

# Policemen Hold Institute Here

Achieving a partnership between a community and its policemen will be studied next week in a Police and Community Relations Institute at Texas A&M University.

Ira Scott, police training division head of the Texas Engineering Extension Service, said 80 policemen, chiefs and school personnel are expected to register Sunday.

The institute co-director noted that institute sessions in the Memorial Student Center will run Monday through Thursday.

Los Angeles police deputy chief James G. Fisk, community relations director, will make the keynote address Monday. His topic will be "Law Enforcement—Ready for Partnership."

Featured speakers include John Feild (cq), community relations service director, U. S. Conference of Mayors, and Dr. Nelson A. Watson, assistant director, research and development division, International Association of Chiefs of Police, both of Washington, D. C.; Col. W. E. Speir (cq), Texas Department of Public Safety; Lewis Berry, executive secretary, Sheriffs' Association of Texas; Don McEvoy, National Conference, Christian and Jews Association, and Wallace D. Beasley, executive director, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Training and Standards.

Berry, who edits "Texas Lawman," McEvoy and Beasley are located in Austin.

Co-directing the four-day institute will be E. R. McWilliams of Houston, NCCJA. The association provides participant scholarships.



COMPUTER TEACHER

Mike Glanville, a Houston youth who skipped his senior year in high school to enroll at Texas A&M University, checks to see how well A&M's computer learned its latest lesson. He is "teaching" it to play checkers as part of a research project dealing with artificial intelligence systems.

# Student Teaches Computer Games

A Houston youth who normally wouldn't even be in college yet is teaching Texas A&M's big computer a thing or two.

Computer teacher Mike Glanville, who looks younger than his 18 years, is a high school dropout, of sorts. He passed up his senior year at Westchester High to enroll at A&M last fall.

To say Glanville, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Glanville, did well at Aggieland is a gross understatement. He was awarded the equivalent of a semester's credit by simply taking examinations in several tough math, science and engineering courses.

He finished his first year with sophomore standing, is now enrolled in summer school and participating in university-sponsored research on the side.

THE RESEARCH is Glanville's own idea, sparked by an article he read while in the sixth grade. It deals with artificial intelligence systems—or simply teaching a computer to learn, a task which in fact, is not so simple.

Glanville's efforts to date have centered around teaching A&M's new IBM 360/65 to play checkers.

What might seem to be frivolous, the young scholar indicates, could lead to something big—like possibly the basis for improved procedures in air traffic control, more accurate landings on unmanned space flights and preliminary medical diagnosis.

IN VIEW OF REPORTS about computers being used in chess and other games, the A&M student's checker project may not seem so astounding. The key, however, is that Glanville is "teaching" the computer to play checkers, whereas in most of the other cases the machine is merely programmed to react in a certain way in a specific situation.

Glanville only "explains" to the A&M computer how a checker board looks and gives it an evaluation of the move it just made.

"I penalize it if it makes a wrong move and reward it if it jumps an opposing piece," the student notes.

He compares the learning process in a computer to that of a mouse, dog or any other reasonably intelligent animal.

Asked how you penalize a computer, Glanville quips: "You obviously don't kick it." Whether working with computers or animals, he says you take steps to make internal adjustments.

"IN THE CASE of the computer, you are able to make these adjustments directly by resetting certain numbers which are involved in the output decision," the young whiz explains, "whereas in the animal, you shock it or feed it or otherwise cause it to make some sort of internal adjustment on itself."

After a game or two of "training," Glanville recalls, the computer began averaging 90 per cent legal moves, meaning it would not cause a checker to move off the board or occupy a space in which another player was already located.

"If you can teach a computer to play checkers, you can teach it to do other things," the Aggie contends.

Right now, he adds, computers are programmed simply to carry out certain functions.

"IN ARTIFICIAL intelligence systems," Glanville continues, "the computer is able to modify its program to a certain degree—such that it would behave differently under the same conditions in the future."

He points out that most previous work in artificial intelligence systems centered around pattern recognition—being able to identify visual or sound patterns, or anything which will transform into a set of numbers.

While Glanville obviously feels the role of the computer can be expanded, he doesn't foresee the day when such machines will become the master of man.

He doesn't say it's impossible, but he emphasizes it would take a pretty good computer to do the trick.

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