

Campus Briefs

Disaster slides shown to rescue school

Movies and slides of great disasters, including Hurricane Celia's destruction in the Corpus Christi area, were shown the 31st Heavy Duty Rescue School Monday on the A&M campus.

The five-day, 56-hour course is conducted by the Firemen's Training School, a division of the Engineering Extension Service.

Coordinator John Rauch said the visual aids will be used to show firemen, industrial and government workers what to expect after a disaster.

A public demonstration is scheduled at 7:30 Friday night at

Brayton Fire Field, ending the training program.

Rauch includes 15 students. Instructors include Bryan Fireman George Harmon and FTS staff members Rauch, G. G. (Buddy) McDowell and David White.

Pan American Corp. presents scholarship

Pan American Petroleum Corp. Friday presented A&M \$15,050 in scholarship, fellowship and departmental grants.

Acting President A. R. Luedcke accepted the contributions from A. R. Wintzler of Houston, Division Exploration manager. Also representing Pan American

were Wayne Baylor and J. M. Brown, area engineer.

The grants included \$3,600 for one oceanography fellowship, \$3,400 for petroleum engineering physics scholarships, \$2,950 for geophysics scholarships, \$3,900 Geophysics Department grant and \$1,200 Petroleum Engineering Department grant.

Haliburton Foundation presents \$15,000

The Haliburton Education Foundation has renewed its grant for the Haliburton Chair in Engineering at A&M with the presentation of a \$15,000 gift.

The chair was established in 1965 and the sixth year grant runs the total of support to \$57,000, Engineering Dean Fred Benson said.

The \$15,000 check was presented to Benson Monday at a luncheon by Walter E. Heffler, vice president for engineering of Brown & Root of Houston, one of Haliburton's affiliated companies.

Others attending the luncheon included Dr. Richard E. Wainardi, associate dean of engineering; Gen. J. F. Thorlin, associate director, A&M's Engineering Experiment Station, and Dorsey F. McCrory director of development.

Dr. Charles A. Rodenberger holds the professorship for the Haliburton Chair.

Iranian Society elects officers

Officers of the Society of Iranian Students were elected Friday.

Elected were: president, Frooz Chaffari; vice president, Homayoun Malek; secretary, Khosrow M. Hadipour; treasurer, Hassan Salimi and social chairman, Lermond Hairapetian.

Dr. A. Edwin Ullrich, assistant professor in Sociology is the new advisor.

Basic learning research will be conducted here

A new laboratory facility for research in basic learning is being established in the College of Education.

The Human Learning Research Laboratory, headed by Dr. Clesjen J. Martin, will be operated through the Educational Psychology Department of the college, Dean Frank Hubert announced.

Designed along the lines of a classroom, the lab will be located in Hart Hall. Renovation work for the facility has begun. Among its appointments will be two testing cubicles for observing individuals under highly controlled situations.

Martin, professor in the Educational Psychology and Psychology Departments, said the purpose of the lab is to conduct basic research into the ways people learn and how the learning modes can be enhanced.

He was associated with a similar facility at Michigan State at which he conducted research on cognition and learning through the U. S. Office of Education funding.

The experimental psychologist

who joined the faculty as full professor last summer has several projects outlined for investigation in the lab. Graduate assistants will be employed, enabling the training of graduate students interested in the psychology of learning. He stressed that students from other departments will hopefully be involved in the lab's work.

An immediate project deals with basic studies in the "telegraphic concept" of reading, a process of condensing written material up to 80 per cent without loss of input or information.

"The idea," explained the cum laude graduate, "is, through research, developing some technique based on rewrite or reduction rules for elimination of excess verbiage."

Martin said many words and phrases recur in predictable sequences. Removal or condensing of such elements and deletion of some unnecessary prepositions, conjunctions and articles will not, he believes, affect comprehension.

Applied to existing textbook

material in this age of information explosion, the telegraphic concept could have tremendous implications for education, both in informal and formal settings.

In two-year USOE investigation, Martin found through application of the telegraphic concept with blind children who use Braille that there was no reduction in reading comprehension.

Development of a program applying mathematical models for the computer reduction of materials will receive priority treatment in the Human Learning Research Lab. An A&M computer science doctoral student, Mrs. Mary Ann Herndon of San Diego, will work with Martin on the computer program.

The former Apollo Support Program consultant also plans work in the development of teaching strategies among intellectually disadvantaged children. He says research shows that when learning strategies employed by the gifted were taught to the culturally disadvantaged, greater learning efficiency resulted.

Martin also wonders how the deaf get more information from visual material and the blind obtain data with their fingers not normally acquired through the sense of touch.

"If we can discover the answer to such questions," Martin said, "then maybe persons who have all their senses can make better use of them."

World health problems topic of seminar

"International Health Problems" will be discussed Wednesday at Texas A&M by Dr. Dorothy Huskey in the first of a fall series of Health Education Seminars.

Dr. Huskey, health education professor at Sam Houston State, will speak at 4 p.m. in the library conference suite, announced Melba Halford, seminars coordinator for the Health and Physical Education Department.

The series featuring top resource people of selected fields from throughout the U. S. is conducted each semester at Texas A&M. Undergraduates, health education graduate students, interested community people and faculty who wish to attend are invited, Mrs. Halford said.

Other fall semester topics are "Suicide Prevention" by Dr. William C. Swanson of Tulane on Oct. 21; Nov. 18, "Public School Drug Instruction," Dr. Richard K. Means, Auburn, and Dec. 2, "Cultural Variations in Food Selection," Dr. Fredrick J. Stare, Harvard.

Dr. Huskey has had more than 15 years experience in health education at city-county, state, national and international levels.

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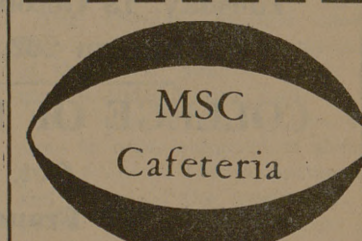
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