his gun and headed for the party. The neighbor heard that LP was on his way to settle the music problem, so he opened his door and stood in the foyer. You can imagine LP's surprise when he saw his male neighbor in a satin bustier, cocktail dress, lace hose, coiffed hair and full makeup. He was so surprised that he wounded the neighbor from short range.

The shooting continued as LP broke through the door and killed another male transvestite. One girl ran upstairs to get her shoes, where LP tracked her down and fatally shot her. Another person was wounded, and a full of guests crashed while attempting to escape. Following the rampage, LP hid the gun and calmly called 911 to report the crime.

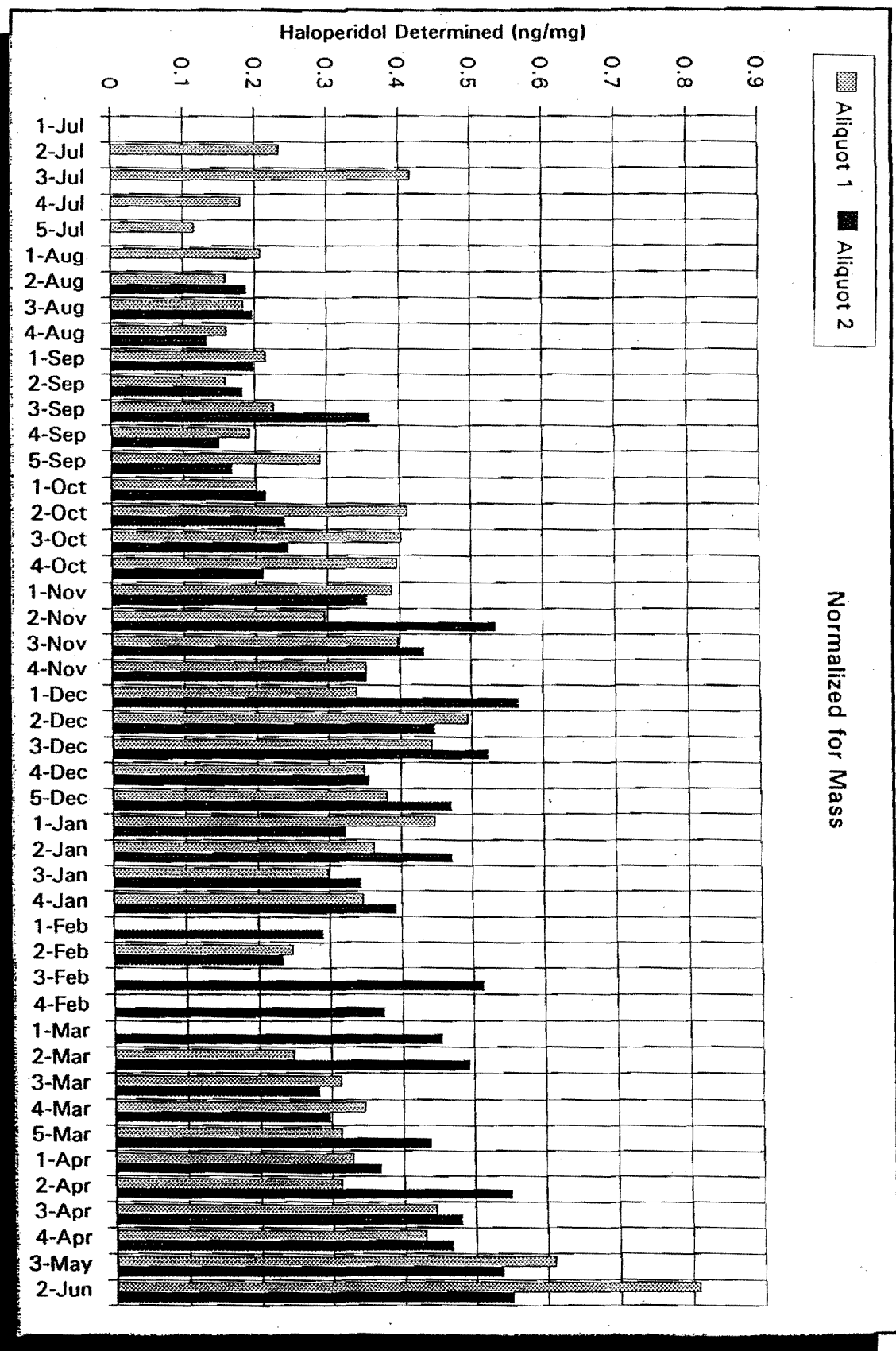
During the preparation of LP's defense, two questions arose which could be addressed using forensic hair testing: *Was LP receiving his Haldol® injections regularly?* and *Was LP ingesting large amounts of over-the-counter (OTC) stimulants (eg. ephedrine, among others) and caffeine, as some associates claimed?* The answers to these questions were important because the use of these substances could have a substantial effect on LP's state of mind at the time of the crime.

