ocal

airy team preparing for competition

Students judge bovine beauties

By SUSAN FLORENCE Battalion Reporter activeness, impressive style

character are what most es look for when choosing the her of a beauty pageant. This is also what the Texas

1 Dairy Judging Team considhen selecting the best dairy quire judging 10 dairy classes; five

ne Texas A&M students are for each placing he chose. The teams judge Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Ayrshire and brown Swiss heifers and cows. ing 30 hours a week to preor upcoming dairy judging

Dairy judging is not as easy as people think," said Dr. Chris fiel, team coach and dairy said, "Most people find judging Unified Score Card, which is

sity. The dairy judging team prac-tices at the Dairy Center and near-

Most dairy judging contests re-

cows and five heifers. Then each

team member gives oral reasons

heifers you judge the body frame (but) with the cow you judge the frame and ... how good a milk cow by dairies on weekends and whenever possible during the week, Woelfel said. you think she is. This is very diffi-

cult." Woelfel said the first thing to look at when judging the frame of heifers and cows is the overall attractiveness of the body. For example, a long straight back with smooth blending of all parts is important.

The judge also must consider

specialist at Texas A&M Univer- heifers easier than cows. With approved by the American Dairy ings. This class also takes weekend Science Association, the mam-mary system should be strongly attached and well balanced while the udder and milking bag should be of a fine texture, indicating heavy production and a long

period of usefulness. The most important part of dairy judging is the oral explanation for the placings, Woelfel said. Since student judges have to give oral reasons for their placings, they have to judge carefully and understand what they are doing, Woelfel said.

Holmes said, "I enjoyed dairy judging in high school and I always wanted to be on the Texas A&M judging team so I practiced for it before I got here.

"Most team members (be-longed to) Future Farmers of America or were 4-H dairy judgers and some grew up on dairy farms; therefore, we already knew a lot about dairy cows when we came to Texas A&M."

a dairy science course that is re- Forest, Wis. While in Fort Atkincommended for all interested students. Students in this class learn Hoard's Dairy Association, the to judge cattle, how dairy farms are operated and how to give writ-ten and oral reasons for their plac-National Agriculture Supply Company and the Dairy Shrine Museum, he said.

trips to different Texas dairies so students can gain more judging experience

The first judging contest will be in Memphis, Tenn. on Sept. 25. Contest members for the Memohis show are senior team members, Nancy Survace, Lee Troutman and Synthia Traweek. Junior team members are Carol Knan-del, Chris Stalling, Niles Holmes and Monty Teel.

After the Memphis contest, Carol Smith, Billy Lasater, Nancy Survace and Lee Troutman will participate in the Central National Dairy Judging Contest Sept. 30. Texas A&M also will compete in

the dairy exposition in Madison, Wis. About 40 universities from across the nation will participate in the Wisconsin contest.

On the way to the contest, the team members will visit three dairy farms in Madison for judging practice, Woelfel said.

me to Texas A&M." The team plans to visit the Woelfel said Texas A&M offers. American Breeders Service in Deson, Wis., they plan to visit

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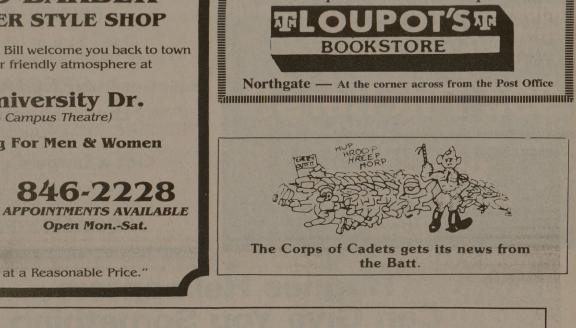
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Ex-gymnast learns to cope with paralysis

By TOM SOLOMON Battalion Reporter k Sterle was a gymnast.

had worked years to dethe art of muscle control. He mastered intricate body that required great concenand near-perfect timing. en one night he back-flipped gedy, partially severing his cord. "I was just screwing nd, doing something that I dn't have been doing. I wed up and I hurt myself,"

ow Sterle depends on a 150-nd electric wheelchair to take here he wants to go. Parafrom the neck down, Sterle ot feed or dress himself. ng mats and parallel bars all but forgotten

ut Sterle hasn't given up — he enjoys life.

ior computer science mat Texas A&M University, has adapted to a new way of in the three and a half years his accident.

He jokes and refers to himself as gimp," a slang term for wheel-air-bound paraplegics and adriplegics that could be an in-th if used too loosely by those to are not close friends of the

g

dicapped. terle, 22, was living in the Chiarea when he had his acci- He holds the mouthsticks be-

ty, still "I was in the hospital for half a vehicles" after it (the accident) " he r after it (the accident)," he 1 "When I got out, I couldn't sit at home, so I went to col-

> started classes at Southern mois University, which he moded until his family moved to tonio. Then he came to s A&M.

> uthern Illinois University is up for wheelchairs a lot better

orally," he said. "That way I don't have to find people to help me other end of the mouthsticks holds take written tests. Sterle's electric wheelchair is a

"I was one of the first people to really use this chair," Sterle said. "I've had it for three years and I was the first gimp to take this type of chair out on campus and (use) it every day," he said.

blowing into or sucking air from a tube that runs to a pneumatic switch and a set of relays connected to the chair's motor.

The tube also is hooked up to a modified garage door opener-radio transmitter. With this and a sion, dial his telephone, turn his

stereo off and on, and operate the computer terminal he has in his

room to help him with his compu-

Sterle is aided by two atten-

dants who get him up in the morn-

ing, bathe him and dress him for

class. "They work alternate days,"

he said. "It gets to be too much

work for one person to do (every

the neck down, he can write or use

an eraser by holding a set of "mouthsticks" between his teeth.

Although he is paralyzed from

ter science classes

day)

Sterle said he has a satisfying social life: "I go to a movie every once in a while. I like to go to concerts. Mostly I just sit in the Sterle operates the chair by room and drink beer with whoev-lowing into or sucking air from a er comes to visit," he said.

"Yeah, I miss the chicks," Sterle said about not having dates. after a while you know what's happening and you just don't worry about it," he said.

the pencil or eraser. "With the mouthsticks I can

write, turn the pages of a book or

type a program on the computer terminal," he said.

Sterle says he has gotten used to receiver in his room in Crocker Hall, Sterle can operate his televi-around campus in his wheelchair. Occasionally he will see someone staring at him. He doesn't let the gawkers bother him, though. "I stare back at them," he said with a smile.

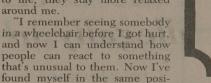
"Actually, this semester I've found that if I have a more relaxed attitude toward people's reactions to me, they stay more relaxed around me.

and now I can understand how people can react to something that's unusual to them. Now I've found myself in the same position

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A&M," he said. "All my clasrere scheduled on the ground so I wouldn't have to mess elevators.

e main thing they have that school doesn't have is a wheel-repair clinic. If this chair s there is nobody to fix it n 600 or 700 miles of here." It Sterle said new buildings at sA&M are being designed to re accessible for handicapstudents, particularly stu-s in wheelchairs. "It's easier t to classes," he said.

ey've also got the Veterans istration Office and a testervice where I can take tests

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