

Battalion Classifieds

Satellite dish may become educational tool of the future

SPECIAL NOTICE

**ACCOUNTING SOCIETY'S
SPRING DANCE
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22,
8:00 pm at the Shiloh Club**
(on Finfeather Ave., maps available
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BEER — SODAWATER — MUNCHIES

SPECIAL NOTICE

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New! room for rent. \$125.50/month. Call 779-9096. 10515

Girl needed to sublease 2-bdrm, 2-bath apartment. Call 845-8429. 10515

Male grad student needs roommate for new 2-bdrm. duplex. \$125 + 1/2 utilities. 693-5010. 10615

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Camp Soroptimist,
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(214) 634-7500 10418

FOR SALE: Sanyo turntable — Excellent condition — four months old. \$100.00. Call Robert 696-3137. 10515

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United Press International
If the kids say the school wants a satellite dish — and they might some day — don't look in the cupboard for something along that line to donate. A satellite dish has nothing to do with regular dishes. Also called a down-link, it has nothing to do with cuff, fence or golf links either. A satellite dish is part of the equipment in one of the new communication technologies making audio-visual waves around the schoolhouse. The technologies will give new flexibility to instructional television — I-T-V, as it's called. The "dish" catches beams — signals — from satellites. It looks like a dish — but the diameter on a small one is three feet. Kentucky Education Television, for one, is preparing to perch small satellite dishes — receivers — atop every school in that state and to purchase a full-time satellite channel dedicated to delivering instructional television materials to schools. Satellite dish is just one phrase in the new communication technologies you need to know to keep up with what's going on — or going to go on — in the schoolhouse. Add these other words: videodisc, cable, videotape recorder. I-T-V consists of series designed to teach specific subjects. Many of the packaged programs are produced under the aegis of Agency for Instructional Television, a consortium of education departments in Canada and the United States. About 15 million students, kindergarten to grade 12, learn some from instructional television programs during a school day. But there are I-T-V programs for all ages and types of learners, including postsecondary and adult learners. Topics range from reading to math to counseling and anthropology. But that's not all. Nearly half-a-million students are enrolled in courses offered by instructional television in colleges and universities, the National Center for Education Statistics reports. Taxpayers can cheer about satellites in I-T-V. Insiders say the satellites provide a means of transmitting signals across great distances and avoid the need for complex systems of land-based relays. The result: a major decrease in the cost of long distance, multiple-channel transmission. Present satellite receiving equipment — down-links — are relatively complex and costly. Small, simpler and much less costly down-links are being used successfully for at-home reception in several countries.

A report from "Television Is for Learning," an information program from the Public Broadcasting Service and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, said: "These smaller, three-foot in diameter receiving dishes will soon be available in the United States for both home and institutional use." Three other payoffs from satellite communications expected to impact on the classroom: — Videoc Conferencing: Twoway visual links between several parties separated by substantial distances. A wide variety of educational, medical and business teleconferences have been conducted over the past two years. — Dissemination of educational materials to numerous interested parties on a regional or national basis. — Dissemination of specialized materials to people who are widely dispersed and/or situated in relative geographic isolation. That is the problem Kentucky Education Television hopes to solve with satellite receivers on school tops. About those other words and systems you'll need to know — in addition to satellite dish — as alternative delivery systems from the new technologies become generally available: — Videotape recorder and playback units: The rapid rise in consumer popularity of the small format 1/2-in. videotape cassette recorders brings with it a shift in control away from the broadcaster and towards the classroom teacher. In many schools, teachers have I-T-V programs recorded off the air and, at some later time, fit them into a more appropriate time and sequence for that classroom. Up to six hours of instructional programming may be stored on one 1/2-in. video cassette. Small format recorders, relatively inexpensive, are steadily being purchased for home use. It is conceivable the classroom might be expanded into the living room. How this would work: student checks out pre-recorded material, takes cassette home, plays it, studies. — Videotape cameras: More schools are buying small video cameras and constructing some form of school television production facility. Often, production process be-

comes part of the instruction. Students at Edward R. Murrow High in Brooklyn, N.Y., for one example, have gone into the surgical suite of a New York city hospital and taped operations. Prairie High students in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, working with Kirkwood Community College, produced 1,500 videotapes covering aspects of vocational education. Students use phones to request tapes stored at Kirkwood. Media personnel inform student of correct channel to monitor, then transmits tape. After viewing tapes, students demonstrate to teacher they learned information on the tape. Tape topics range from auto mechanics to drafting, electronics, pottery, woodworking. — Cable television: Cable system for disseminating TV instead of over the air. The multiple channel television, data and facsimile reproduction, in some cases, interactive. Most cable systems now have a 12 channel capacity. Systems will have increased capacity. A few might have channels of information for subscribers. Newer systems will have increased channel capacity. Some might have up to 125 channels of information for cable subscribers.

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U.S. flight suits look like 'creature'

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Because of the Soviet Union's increasing sophistication in nuclear and chemical warfare, the Air Force is considering dressing its pilots in charcoal-lined flight suits, hoods and nuclear flash goggles. At Brooks Air Force Base, headquarters for the Aerospace Medical Division, scientists already have developed what they call "PLZT," goggles made of electro-optically active, crystalline material. The bizarre goggles will "close" at a sudden flash, such as from a hydrogen bomb, and reopen a split second later to prevent a pilot from being blinded by a nuclear flash. They make the pilot resemble a creature from outer space as portrayed in science fiction movies. Col. Donald J. Carter, director of research and development, said the futuristic pilot's wear represents one of several directions the Aerospace Medical Division is going to enhance American pilots' survival in combat during the next decade. The division already is planning the direction of its medical and biotechnology efforts over the next 5 to 10 years, Carter said. The keystones of the programs will be pilot-oriented, directed toward solving

the aeromedical problems that arise as new aircraft capabilities, space systems and advanced weaponry emerge. A priority area, Carter said, protect pilots from chemical and ionizing radiation. The new protective equipment will revolutionize the entire pilot's ensemble. He said defense experts view potential for chemical warfare as a very real threat, in the light of growing capabilities of the Soviet Union in this area. "The Crew Technology Division already is testing some of the shelf equipment to see how relatively heavy charcoal-lined radiation device and hood affect pilot's ability to tolerate high maneuvers and heat stress. If proposals being submitted to the Air Force Systems Command are approved, the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks will be developing a more efficient and effective protective equipment that doesn't degrade a pilot's ability to fly the aircraft and yet provide protection he needs against exposure to chemical agents." Carter estimated it will take three to five years to completely develop the chemical equipment. Research programs into ionizing radiation, also are expected to be broadened. "Considering the potential nuclear warfare, we need to do more work to define the biological effects of radiation affecting crew's ability to perform in combat," Carter said. Efforts are underway to study the effects of exposure to different types of radiation as well as simultaneous exposures to radiation and chemical agents. The Clinical Sciences Division, Brooks, in conjunction with a program, is developing physical and psychological criteria for selection and keeping pilots fit to fly high performance aircraft and to perform demanding maneuvers required in combat. As part of that area of study, scientists next month will acquire 39 aircraft simulators to study workload, and will look into the number and causes of the Air Force "near miss" accident rate which has increased significantly in the past year.

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