The decision to test hair for the presence or absence of these substances was made more than a year after the 1991 Halloween party. Luckily, the accused had long hair, so a substantial portion of hair was collected from the vertex area of his head. To segment the appropriate portions of hair to include the time periods of interest, the defendant's hair in the area of the vertex was streaked at the scalp line with bleach, and after 42 days of growth 102 hairs were collected and their growth measured using a calibrated, digitizing camera system. In these 102 hairs, the growth rate was determined to be 0.433 mm/day (3.03 mm/week), with a standard deviation of 0.049 mm/day (RSD 11.1%).

We tested hair segments representing 16 months worth of 1-week periods for haloperidol using GC-NPD and GC-MS. Also, monthly segments of hair were tested for stimulants - including OTC's, caffeine and controlled substances - by GC-NPD/FID and GC-MS. The findings for haloperidol indicated that LP had received regular doses, and there was no evidence of ephedrine and other stimulants. Only traces of caffeine were detected. As shown in Figure 1, an appearance of periodicity existed. Also, a period of low apparent haloperidol concentration corresponded to the period of the rampage. This particular finding led to many questions during trial.

This case brought to a focus the fact that there are sparse data for the growth rate, and variability thereof, for hairs in a wide cross-section of the population (see References). In addition, the sources of growth variability (purported to include nutrition, sunlight, hormonal fluctuations and a number of other factors) are not perfectly

(continued on page 8)



understood. In order to allow for better application of retrospective hair tests, an examination of the growth rate for the subject involved in a case may be required. Without such an individualized study, the interpretation of a time period represented by a given segment of hair should be approached with caution, and an appropriate statement of the unknown variability of growth rate made when this interpretation is critical to case resolution.

By the way, after hearing all of the evidence, the jury deliberated only 2 hours and returned 9 guilty verdicts on the nine charged offenses. Was this the culmination of a bad hair day?

References Related to Hair Growth

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3. Cone, E. "Testing Human Hair for Drugs of Abuse. I. Individual Dose and Time Profiles of Morphine and Codeine in Plasma, Saliva, Urine, and Beard Compared to Drug-Induced Effects on Pupils and Behavior," J. Analyt. Tox. 14(1), 1 - 7 (1990).
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5. Uematsu, T., Kondo, K., Yano, S., Yamaguchi, T., Umemura, K. and Nakashima, M. "Measurement of Temafloxacin in Human Scalp Hair as an Index of Drug Exposure," J. Pharm. Sci. 83(1), 42-45 (1994). ☼

 **CALL FOR CASE NOTES**

Your case note should be about 1/2 page in length, no more than a full page. Material or a disk (using Microsoft Works/Word 2.0) may be mailed to:

Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT, ToxTalk Editor
c/o SOFT Mail Service, 8503 North 104th Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85345
Or you may FAX articles to: 313-884-4718.

Other items of interest to SOFT members are also welcome.

Next deadline: AUGUST 1, 1994

UNCERTAIN SUMMER HOURS FOR SOFT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

by Patricia Mohn-Monforte, SOFT Executive Coordinator

Over the next few months, I will be preparing to transfer the SOFT Administrative Office to a temporary Arizona site. Please continue to use the "SOFT Mail Service" address in Peoria, AZ, until further notice - this is not the future location for the new office but, in reality, is my mother's address. My mom, Rosemarie Mohn Vaillencourt, has been most generous with her willingness to accept SOFT materials and forward them to me. This may result in a slight delay with mail, but it does guarantee I will get it wherever I am. Once the Michigan house is sold, administrative office will be housed in Prescott, Arizona, until the new office is built in Carefree, Arizona.

If you must contact me and cannot do so using the 313-884-4718 (Mich.) number, President Mark Lewis can always find me (no matter how hard I try to hide!) ☼

Technical Notes: BLUTALKOHOLKONZENTRATION No. 5

Submitted by: J.G. Wigmore, Toxicology Section, Centre of Forensic Sciences, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

HEAD INJURY AND BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION: ARE PATHOLOGICAL METABOLIC PRODUCTS FOUND IN THE BLOOD AFTER A HEAD INJURY THAT CAN AFFECT THE BLOOD ALCOHOL TEST? by K. Wagner and H.J. Wagner, *Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift*, 81(22):869-871, 1956.

