

Animal acupuncture useful

A Texas A&M professor of veterinary medicine says acupuncture has worked on humans and there's no reason why it can't work on animals.

Dr. Bill McMullen, a large-animal clinician, said in a recent interview that acupuncture can eliminate pain, be used in animal surgery, and one day soon "may become another branch of veterinary medicine."

Research has shown, McMullen said, that needles placed in the proper areas can make life easier for cats and dogs and horses.

"We are only scratching the sur-

face of animal acupuncture now," he said, "but it offers a lot of promise. It will not be a replacement for the current methods of veterinary medicine, but an addition to the practice."

Acupuncture can eliminate the pain of arthritis and offers great possibility in the treatment of shock in animals and in certain operations where an anesthetic might be dangerous, McMullen said.

McMullen told The Associated Press he had witnessed an operation on a pony where two of the silver

needles had been placed in the left ear. "The skin jumped when the knife passed through. The muscles reacted, but the pony looked straight ahead with no obvious pain."

"On another occasion, two needles were placed in the hind legs of a dog and an incision was made in his stomach about four inches long. Once the operation was finished, the incision was closed, and the dog ran back to his room with no obvious pain," McMullen said.

"There has been a tremendous

amount of research work in recent years that offers real good proof that acupuncture is more than hypnosis or hog-wash."

The A&M professor said acupuncture was first believed by some to be "post-hypnotic suggestion or patient preparation. I'd like to know how post-hypnotism works with a horse. I went in with an open mind. It can be an ideal situation for a quack, no doubt about that. However, I see its future now."

McMullen said that in the past few months he has worked with eight or 10 horses using acupuncture and "we had amazing results with two of them, improvements in three, and no improvement in the others, but understand these were almost hopeless cases. That is generally what we are getting on acupuncture, the hopeless cases. It would be nice to have the advantage to see what we could do in the routine cases."

The veterinarian said acupuncture is being used now on race horses suffering pain from various ailments. "I don't look on that with too much favor, but at least it is not a drug that can be harmful to the horse."



These A&M students are whooping it up at an Aggie yell practice. Although this session was held in the early evening, the

tradition, which was started on the eve of the Texas-A&M game in 1932, is to hold the gatherings at midnight.

Yell practice leads fall football fever

By SANFORD RUSSO
Battalion Staff

There are three types of yell practices: those held Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the convenience of the Corps of Cadets, those held at midnight the night before the game and those held after the game.

The tradition of midnight yell practice was started on the eve of the Texas-A&M game, 1932. The upperclassmen thought it would be "good bull" (an expression used to justify almost anything) to rouse the fish for a yell practice. Before long most of the campus had gathered on the steps of the Y building.

Today, the cadence is blown by the brass and as the band sweeps by the crowd, the masses fall in behind it.

During the arm-to-shoulder procession, women should guard their backs because the fish (freshman) tradition, the "pinch," more appropriately called the "grab," is being practiced.

As the crowd approaches Kyle, the rapid forward motion is slowed. Great caution should be taken because people are knocked down, shoes are kicked off and shoulders are separated at this point. Those who fall may be trampled.

Kyle Field is open before the procession arrives and some choose to avoid the rush and get places early.

The bottom of the horseshoe is the best place to hear what is going on. The yell leaders traditionally don't use microphones and they can't be heard when they get in "the hole."

Since Aggies award their dates with a kiss each time the team puts points the scoreboard, at midnight yell practice lights are dimmed and scoring practice commences.

Fish light matches to spotlight their favorite upper-classmen when the lights are out. The books say that the fish light matches to show their burning desire to beat the opposing team.

Another highlight of yell practice is the juniors doing their class number of pushups. This happens after a junior yell leader decides the crowd is going to beat the junior class hell out of the opponents of the week. This is strictly a senior privilege.

Fish are forbidden to watch this display so the sophomores attempt to distract the fish.

The whole affair takes about thirty minutes and is rounded out with "Fifteen for team, farmers fight, call it a night."

After-the-game yell practices can be happy or sad.

If the team wins, rather than carry the team members off the field, the yell leaders are chased down and carried to the nearest body of water.

Today, this is the University Center fountain. In the past it was the fish pond across from Sbsa Dining Hall.

From the steps of the nearest building (formerly the Y Building and now the Rudder Complex) the soaking-wet yell leaders conduct a yell practice.

Upon losing a game, the Ags stay in the stadium and the yells are done once more to show the team that the fans still support them.

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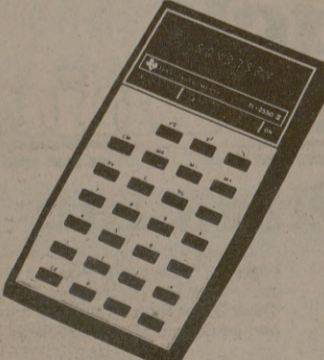
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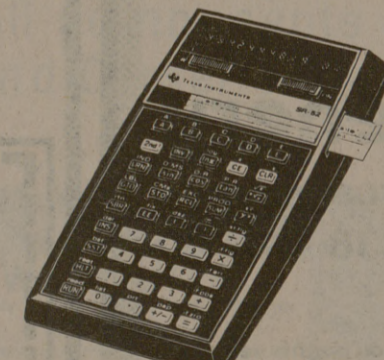
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Opportunities available for singing students

Opportunities for new students with vocal music interests are available in the Singing Cadets, Century Singers and the Community Singers.

The Cadets and Century Singers operate through the Memorial Student Center and share rehearsal facilities there.

An all-male glee club, the Singing Cadets travels throughout the Southwest and has garnered appearances at the White House, on television and in southeastern Europe.

Auditions for 20 to 25 new Cadets will begin the first day of fall semester classes. The group needs basses and second tenors. Sign-up for audition times is in the vocal music office, MSC 003, lower level near the

games area. Bob Boone directs the Cadets.

The Century Singers is a mixed chorus and is under the direction of Margaret McArthur. Auditions start the first day of classes with sign-up in the vocal music office.

The Cadets and Century Singers will answer questions at Open House, Saturday on the MSC second floor.

The Cadets are scheduled for a

halftime performance and a January tour of the Panhandle. The Singers will join the Cadets in a Houston Symphony performance in November.

For people who want to be a part of the community, The B-CS Community Singers welcome anyone who likes to sing and their first practice will be 7:30 p.m. Sept. 2 in MSC 003.

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