

NEW LOOK

For the Campus Directory

This year there'll be 2!!

FACULTY/STAFF VERSION — scheduled to be available for pickup **Oct. 1**. It will be sold for \$3.50 over the counter from Student Publications Office, 216 Reed McDonald Building —

— and will include —

✓ Emergency numbers, dialing instructions, calendars and schedules, maps and other general information similar to that which has appeared in past Directory white pages, updated to include the latest information on the new Texas A&M University telephone system.

✓ A revised general listing of all administrative, departmental, and staff offices and people, similar to the lists which have appeared in past Directories, but integrated this year into a single alphabetical list. (Requests, with an initial draft of this list, already have gone out at all departments asking that corrections and updates on this information be returned no later than Sept. 1 to Geneva Brewer at Physical Plant Office to be included in this year's Directory.)

✓ The usual faculty/staff individual listings. These come from the University's main computer pay roll lists. A request already has gone to all departments, with a computer printout of what currently appears, asking that corrections, update and additions to this material be returned to Data Processing Center by requested deadlines to be included in the 1981-82 Directories.

✓ Student Government, Corps of Cadets and Yell Leader lists, as well as list of all Dorm Room phone numbers, maintenance and other service maps, a new list of all Speed Numbers and other material which has appeared in the back pages of past Directories.

✓ All yellow pages and a full schedule of advertising, which has been a feature of all past Directories.

STUDENT VERSION — scheduled to be available for pickup **Oct. 30**. Will be the Directory furnished to all students who have paid their \$2.50 Directory checkoff fee and who present fee slip at 216 Reed McDonald Building. Also available for over-the-counter sale at \$3.50 —

— and will include —

✓ ALL OF THE FEATURES LISTED ABOVE, PLUS —

✓ Student Government and Corps of Cadets leaders' phone numbers, and listings of other material which was not available at press time of earlier Directory.

✓ A full list of Student Organizations and leaders, unavailable at earlier press time, as it has appeared in past Directories.

✓ A full list of all individual students registered at the University as of the 12th Class Day, as furnished by University computers.

Department Heads —

be sure complete, updated information for your operation is sent to the proper place to meet 1981-82 Campus Directory correction deadlines

Students —

be sure to check off for the \$2.50 fee during registration

New computer system obeys vocal commands

ST. LOUIS — When Jay Fleischman talks, his microscope listens.

It not only listens, it does what he tells it to do.

Fleischman is an eye surgeon, and his power over operating room equipment is not limited to the microscope. He speaks and the room lights obey. He commands and a radio in the operating room turns on or off.

Fleischman, assistant professor of ophthalmology at St. Louis University and director of retinal vitreous service at Bethesda Eye Institute, has devised a unique voice-actuated computer system. The system eliminates cumbersome foot pedals needed to operate some equipment used in eye or other types of delicate surgery.

"It has an applicability to any surgeon who uses an operating microscope with multiple functions," Fleischman said.

The 32-year-old doctor, who was a computer science major as an undergraduate at Columbia University, said he devised the voice system because he was tired of the growing clutter of foot pedals.

In most operations, the surgeon sits in a chair and must have both hands free to manipulate the various probes and cutting tools used in eye surgery. At his feet, the surgeon can find a bewildering array of foot pedals needed to operate the microscope and other electronic equipment.

"With each new instrument, a new foot pedal emerges," Fleischman said. "Another foot pedal. That was crazy."

Learning to make room equipment jump to a voice command is easy. The cost of the voice-actuated system is about the same as the cost of the foot pedals, Fleischman said.

"They might as well be pizzazz of voice actuated," a young doctor said.

Someone using the system comes acquainted with the computer, which Fleischman has around on a cart, by speaking commands it is trained to obey. The commands are recorded on magnetic disc and retrieved by the computer.

In the operating room, the doctor wears a tiny microphone behind his surgical mask. The computer hears the doctor speak the commands and sends electronic signals through existing wires to obey them.

