

## Dermatologists warn springtime sunbathers

by Kathy Robinette

**Battalion Reporter**  
Spring is here, and so is the No. 1 spring pastime — sunbathing. But tanners may not know what else those hours in the sun are giving them.

"Despite what our society says, tanning is not a healthy reaction," Dr. Terry M. Jones, a Bryan dermatologist said.

Tanning is a reaction of the melanin, or pigment-producing cells. The melanin protects the skin by absorbing ultraviolet rays.

The elastic tissue in the skin is broken down by tanning, which causes wrinkles, crows feet around the eyes and dry weathered skin, Jones said. Skin damage is irreversible, and sun-related skin problems will show up sooner in fair-skinned people than those with dark skin.

Tanning also can lead to pre-malignant lesions and skin cancer. Skin cancer warning signs include inflamed rough warts and nonhealing sores, Dr. Clyde M. Caperton, a Bryan dermatologist, said.

Caperton said the average age of skin cancer victims is 40 for fair-skinned, blue-eyed people with blond or red hair, and between 50 and 60 for people with dark skin. But a family history of skin cancer and the amount of time spent in the sun can alter these age predictions, he said.

Treatment for skin cancer depends on early diagnosis. The spots can be removed by X-ray or surgically after the area is deadened, Caperton said.

But the sun's rays aren't all bad news.

The sun does help in vitamin D conversion for the body, but only a minimal amount of sunlight is needed, Jones said. He said a person can get this minimal amount by getting out of a car, going to class and back home.

Artificial tanning lotions, which are nothing more than a skin dye, are better than getting out in the sun and ruining the skin, Jones said, but he warned that some people can have allergic reactions to these

lotions.

Tanning centers aren't good alternatives to outdoor sun, Jones said. He said a person is exposed to a super concentration of sunlight in these centers and he urges his patients not to go to them.

Jones said people should use a sunscreen preparation when sunbathing. The Sun Protection Factors in sunscreens allow some tanning or maximum protection from burning.

"It's such an easy thing to do for the public to protect itself," Jones said. "I guarantee you, after a patient has a skin cancer removed, they for sure put on their sunscreen."

There are three degrees of burns: a first-degree burn is where the skin is red and flushed, a second-degree burn is where blisters appear and a third-degree burn is where all layers of the skin are affected. Third degree burn is very unusual in sunburn cases, said Dr. Claude B. Goswick, Jr., of the A. P. Beutel Health Center.

## Voice replaces beeps

# Car speaks for itself

by David Calvert

**Battalion Reporter**  
Instead of buzzing, ringing and beeping, certain 1982 Datsuns will talk to their owners before they begin driving.

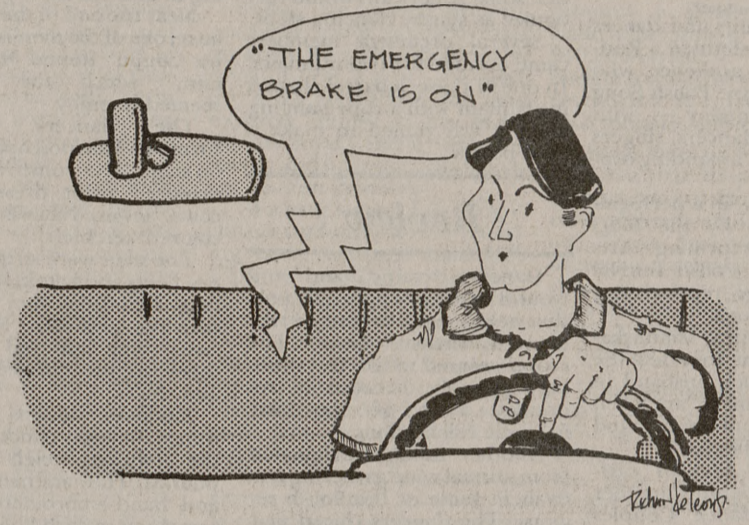
Three Datsun special editions are equipped with a computer with a voice-pattern box that will tell the driver various things about the car.

The female voice is standard equipment for the Sport Luxury Editions of the 280-ZX, 200-SX and Maxima automobiles. The voice says "the key is in the ignition" when the key is placed in the ignition, "the passenger (or driver) door is open" when one of the doors is open while the car is going more than five miles an hour and "the emergency brake is on" when the emergency brake is pulled.

Bill Slough, a salesman at Gallery Datsun in Bryan, said the computer voice is a new addition to the 1982 models.

"The 1981 Maxima had a tape recording, which came on when the key was placed in the ignition," Slough said, "but this is the first time one of our cars has had a computer voice box."

But, if talking cars are too much for you, the voice can be



turned off.

"Unlike many devices, such as a seat belt buzzer, which has to have the wires disconnected, the voice can be turned off with a switch on the left side of the dashboard," he said. "However, the voice will still tell the driver when the key is in the ignition." Slough said most customers

like the new device, but he said it was not the main reason they bought the car.

"Most people who buy the Sport Luxury Editions buy them for the other features," he said. "When we tell them about the voice, they ask how much it costs. They're quite pleased to hear it's standard equipment."

Slough said so far customers have had no maintenance problems with the computers.

"This being the first year we've had the computers, we expected there might be some minor problems," he said. "But we've been pleased with the way the computers have done."