German Title: *Schadeltrauma und Alkoholgehalt des Blutes. Finden sich, wenn es bei einem Verkehrsunfall zu einer Schadelverletzung gekommen ist, im Blut pathologische Stoffwechselprodukte, die den Ausfall einer Alkoholuntersuchung beeinflussen?*

A study of 559 persons involved in traffic accidents in Germany who suffered head injuries was conducted. Blood samples were collected from the victims between 15 minutes to 19.5 hours after the accident. The blood alcohol concentration (BAC) was determined by both the Widmark and ADH methods.

In 551 cases there was no significant difference between the Widmark or the ADH methods, the greatest difference was +/- 0.005g/100mL. In the remaining 8 cases there were significant differences, the greatest difference was an apparent BAC of 0.097g/100mL as determined by the Widmark method with the corresponding ADH result of 0. These differences were due to ethyl chloride or ether anaesthesia of the victims, both drugs can react with the potassium dichromate solution and give a higher result. The ADH method is more specific than the Widmark method in these cases. In 57 cases both the Widmark and ADH methods showed a result of 0.

The authors conclude that there are no grounds for the opinion that the blood taken from head trauma victims could contain a metabolic produce as a result of trauma, in such a concentration that would affect the Widmark result greater than this method's variability.

This paper is also of interest historically for it showed 9 years prior that the paper of Edward Breazeale (*Lex et entia*, *The International Journal of Law and Science*, 2(2):86-91, 1965), still sometime cited by defense lawyers, was erroneous. Breazeale hypothesized that "stressful" conditions in a subject (eg, being stopped by the police, trauma, etc.,) could cause a falsely high BAC result as determined by a potassium dichromate procedure. ☹

EMERGENCY TOXICOLOGY CO-OP PROPOSAL

Attention forensic toxicologists practicing in the clinical arena and interested in an opportunity to consult with colleagues on the occasional difficult case involving a critical patient. After a conversation with Chip Walls who was busy identifying the numerous unknown substances ingested by a toddler, Pat has offered to set up a FAX system to facilitate transmitting information among emergency volunteer consults. To participate, FAX to Pat Monforte at the SOFT Administrative Office (313-884-4718) the following:

Your name ☹ Facility (your hospital, agency, etc.) ☹ Department ☹ FAX No. ☹ Phone No.
☹ state that you wish to participate in the SOFT volunteer emergency toxicology network

A list of participants and network guidelines will be prepared and distributed only to those persons who are a part of this network. Please respond by July 1. The system will be reviewed and evaluated periodically. This offer is limited to current SOFT members only. SOFT is not responsible for any actions, etc. of the participants. ☹

newspaper clipping: Boynton Beach, FL - In a burglary May 13, intruders didn't touch a 74-yr-old man's television, VCR or watch. But they did grab the cellophane-wrapped, grayish-white powder kept in a fishing tackle box, probably thinking the powder was cocaine, not the cremated remains of the man's sister. ☹

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ELMER GORDON OPEN FORUM

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE

We see this heading in most issues of **ToxTalk**, but just who was Elmer Gordon? For many years, Elmer Gordon served as the Chief Toxicologist for the Monroe County Medical Examiner's Office in Rochester, NY. In "pre-SOFT" days, forensic toxicologists attended what was referred to as the "Interim Meeting," an informal gathering of professionals who met with no formal program - only a common interest in discussing mutual forensic toxicology problems, theories, and the state of the science. Webster defines *forensic* as "a forum of public debate; to argue or tear apart to obtain the truth..." Elmer was a consistent advocate of the informal forum, firmly believing that this was the most effective way to communicate and share information. Although he died a number of years ago, his spirit of problem solving is still with us. It is in this spirit that SOFT continues Elmer's philosophy by presenting the **Elmer Gordon Open Forum** in its newsletter and, since 1983, at the SOFT Annual Meetings.

Come and join your colleagues in this rewarding tradition at the SOFT/TIAFT meeting. Bring your problems and solutions to the forum on Thursday, November 3rd. ☘

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

California Association of Toxicologists (CAT) quarterly meetings and workshops. For information contact Vickie Watts at 602-644-2077, FAX 602-644-2478.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) annual meeting: Contact Brenda Papke, 719-636-1100. Future AAFS meetings: 2/13-18/95 Seattle; 2/19-24/96 Nashville; 2/17-22/97 New York City.

Professional Practice in Toxicology: A Review: June 19-23, Cincinnati, OH, AACC & NACB, \$375-475. Contact Clair House, AACC, 800-892-1400 (FAX 202-887-5093)

LEARNING FROM THE MASTERS: July 22-24, St. Louis, MO. "An interactive forum for practical discussion of current topics in death investigation." Contact Mary Fran Ernst at 314-522-6410 ext 6509.

