

'Technology' debate argues women's rights

By CAROL HANCOCK
Campus Staff

Over 250 people expecting to hear a debate between large and small technology advocates heard a women's rights debate instead Friday.

In a debate between small technology advocate Hazel Henderson and large technology advocate Samuel Florman, Henderson said most technology that does not seek to control was invented by women.

The debate was held in Texas A&M University's Rudder Tower as part of the 25th Student Conference on National Affairs.

Henderson, a former member of the Advisory Council of the Office of Technology Assessment, started her debate by saying seeking an answer to the conference's topic "Technology: Tool or Tyrant?" could be both circular and fruitless.

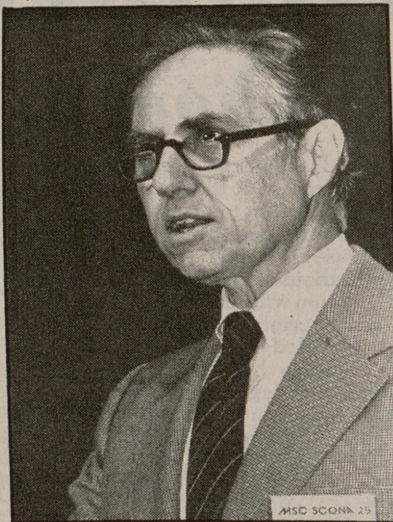
"In most cases, technology is both," she said.

Henderson commented on an article of Florman's in Harper's throughout which he consistently used the pronoun "he" when referring to the human species. Her comments on his chauvinism were well received by the women in the audience.

Florman, author of many articles on technology and culture, and a contritiing editor to Harper's, admitted he was guilty of Hender-



Hazel Henderson



Samuel Florman

son's accusations. Florman said if it had been written recently, he would have taken cautions to use a neutral pronoun.

When asked why there weren't more women engineers, Florman said women find it easier to move into management positions.

"Women would rather criticize, organize and supervise, rather than build," he said.

Henderson said the denial of patents was to blame for women's slow move into the engineering field.

Before the equality debate began, Florman said the debate between large and small technology was absurd to engineers.

"Much technology calls for both large and small solutions. A solution that makes sense is what is sought," he said.

Henderson agreed but said our solutions need to be less materialistic and more realistic in relation to ourselves. "In keeping up with the Joneses, we are suffering spiritual losses."

Mardi Gras hit-and-run injures eight

UNITED Press International
NEW ORLEANS — A hit-and-run driver plowed through a crowd waiting off Canal Street for a Carnival parade Sunday and injured eight persons, one seriously.

The suspect, who apparently was driving a stolen car, rammed through police barricades set up for the Krewe of Mid-City parade near

Canal Street and University Place.

Lt. Frank Haywood said the suspect was arrested in the French Quarter about five blocks away. Haywood said the man may have been driving a stolen vehicle.

"The best we can determine, the (driver) came through the parade crowd that was gathered," Haywood said. "He crossed Canal and knocked

down the steel barriers."

Haywood said four ambulances arrived at the scene to transfer the injured to Charity Hospital. Others were treated at the scene for minor injuries.

A spokeswoman at Charity said one victim brought in by police was an elderly man.

Anne Murray

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Highway patrol captures runaway circus elephant

UNITED Press International
HUGO, Okla. — It took a while for circus officials to figure out how to catch young Alta the elephant, who ran away from her circus home, but the answer was obvious — use another elephant.

Alta, frightened by a backfiring truck, ran away from the Carson and Barnes Circus late Friday, initiating a wide search.

Every so often an Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper would spot her in a densely wooded area near county roads, but each time someone tried to catch the 5-year-old female, she would crash through the woods.

Late Saturday officials decided to employ Suzie, an adult elephant and apparently a good friend of Alta.

Bowman said when Alta saw Suzie, she just "ran right up to us."

Animals adapt to urban life

UNITED Press International
DENVER — The buffalo and antelope that once roamed what is now Denver are long gone, but Steve Bissell of the Colorado Wildlife Division said fox, gophers and even an occasional beaver or muskrat appear within the urban boundaries. Bissell surveys the mammals and birds that adapt to high-rise apartments and busy streets. He said a beaver used to live in Cherry Creek near downtown before the city cleared the waterway for flood control.

"Because there weren't all that many trees for him to make a lodge, he was innovative. He used boxes, tires, assorted junk — even had an old baby carriage stuffed in it," Bissell said.

The research has found 13 different species of ground squirrels and a wide variety of other squirrels, prairie dogs, and the meadow jumping mouse, he said.

"Coyotes and skunks have been seen around trash cans at night. And five or six years ago we were called to capture a bobcat (near the airport)," Bissell said.

Using a Landsat satellite and U-2 photographs of the city, Bissell has identified 21 areas for research, including city parks and established residential areas.

He said he started by charting and

cataloging birds because the mammal section of the study requires traps and he has not found a way to keep pets and youngsters away from them.

"The more complex the ecosystem, the healthier the species. When we see less and less species, it could be telling man something about what he's doing to his environment," Bissell said.

Edison's lab dangerous

UNITED Press International
WEST ORANGE, N.J. — Thomas A. Edison, who gave the world the electric light bulb, left the National Park Service with a potentially explosive problem.

Park officials said when Edison died in 1931 he left them a laboratory filled with thousands of containers of chemicals that may have become unstable and dangerous over the years.

A safety officer inspecting buildings on the site for possible asbestos hazards discovered the chemicals in the inventor's old workshop.

Officials have closed the laboratory to the public until the containers have been examined.

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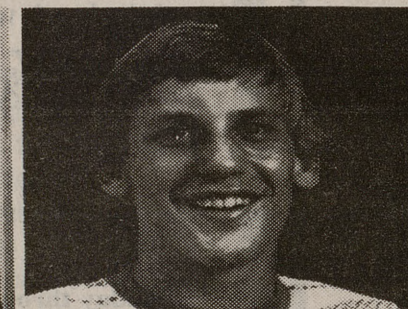
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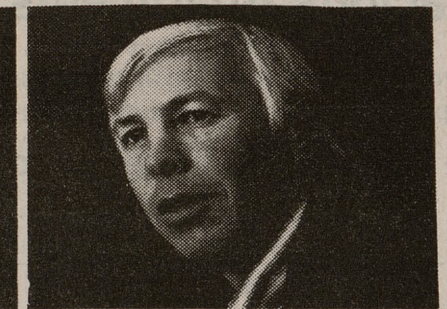
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