

A&M's program unique

Students get radar training

By BECKY DOBSON
Battalion Reporter

Texas A&M University's meteorology students get the only hands-on radar training in the United States, even though almost a score of other institutions offer advanced degrees in the field.

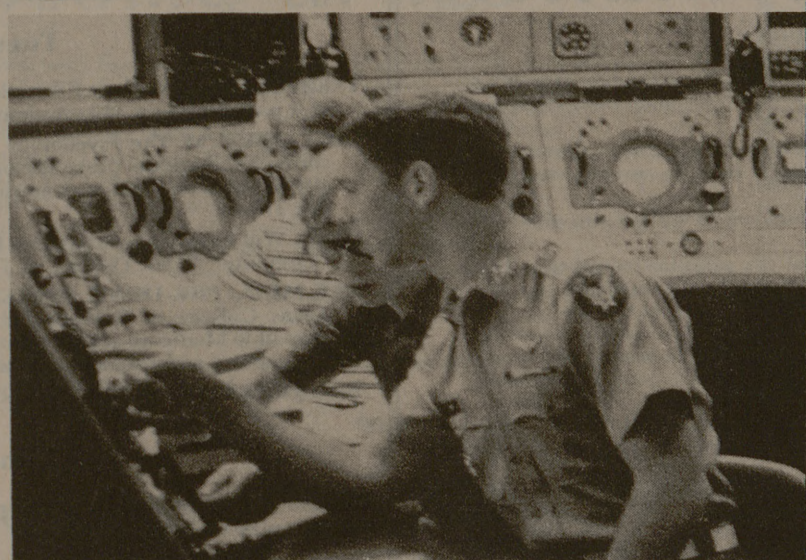
"Many schools teach a radar course without radar instruments and others teach radar but never allow the students to run it," Kenneth C. Brundidge, head of the meteorology department, said. "The students actually run the radar here."

The radar equipment the students are allowed to use has an effective range of 250 miles. It can detect hurricanes, tornadoes or any form of precipitation within that range.

The height of the Oceanography and Meteorology building itself serves to make the weather station the most powerful in the area. The radar antenna on top of the building is more than 200 feet above ground and 30 inches in diameter which accounts for its broad range, Brundidge says.

Brundidge says meteorology continues to bloom as a service-oriented profession, although jobs are presently confined to government and a few private consulting firms.

The department has produced TV figures such as Ron Godbey and David Finfrock. Both are weathermen for TV stations and



Battalion photo by Paige Beasley
Meteorology students track approaching front on TAMU weather radar.

radio stations in Fort Worth. John Adams, whose voice is familiar to many who watched channel 3 weather in Bryan, is now working for a station in Beaumont.

Meteorology was first taught here in 1949 and became a separate department in 1965. It now includes 200 undergraduate and graduate majors and has a staff of 14 faculty members.

The department offers specially designed courses for edu-

cation, architecture, agriculture and science majors. The one-hour course for non-majors attracts almost 250 students a semester.

During times of severe weather the department's equipment records threatening storm conditions. These are reported to local civil defense and other emergency officials. Recorded warnings and forecasts are also available to the general public by phone.



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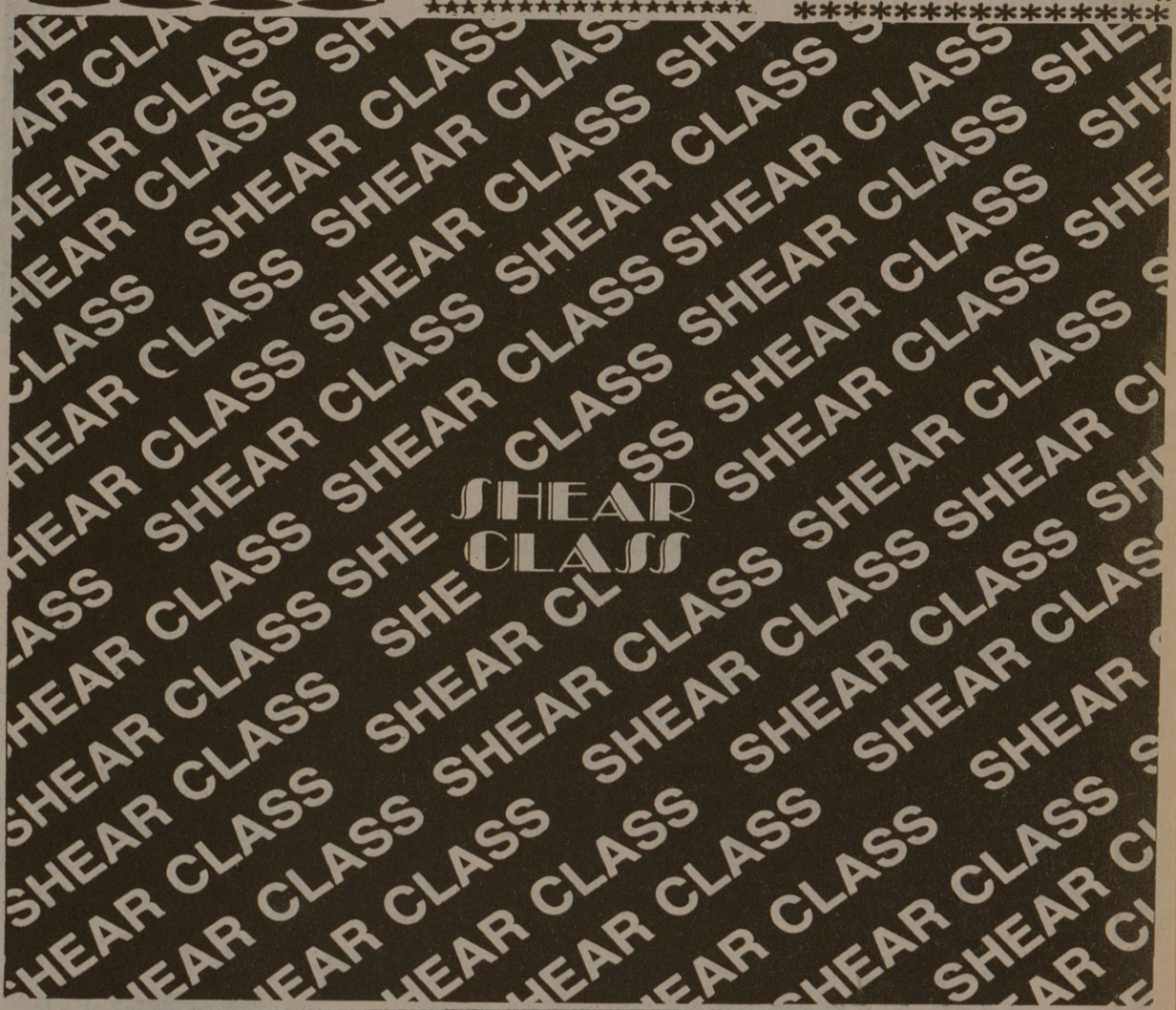
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Carter's veto of beef bill is 'slap at cattle industry'

