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Supplement to The Battalion

Campus Trends

Snakey puzzles..... 2

Garden of Aggies ..... 3

Something fishy's going on ..... 4

Art in B-CS..... 4

Record bargains ..... 5

Choosing a camera:  
 the 35 mm..... 6

A cleaning-up act ..... 7

Debbie goes to college  
 (and gets in trouble)..... 8

Video without quarters ..... 9

Video with quarters ..... 10

Screaming for ice cream:  
 The Creamery ..... 11

Prep is hanging on..... 12

Down-home barbecue ..... 13

Home sweet home:  
 house vs. apartment..... 14

Crossword puzzle ..... 15

Dorms are no place  
 for closet gourmets ..... 16

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Photo by Rose Delano

Dan Harris, a sophomore petroleum engineering major from College Station, ponders the snake, one of a group of puzzles.

# Puzzled?

Two new brain teasers test agile minds, hands

by Dennis Prescott  
 Battalion Reporter

If you are sitting around with nothing to do until finals, and you've already mastered the Rubik's Cube, don't despair. Those people who have nothing better to do than sit around thinking up mind-torturing puzzles have been hard at work.

Now available for your twisting and turning pleasure are two new puzzles. One is called "The Great Pyramid Puzzle," and Professor Erno Rubik, designer of the original cube, has been busy designing his new puzzle, "Rubik's Snake."

The new puzzles operate in basically the same way as Rubik's Cube. "The Great Pyramid Puz-

zle" is self-explanatory. It is a hand-held pyramid with four different-colored sides.

"Rubik's Snake" is a puzzle that can be transformed from a semi-rounded position to that of a cobra about to strike. The puzzle is more versatile than the original cube since its basic shape can be altered.

Mary Perrone, an assistant manager at J.C. Penney in Manor East Mall, said the Snake puzzle is selling well and is outselling the pyramid model "by quite a margin."

For those who aren't patient enough to figure out these puzzles' solutions for themselves, there are several popular books that give step-by-step solutions

to them.

"The Simple Solution to Rubik's Cube," by James G. Nourse is currently the No. 1 bestseller according to Publisher's Weekly magazine, and "Mastering Rubik's Cube," by Don Taylor is No. 2.

Nourse also has written a book entitled "The Simple Solutions to Cubic Puzzles," which contains the solutions to both the pyramid and snake models. These solution books also are selling very well locally.

Lavinia Boecker, a clerk at World of Books in Bryan, said that their supply was low at the moment.

"We sell the books as fast as we can get them," she said.