Fleischman said his activated computer will be available commercially to doctors in the fall. But he is most excited about its non-medical possibilities.

"Consider it for blind people," he said. "They can have these in their homes. It controls the lights and dial the TV by just telling it the number."

Because the voice system requires little special wiring, it can be easily installed in most homes, Fleischman said. "I think it's going to pervade our lives."

New law to make municipal bonds less attractive

NEW YORK — Cities and states have had a rough time raising needed money in the bond market and the new tax laws could have a further devastating impact on the tax-exempt sector.

The new law lowers the tax on unearned income from a maximum of 70 percent to 50 percent "making tax-exempt municipals at least 20 percent less attractive," said Vincent Tese, tax counsel for Century Securities, a bond trading firm.

High interest rates and the depressed bond market already have hit the municipal sector especially hard.

Henry Kaufman, chief economist at Salomon Brothers investment banking firm, noted recently that cities as large as Chicago have had to pull back planned issues to wait for a drop in interest rates and smaller local bond issues are being crowded out completely.

"There has been a two-year bear market for municipals, which in itself has created difficult conditions," Tese said. "Many investors and speculators have been burned and aren't anxious to repeat the experience."

Although yields are at record levels and seemingly attractive despite the new tax law, a sharp drop in price takes a further toll.

James Leventhal, who heads a municipal bond firm bearing his name, used a hypothetical two-income couple with an annual income of \$50,000 to figure that a 12 percent New York state tax-exempt bond, now yielding around 28 percent for a New York City resident, will yield the equivalent of 26 percent in 1982.

For a resident of a state with no state tax, such as Connecticut, the same \$50,000 income couple now gets an effective yield of 23.5 percent on a 12 percent issue and would see that drop to 21.4 percent.

To illustrate the effect of the price drop, Tese noted, for example, one tax-exempt issue that sold last week at 97 (100 is par or

\$1,000) with a 12 percent yield was going for 90 early this month. That means an investor had almost \$100 on every \$1,000 of initial investment, if he even finds a market.

"The withdrawal of speculators and investors from the market has made it extremely difficult to find a quarter of a percent," Tese said. "That's why with the fact the new tax law severely curtails the market for municipals in the place makes an illiquid market even more so."

An official with a large firm said "it's gotten to the point where even triple-A rated municipals are having to pay 12 percent to borrow and even at that every bond brought out recently was worth less than it was."

"There's no question the new tax law will hurt," Tese said, "not only because of the reduction in tax-exempt benefits because it will give investors an incentive to go into the stock market or to stay with money funds."

Lawyer Tese also pointed out that the reduced attractiveness of tax-exempts comes at a time when federal funding for cities is being cut drastically.

"There will be more squeeze in other areas, such as sales and property taxes, if they are forced out of the bond market," Tese said. "Cities will have less for capital improvements as roads and tunnels. We see greatly reduced municipal services."

But Leventhal is optimistic. "If the administration's theory are correct, if the budget is correct and if the supply theory is correct and if interest rates are going down," Leventhal said.

"I still see a yield advantage for our market. The lesser attractiveness of tax-exempts will be outweighed by the prospective economic recovery in society."

Intercom sets off nuclear alert system

WISCASSETT, Maine — An electronic paging intercom used by state police to relay messages to other state agencies accidentally triggered the nuclear emergency alert system at the Maine Yankee nuclear plant, officials said.

"Apparently what happened was the state police have a central paging system, and Saturday, when they used it to contact one of their people, it set off the alert system," Charles Sharpe, director of the state Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness, said Monday.

"The paging system is apparently on the same frequency as the alert system," Sharpe said.

"It's something that apparently was overlooked when they set up the system."

The nuclear emergency system began operation last Saturday afternoon.

A booklet given to all residents living within a 10-mile radius of the plant says the alarm is posed to sound during an emergency or likely major failure of functions or components of the plant for protection of the public.

Maine Yankee's nine sirens, spread across the 10-mile radius, sounded three times Saturday afternoon, said Moore, state police spokesman.

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