United Press International
KANSAS CITY - President Carter's veto of the beef imports bill, some cattle producers say, is a slap at the industry for short-term political gain.

Producers, interviewed Sunday at the 80th American Royal exposition, said the veto announcement Saturday was no surprise. Administration officials had predicted the action, but lack of a surprise did not make the news any easier to take.

As he watched judging of youngsters' prize cattle, Carlton Noyes said the president put short-term politics ahead of the need for a viable cattle industry and future sufficient supplies.

Noyes, president of a group which produces Limousin cattle from France, said, "I do feel that he

is making a tremendous mistake in putting politics ahead of the good agriculture can do for this country."

There was no disagreement between the industry and the administration on a counter-cyclical formula to raise imports during times of low domestic production and reduce them during times of high production.

The disagreement involved a provision in the beef imports bill which would have strongly restricted the president's authority to increase or suspend beef imports.

Cattlemen said that when they made money this year after four lean years, the president sought to appease consumers with a June 8 announcement increasing imports. The result was a drop in domestic prices.

"He's playing politics with the consumer," said Noyes, who runs a feedlot and ranching business in Orleans, Neb.

"Agriculture is such a small minority that he doesn't feel it is necessary to satisfy agricultural constituents," he said.

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Satellite to probe space

United Press International
CAPE CANAVERAL — A satellite equipped to map the X-ray patterns of the universe which are beamed from the mysterious pulsars, quasars and black holes rode into orbit Monday morning atop an Atlas-Centaur booster rocket.

The High Energy Astronomical Observatory will be orbiting from 280 to 335 miles above Earth, pointing its powerful telescope at the radiation sources and transmitting back pictures that may explain the astronomical wonders.

For the first time researchers will be able to "look at objects, see exactly where the action is taking place and from that better understand the whole astrophysical system that is working out there to produce these X-rays," program scientist Albert Opp said.

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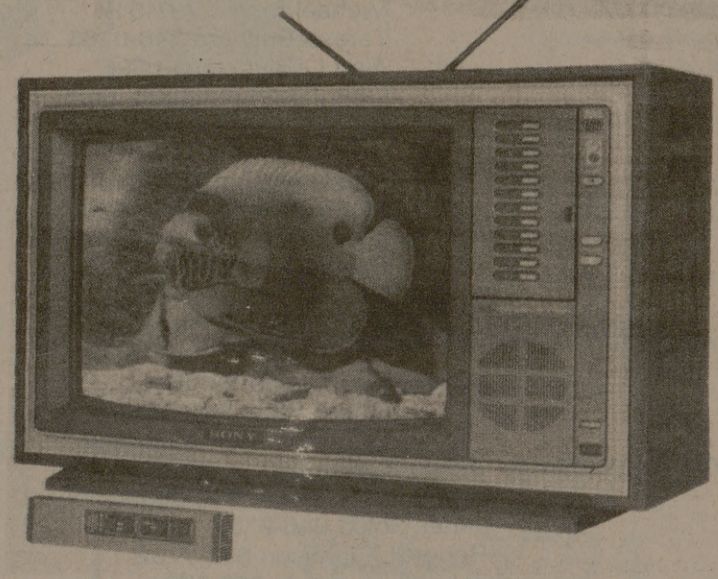
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