

Engineering women 'never had it so good'

The problem between women and engineering isn't being felt by women. In fact, declares John G. McGuire, Texas A&M University's Assistant Dean of Engineering, the girls never had it so good. "The problem is that the engineering profession can't find enough female engineers to fill the many vacancies and opportunities that exist for them," McGuire noted.

The College of Engineering recorded a tremendous increase in coed enrollment over the last few years. This year more than 150 women enrolled in engineering disciplines, compared to less than 30 three years ago. This year's freshman class, the first to graduate in TAMU's second century, boasts 65 coeds who came to study everything from mechanical to electrical engineering.

"We are actively engaged in recruiting programs aimed at coed students," McGuire said. "With the cooperation of the Society of Women Engineers and the Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS), we regularly contact every high school in the state, telling career counselors of our desire to increase our coed enrollment and of the career opportunities for women engineers."

McGuire added that engineering students never had it so good, with job offers each spring to graduating seniors far outstripping the supply of young engineers to fill them. With one of the largest percentage coed enrollments in engineering in the nation, Texas A&M expects another bumper crop from next year's entering freshmen.

"We have found that coeds are taking an increased liking to science and technical subjects in high school," McGuire noted. "Today's coed high school student wants more out of life than elementary school teaching or full-time homemaking."

"This new-found interest in science and technology leads us to believe that our coed enrollment will increase substantially each year," he added. The girls are holding their own academically. McGuire mentioned with pride three coed engineering students with perfect "A" averages thus far in their educational careers.

Engineering Dean Fred J. Benson pointed out that coed engineering students expect no "special" treatment, and they get none at Texas A&M. "The girls here are treated only as rational adults should be treated," he said. "They do the job we expect of them quite well, and from the graduate employment reports we've received, industry is extremely pleased with their performance."

Although Texas A&M is engaged in recruiting both male and female engineering students, McGuire receives many letters of inquiry about engineering education and the profession from high school coeds.

"They want to know how well they will fare in the job market," he explained, "not how well they will do in school. They know they can make the grade academically."

He said engineering coeds are received in good favor by Texas firms participating in the engineering cooperative education program at Texas A&M.

The co-op program places engineering students in engineering-related jobs in alternating semesters, allowing students to gain practical experience while completing work on an engineering degree.

"We have 15 coeds in the co-op program this year," McGuire said, "and we've been receiving excellent work reports on them from their employers."

While women and engineering haven't always traditionally mixed, the Texas A&M coed engineers are proving they can make the cut, and are doing a pretty good job of it.

Coordinator responsible for coeds

With the influx of women to Texas A&M University, someone was needed to coordinate activities for approximately 800 coeds residing in a three-dormitory area on the north side of campus previously occupied by men.

Karen Switzer was that someone. Beginning work last semester, the petite, long-haired brunette started heading the dorm staffs, including resident advisors and head residents, in the three dorms, Keathley, Fowler and Hughes.

"I'm in charge of their training and morale," explained the coordinator of the women's housing complex. She also works with the dorm and judicial councils.

"I'm working with the councils with the goal in mind of student development. I'll work with the women, or coeducationally, to develop the program which will ultimately meet their goal," she said.

Exciting things happen when working with so many girls, but she explained that one of her biggest fulfillments from her job comes from building the foundation.

"We're starting from nothing and building—including writing the constitutions and laying the framework for the future of the women residents—and that's what's exciting."

A native of Topeka, Kan., the vivacious counselor graduated from Wichita State University in 1969 with double majors in speech communications and political science.

"I didn't really know which area to go into, so I combined my majors when I got my master's degree from Kansas University by going into speech communications and human relations in political science."

Mrs. Switzer met her husband when she was working for the air pollution control department in Washington, D.C.

Warren Switzer teaches military history and justice here as part of his ROTC duty.

The counselor quickly asserted that she has many outside interests besides her job, including theatrical work at "Stagecenter," helping Girl Scouts earn their merit badges and volunteer work for the Red Cross multi-media first aid program.

She and her husband also like to cook and have sponsored several international nights in their home, inviting foreign students to eat the food of their native land. "They sometimes don't know what is it, though," she added.

FOR BEST RESULTS TRY BATTALION CLASSIFIED

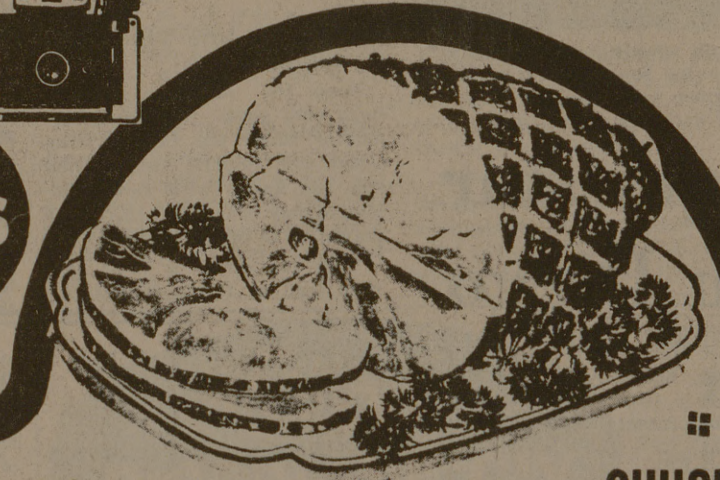
Embrey's Jewelry
We Specialize In Aggie Rings. Diamonds Set—Sizing—Reoxidizing—All types watch/jewelry Repair
9-5:30 846-5816