SOFT CONFERENCE ON DRUG TESTING IN HAIR: October 29-30, 1994. Immediately preceding TIAFT/SOFT Joint Congress. SOFT and TIAFT members specifically invited. Registration: \$60 SOFT & TIAFT members; \$100 others. See meeting packet for hotel registration information or contact CDM Group, Inc. 301-654-6740 (Jerome Thompson). *Pre-registration required; deadline September 30, 1994.*

TIAFT/SOFT Joint Congress (The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists and Society of Forensic Toxicologists): Oct. 31 - Nov. 4, 1994, Tampa, FL. First joint TIAFT/SOFT meeting! Contact **TIAFT-SOFT 1994, P.O. Box 10856, Tampa, FL 33679-0856**. SOFT Co-hosts: Drs. Marilyn Huestis and Horton McCurdy.

CSFS/NAFS Joint Meeting (Canadian Society of Forensic Science and Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists): Oct. 31 - Nov. 5, 1994, Vancouver, BC. Contact Jeffrey Caughlin at 604-264-3507, FAX 604-264-3499.

SOFT 25th Anniversary Meeting: Baltimore. Contact Dr. Yale Caplan, 1995 SOFT Meeting Host, National Center for Forensic Science, Div. Maryland Medical Lab., 1901 Sulphur Spring Rd., Baltimore, MD 21227 (telephone: 410-536-1485).

FUTURE S.O.F.T. MEETINGS: Members interested in hosting a future SOFT meeting should contact Member Resource Committee Chair Vina Spiehler at 714-642-0574 or FAX 714-642-2852.



SOFT Conference on DRUG TESTING IN HAIR

OCTOBER 29-30, 1994 (Saturday/Sunday)

(2 full days, the weekend before the TIAFT/SOFT Joint Congress)

Hotel: Hyatt Regency Westshore, Tampa, FL



Sponsored by: The Division of Workplace Programs U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Who's invited? All SOFT Members & All TIAFT Members & Other interested parties

Hotel Reservations: Special rates of \$129 single/double; \$149 triple; and \$169 quad occupancy. Requests for two double beds (double/double) honored if available. **Reservations must be received by September 30, 1994**, to qualify for these rates. You may make your reservations on the TIAFT/SOFT hotel reservation form or contact the Hyatt Regency Westshore at 800-233-1234 (FAX: 813-282-3459).

PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY Deadline: September 30, 1994 No on-site registration permitted

Mail registration form and check to: **The CDM Group, Inc.**

Attn: Jerome F. Thompson
5530 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 930
Chevy Chase, MD 20815 (USA)

Phone: 301-654-6740
FAX: 301-654-2210

Payment: Personal or business checks drawn on a USA bank, international bank checks or money orders, *in U.S. funds only*. (Non-U.S. members of SOFT or TIAFT only may use the alternate payment offer on the other side of this form.) Make checks or money orders payable to: **The CDM Group, Inc.**

----- cut here and mail the bottom portion before September 30, 1994 -----

REGISTRATION: **Members** SOFT TIAFT Both SOFT and TIAFT \$ 60 \$ _____
 Non-members \$100 \$ _____

Name (last) _____ (first) _____ Degree _____

Title _____ Agency _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

Country _____ Telephone _____ FAX _____

Read the reverse side of this form for further information.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 1994

SOFT CONFERENCE ON DRUG TESTING IN HAIR

October 29 - 30, 1994 Hotel reservations: Hyatt Regency Westshore, Tampa, FL

The SOFT Conference on Drug Testing in Hair Organizing Committee, consisting of Mark Lewis (Chair), Marilyn Huestis, Vina Spiehler, and Chip Walls, is in the process of establishing the conference program. The following information is subject to change.

The two-day program will begin approximately 7:45 a.m. Saturday with attendees' sign-in and distribution of materials. There will be no on-site registration permitted. Some session topics currently being developed are:

Pharmacology of Drugs in Hair

Epidemiology

Environmental Contamination and Washing

Analytical Questions

"Open Forum"

Standards and Interlaboratory Studies

Experience and Cases

Conclusions

Quick contact information:

Conference Registration	The CDM Group, Inc.	301-654-6740
Hotel Reservations	Hyatt Regency Westshore	800-233-1234
Program Information	Mark Lewis, Conference Chairman	FAX: 518-457-2477

SOFT and TIAFT members will receive further information in their newsletters as the information is available.

For Non-U.S. SOFT or TIAFT Members only: We understand the difficulty and expense in obtaining U.S. international money orders and U.S. drafts. Therefore, non-U.S. members of SOFT and TIAFT may choose to sign this note and pay at the Conference on Drug Testing in Hair registration desk.

I agree to pay the amount of \$60 (U.S. funds) at the conference registration desk on October 29, 1994. I will be obligated for these funds even if I do not attend.

Date signed:

Your signature:

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 1994