

Local

Horses used for research

By NATHAN R. HINES  
Campus Reporter

If someone mentions a herd of research horses, most people think of a herd of nags. But the herd of research horses that the animal science department at Texas A&M University owns proves that idea wrong.

The horses used in research and class work at Texas A&M are unique in that they all are purebred.

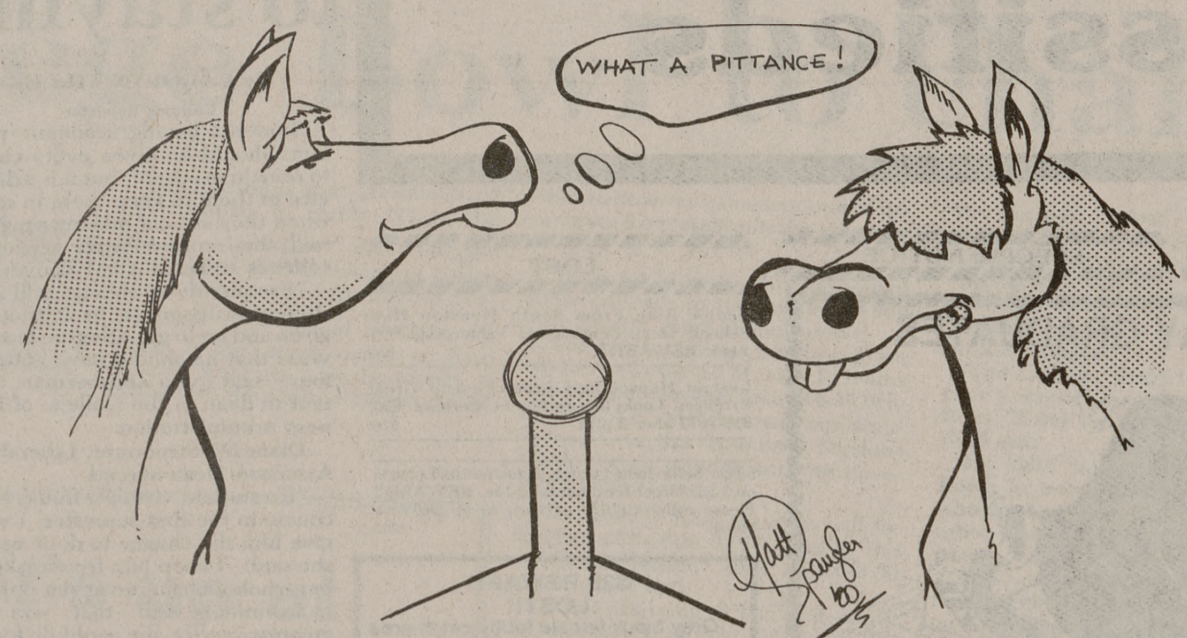
Dr. Gary Potter, head of the horse section of the animal science department, said the total value of the research herd of horses is over \$100,000. The horses used vary in value from \$500 for colts to more than \$100,000 for some of the stallions.

"Our intent is to use horses that are exemplary of horses in the industry, so we try to have good quality horses," Potter said.

"We use the horses in teaching production, training, management, growth and development of foals, marketing and judging. Every one of the horses in the herd" is used in one or more of the classes or in research.

Most of the animals in the 125-horse herd were raised by the department, but some of the horses were gifts.

"We receive around 15 horses a



year as gifts," Potter said. "Some of these horses come from people whose children have grown up and moved, while some come from people who just want to help the program," he said.

"The largest number of gifts, comes from the various breed associations," Potter said the reason breed asso-

ciations donate horses is out of appreciation for the help that the department at Texas A&M has given them in research of breeding, feeds, and horse health.

With money donated by the Quarter Horse Association, the department bought a top quality stallion, Impressive's Copy.

A recent donor is Dr. George

Gayle, a Houston dentist. He donated an appaloosa stallion and four two-year old fillies with a total value of over \$100,000.

The entire program is geared to the public's needs. Along with the public having access to the results of the research, the stallions are also available for breeding. Breeding fees range from \$500 to \$1250.

Mentors offer ear for student

By DENISE CRENWELGE  
Campus Reporter

Students who need to sit and talk with someone now have somewhere to turn.

Dr. Rod O'Connor, chemistry professor, and Dr. Garland Bayliss, director of academic services, have formed the Mentors Program to fill this need.

Mentor means a wise and faithful counselor. The program consists of interested faculty members who are willing to volunteer their spare hours to visit with students as friends.

O'Connor said they are not counselors and are not trying to replace any of the counseling services already on campus.

"We're not a crisis group and not necessarily a problem solving group, although we'll do that," O'Connor said.

He said he felt this will give the counseling centers more time to work with those who really need help while the faculty can help students who only have a need to talk.