## County businesses to sponsor voter registration party

Brazos County businessmen will sponsor a voter registration party with free beer for Texas A&M students Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Brazos Center.

The party was planned by the Off-Campus Aggies in conjunction with Student Government, the Residence Hall Association and other student organizations.

OCA President Paul Bettencourt said the party should increase county voter registration and community awareness among college students. The

students will be registered at the door by student representatives. Registration and a current student I.D. are the only costs of admission.

OCA Advisor Louann Schulze encouraged all interested students to get involved in community affairs and register to vote.

"Generally students do not get involved," Schulze said.

"We want the councilmen to know people are registering to vote in the county," Bettencourt said.

## Dress for Success planned tonight

Women in Communications Inc. is sponsoring a "Dress for Success" program tonight at 7:30 in 206 MSC.

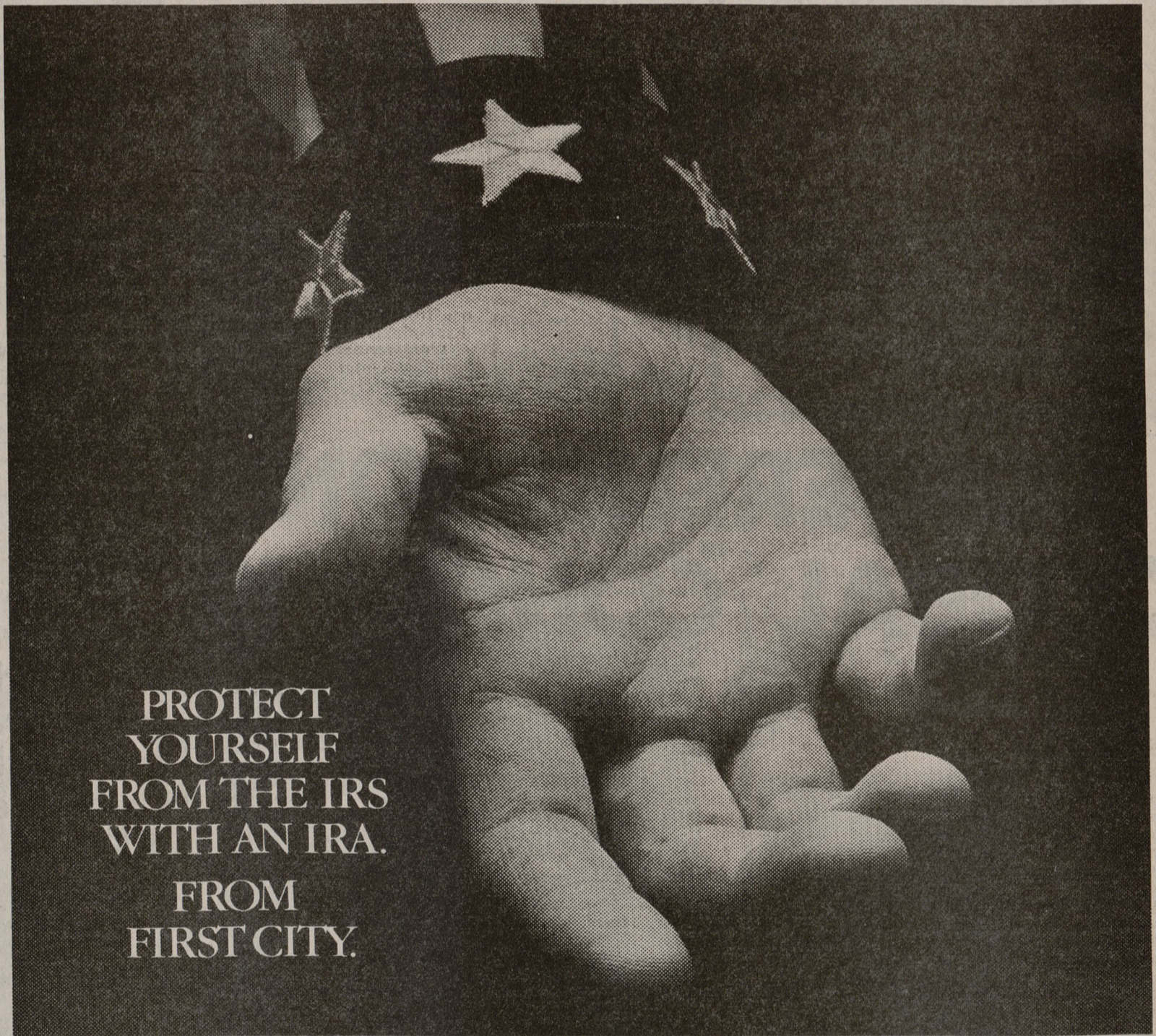
The program will include a fashion show featuring clothes from R. Rush & Co., a hairstylist from Shear Class and a cosmetic presentation by Mary Kay Cosmetics.

The program is designed to help women prepare for the interview process and the work force.

Women in Communications Inc. is an organization for both

women and men interested in promoting the cause of women in the field of communications. Students majoring in journalism or marketing with an advertising emphasis are eligible to join the organization. Students majoring in other areas, but who plan to work in an area of communications also are eligible to join.

The "Dress for Success" program is open to anyone, and admission will be 50 cents at the door.



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