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SUNDAY SERVICES
 7:30 A.M., 8:30 A.M., 9:10 A.M., 11:00 A.M.

CANTERBURY
 Meets in Episcopal Student Center
 WEDNESDAYS 5:30 P.M.

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State

Speech returned to victim of disease

Computer overcomes handicap

United Press International BALTIMORE — About six months ago, Bruce Baird's older brother, the victim of a debilitating disease, was speechless and almost completely paralyzed.

James T. Baird was stricken with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. After his larynx became paralyzed and he could not talk, he was able to form words that family and friends could lip read. "But finally, he couldn't even do that," his brother recalled.

"The situation got very grim. James went through a period of total rage and anguish."

So Bruce, with help from two friends, developed a computer that allows his brother to communicate messages that range from "Hi, how are you?" to requests for grape juice for lunch.

Baird's invention is one of more than 900 computer-based inventions from across the nation entered in the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory's first national search for applications of

Personal Computing to Aid the Handicapped.

Ten from each region will be selected for regional awards in the Johns Hopkins search, said Paul L. Hazan, director of the program at the laboratory near Columbia, Md. Thirty 30 national semifinalists who will be invited to exhibit their creations at the National Academy of Science in Washington this fall.

Ten national award winners will be selected. Prizes of \$10,000 for first place, \$3,000 for second and \$1,500 for third will be awarded Nov. 2.

Hazan said inventions submitted have addressed an "amazing range" of concepts to aid the blind, deaf, mentally retarded and individuals with neurological and muscular conditions.

David Ross, a 33-year-old graduate student at Georgia Tech, devised a "singing" computer to help the blind.

Ross explained a programmed card is added to an existing at-home terminal and when com-

monly used word pairs are typed, musical tones are played. The word pair "this is", for example, matches the first six notes of Scott Joplin's "Entertainer."

"It's pretty easy to hear when they make a mistake. The person can hear what they type and correct a 'sour note,'" Ross said.

Paul Kiepe, a 72-year-old inventor in Payette, Idaho, came up with another musical aid. A musical score fits onto a special printed circuit board with notes about fingertip size. The circuit board is connected to a small electric organ and the song is played when someone touches the notes.

Kiepe's innovation is primarily aimed for use with mentally retarded children. He built six of his musical machines and put on a Christmas concert in Boise.

"It's a beautiful sight to see a retarded child play music. It is very touching," he said.

Bruce Baird enlisted the help of Craig Linebaugh, a professor from George Washington University's department of audiology and

speech pathology, and Richard Armour, an Air Force computer scientist, to develop a computer aid for his ill brother.

A television screen sits at the foot of James' bed in his Rockville home. He can generate messages, ask visitors questions and make requests—all by twitching his muscles, Bruce said.

"The sensitivity of this thing is incredible. I tried it myself the other day and the threshold is low I wasn't even aware I had moved," he said.

A typewriter keyboard is projected on the screen and a small ray of light, hops from key to key. If James wants to hold file containing child's name, stops the cursor at "C," Bruce explained.

"He can send a message answer a question, he can make it anyway he wants to," Bruce said. "The other day he wanted grape juice for lunch, so he typed the cursor at 'F' for fruit, typed in grape juice."

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Wife writes novels, husband sells them

United Press International ARLINGTON — To be able to walk away from a successful career in television in search of a name in the elusive world of publishing takes a great deal of courage.

Sandra Brown found the inspiration for that courage in her husband of 13 years.

Michael Brown, until recently a news anchor at a Dallas television station and the host of a popular talk show, began noticing his wife's talent for writing while the two worked at the station.

The two decided they should set up their own enterprise, with the wife doing the writing and the husband the promotional work.

In the past year that the couple has been working in support of each other, Mrs. Brown has sold seven romantic novels to New York publishing centers, an incredible accomplishment for an unknown, unpublished author.