An informal monthly seminar will help the faculty to help students and tell them who to refer them to.

O'Connor said he thinks a lot of

students will respond to the program and eventually other campuses will start similar programs. He said he has already received inquiries from other schools about the program.

O'Connor said the idea started when he read a survey in The Battalion saying students felt teachers did not care about them as human beings.

O'Connor wants more communication that will benefit both the student and faculty. He said in class a student is talked to but through this program the student will be talked with.

Any student or faculty member interested in Mentors should contact O'Connor at 845-3745 or Bayliss at 845-3210.



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Federal money sought for low-income areas

By BECKY SWANSON  
City Reporter

The City of College Station will apply for the 1980 Community Development Block Grant — money that will be used to improve low income areas.

The anticipated federal allocation for this year is \$357,000, up from \$336,000 in 1979.

At a meeting Thursday, city council members heard from Stephen Miller, a College Station resident who was concerned that rent-subsidized housing zones implied the proposal would ease an influx of lower income families into the city and not benefit its present residents.

The 1980 grant will fund several projects aimed at improving lower income areas. Street paving, housing rehabilitation, removal of vacant

dilapidated structures, a survey of fire protection and improvements for the Lincoln Center and Lions parks are among the improvements that will be made.

Mayor Lorence Bravenec explained that the city did not have to build low-income housing. They would be required by the federal government to re-zone areas for the construction of rent-subsidized housing for the elderly and for low-income families, he said.

Councilman Gary Halter pointed out that the federal government could intervene to force rezoning even if the grant money was turned down by the city.

He added that other projects, such as street paving and rehabilitation of present housing, would be affected if the grant application was not accepted.

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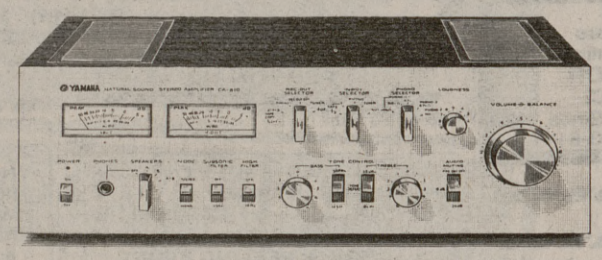
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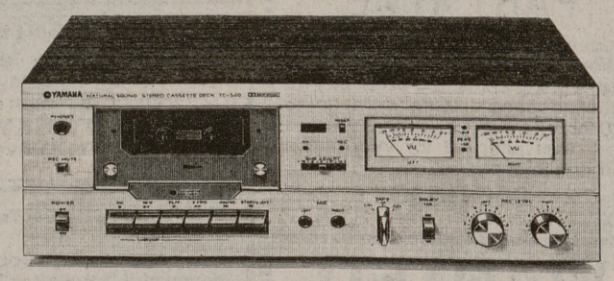
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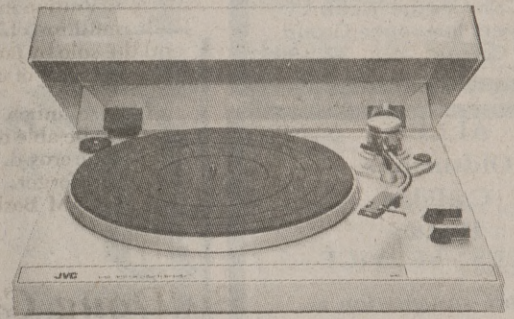
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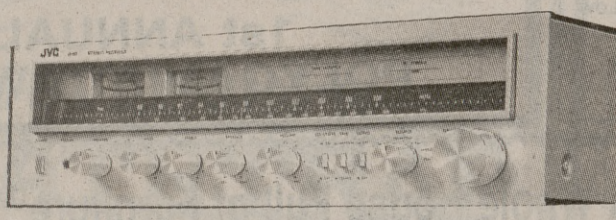
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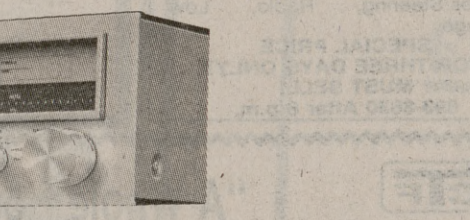
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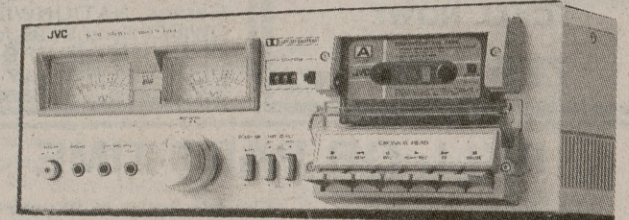
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