FOOD & DRUG WITH ONE CHECKOUT

SKAGGS ALBERTSONS DRUGS & FOODS

SPECIALS GOOD FEB. 6, 7, 8, 9, 1974 WED., THURS., FRI., SAT.

DELICATESSEN
CHEESE & SALAMI CHEESE
LB. \$1.55
PROVOLONE CHEESE
LB. \$1.75
PEPPERONI
LB. \$2.78
BAR B Q LOAF
LB. \$2.20



HAMS 77¢
SMOKED FULLY COOKED SHANK PORTION
BUTT PORTION 83¢ LB.

CHUCK ROAST USDA CHOICE BEEF BLADE CUT LB. 89¢
SAUSAGE 8 OZ. PKG. 79¢
SLICED BACON BAR-S VACUUM PAC SKILLET SIZE 12 OZ. PKG. 95¢
SLICED CHEESE SKAGGS-ALBERTSONS SINGLE WRAPPED AMER. 8 OZ. PKG. 63¢
BEEF MIX VEGETABLE PROTEIN PATTIE MONEY STRETCHER LB. 78¢
FISH STICKS GORTON'S 2 LB. BOX \$1.49
ENGLISH ROAST USDA CHOICE BEEF BONELESS LB. \$1.38
SWISS STEAK USDA CHOICE BEEF ROUND BONE ARM LB. \$1.28
RIB-EYE STEAK USDA CHOICE BEEF BONELESS LB. \$2.68

SAVE AT THE HOME OF MAN IN GOLD SERVICE!!

HEINZ BABY FOOD 4 1/2 OZ. JAR
8¢

HAWAIIAN PUNCH FRUIT DRINK 46 OZ. TIN
3 FOR \$1 ONLY

RAIN BARREL FABRIC SOFTENER 48 OZ. BOTT.
89¢

HAND-WRAP PLASTIC WRAP 100 FT. ROLL
25¢

JANET LEE ASPARAGUS 15 OZ. TIN
3 FOR \$1 ONLY

FROZEN FOOD SPECIALS!!!
PIZZA LAMBRECHT CHEESE-PEPPERONI HAMBURGER-SAUSAGE 12 OZ. PKG. 69¢
ORANGE JUICE 4 OZ. TIN \$1
POTATOES ALBERTSONS HASH BROWNS 2 LB. PKG. 27¢

SYRUP ALBERTSONS 72 OZ. BOTT. 49¢
CRISCO SHORTENING 3 LB. CAN \$1.29
CORN BREAD MIX GLADIOLA WHITE OR YELLOW 2 4 OZ. PKG. 27¢
PORK & BEANS JANET LEE 15 1/2 OZ. TIN 18¢
COOKIES KEELER PECAN SANDIES 14 OZ. PKG. 53¢

WE CARE ABOUT YOU...RELY ON IT!
TEXAS - RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT
ECONOMY PACK 18 LB. BAG FOR \$1.39
APPLS WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY GOLDEN DELICIOUS 3 LBS. FOR 89¢
CARROTS VITAMIN RICH CALIFORNIA 2 LB. CELLO BAG 38¢
RADISHES CHERRY RED 2 4 OZ. CELLO BAG 27¢
GREEN ONIONS YOUNG TENDER CALIFORNIA 2 BUN. 27¢
MUSHROOMS BROIL IN BUTTER LARGE BROWN LB. 99¢

SKAGGS ALBERTSONS DRUGS & FOODS
UNIVERSITY DRIVE AT COLLEGE AVE.
master charge BANKAMERICARD welcome here
WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

CHOCOLATE FUDGE CAKES LARGE 8 IN. TWO LAYERS FOR THAT SPECIAL TOUCH \$1.98
CINNAMON BREAD 2 \$1
BROWNIES CHOCOLATE FUDGE FLAVOR CHILDREN LOVE 14 FOR \$1
HARD ROLLS PLAIN OR SEEDED 30 FOR \$1
BAKED FRESH DAILY IN OUR OWN INSTORE BAKERIES!

WE SPECIALIZE IN WEDDING & BIRTHDAY CAKES FOR YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS.

POWDERED DASH DETERGENT 20 LB. PACKAGE \$3.99