Mrs. Brown hit publishing pay dirt in August with publication of her first romantic novel, "Love's Encore," by Dell Publishing Co. which has entered the highly lucrative world of romance-writing where sales have been running in excess of 300 million copies annually.

Awaiting release on the heels of

"Love's Encore" are her other works entitled "Love Beyond Reason," "Eloquent Silence," and "Bittersweet Rain."

Meanwhile, Mrs. Brown continues with her schedule of a novel-a-month and her husband is busy lining up television and media interviews, managing a household dominated by two young children, his own guest speaker engagements and taping television commercials.

Mrs. Brown writes under the pen name of Rachel Ryan, a combination of the first names of her two children. The children extracted a price to let their mother use their names.

"I told them if they let me write for a few hours every morning without bothering me then I would put their names on every page of the book," Mrs. Brown said.

Giving much of the credit for her success to her husband, Mrs. Brown said: "As a television talk show host, Michael has interviewed several authors and it was his firm conviction that I could write novels. Like any journalist, I have always wanted to be a writer but had never done anything about it. He convinced me that I could."

"Love's Encore" has all the ingredients that followers of romance novels thirst for. The story is an interior decorator who has been commissioned to redecorate a 130-year-old colonial home by the owner in Natchez, Miss. The interior decorator, by chance encounters a flamboyant man whom she had had a torrid romantic affair in her earlier life. Like modern romantic novels, Mrs. Brown's interior decorator and flamboyant man try to make the best of the unusual circumstances into which they have been thrown and reestablish their past.

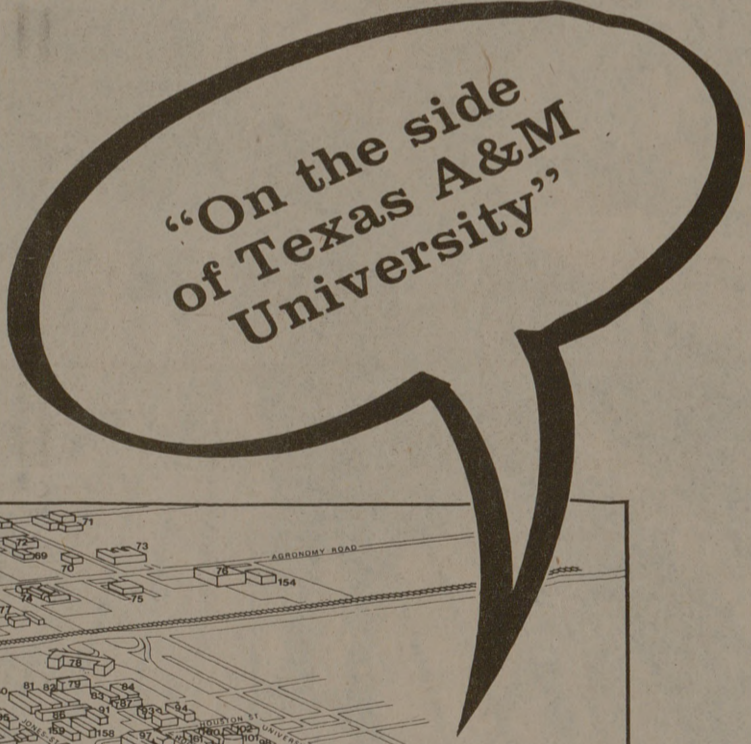
Sex in Mrs. Brown's novels follows the pattern in other successful romantic novels, but the difference, Mrs. Brown insists, is that her heroes and heroines insist on sex "only as an extension of the love and it is never crude."

"I don't consider my books explicit," she said. "The main inference is that I write of sexual activity within the confines of loving and a solution to problem or to a philosophical question."

"We don't know how 'Love's Encore' has been received," Mrs. Brown said. "But we have run our little survey and found that all copies in local stores have been sold out. I am her husband and may not be objective. But it is an incredible feat that an unknown unpublished author has been able to sell all the seven books she has written so far. That should be a testament for her talent."

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