

A&M robotics lab adds a 'Tiger' to research tools

by Rebeca Zimmermann

Battalion Staff
After a job has been well done, applause is often appreciated. But, this is clapping with a distinct difference — it's a robot applauding its completed task.

The robot is one of two which the Texas A&M Robotics Laboratory purchased recently for research. These purchases helped change the robotics lab from a lab existing on paper into a functioning research lab.

The robotics lab is a cooperative effort among the mechanical, electrical and industrial engineering departments and is funded by the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, a branch of the Texas A&M System.

A Puma Unimate robot was purchased by the robotics lab about two months ago, said Dr. Dennis Bingham, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering. Bingham programmed the robot to clap after it finished a task.

Two weeks ago the robotics lab purchased a TI ER 6000 from Texas Instruments.

Bingham said the newest robot has been nicknamed the Tiger 6000, since the lab already had a puma.

Both robots are used for basic research on precision of the robot's operation, Bingham

said. The practical uses of this research are in industrial applications.

"Research is to find out what robots can and can't do, so they can do more and do it better," he said.

Bingham said the goal of robotics research is to increase productivity without sacrificing a worker's morale and pride in the job.

He said robots are used to do jobs which are dangerous or tedious, such as assembly line work, welding and painting.

The Puma robot is a one-armed industrial robot in the middle range of size, Bingham said. It works with objects weighing up to five pounds. The TI ER 6000 has a one-pound limit.

Bingham said both robots have the capabilities to expand these limits and do heavier work.

The robotics lab also purchased a vision system. A TV camera follows an object which a robot is working with and displays that object on a screen. This tracking system can be used to program the robot to recognize and pick out a specific object from among others, Bingham said.

The Puma robot cost about \$50,000 and the vision system was about \$20,000, he said.

Crime Stoppers seeks missing Bryan man

This week, Crime Stoppers is investigating the report of a missing person.

Dale Raddatz, 51, of 2203 Franklin Street in Bryan, has not been seen or heard from since May 3. Law enforcement officials suspect foul play is involved.

Raddatz is a white male, 6 feet 1 inch tall, 195 pounds, with black and silver hair. He has a tattoo of a rose on his right arm

and another of a woman on his left arm.

Anyone with any information about Raddatz whereabouts is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at 775-TIPS. Crime Stoppers will pay \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest and grand jury indictment if foul play is involved.

Crime Stoppers also pays cash rewards for information on any unsolved felony.

Texas draft-dodgers could be arrested

United Press International
DALLAS — Selective Service officials are working toward prosecuting some of the 47,000 young Texas men who have not registered for the draft.

They believe prosecution of a few offenders will persuade many others to register. But some draft counselors say they expect it would prod more people into resistance.

"If some of these come to trial, I think we will see a resurgence of draft resistance," said Rev. Chris Amundsen, pastor of the Northgate United Methodist Church in Irving and a draft counselor.

Paul D. Aikin, Texas director of the Selective Service System, said if one or two people are prosecuted, "you're going to have a bunch of people going down to register."

He added: "That'll get their attention real quick."

Paul Hunter, an English professor at North Lake College in Irving and a founder of the Dallas Draft Information Committee, said the registration catches an age group which has had little

"political consciousness-raising."

He said: "There is less opposition than if this was aimed at a college age bracket as was the case previously."

The Selective Service System estimates that, nationally, 93 percent of the U.S. men born between Jan. 1, 1960, and March 31, 1963, have registered. In Texas, the figure is 91 percent, or 530,400, the officials said.

Since registration was re-established in July 1980, the law has required men to register within 30 days of their 18th birthday.

The government is using Social Security records to cross-check with draft registration records to catch those who have failed to register.

Social Security officials say they believe most non-registrants are not evading the registration — they just don't know about the law.

The maximum penalty for failing to register is a five-year prison term and a \$10,000 fine.

Today's almanac

United Press International
Today is Tuesday, June 29, the 180th day of 1982 with 185 to follow.

The moon is moving from its first quarter toward its full phase.

The morning stars are Mercury and Venus.

The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Cancer.

William Mayo, founder of the famed Rochester, Minn., Medical Center bearing his name, was born June 29, 1861.

On this date in history:
In 1946, two years before Israel became a nation, the British arrested more than 2,700 Jews in an effort to put down

terrorism in Palestine.

In 1970, the last American troops were drawn back into South Vietnam from Cambodia.

In 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled capital punishment, as then administered, was unconstitutional. It also ruled sources of information must be revealed to state grand juries.

In 1977, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the death penalty could not be used as punishment for rape. And in 1981, the high court ruled Presidents Carter and Reagan acted legally in the Iran hostage settlement.

A thought for the day: British poet Lord Byron said, "Speak not of men's creeds. They rest between man and his maker."

Now You Know

United Press International
The ear is less sensitive to sounds that are very lowpitched. If it could detect them as well as it does upper-register speech,

you would constantly notice noises made by your own body — such as blood flowing in the arteries, and the joints moving.

Last 4 Days of Dyer's Pre-Inventory CLEARANCE COUNTDOWN !!

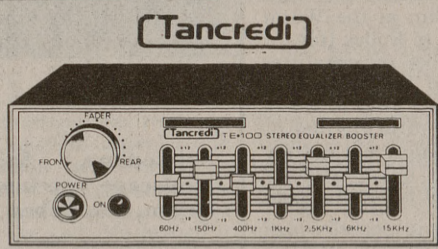
Sunday OPEN SUNDAY	Monday 28	Tuesday 29	Wednesday SALE ENDS!
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SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY ARE THE LAST FOUR DAYS OF DYER'S BIG PRE-INVENTORY CLEARANCE SALE! DYER'S FISCAL YEAR ENDS AT MIDNIGHT JUNE 30th AND SO DOES THIS SALE! EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE SOLD WILL BE SOLD! THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!

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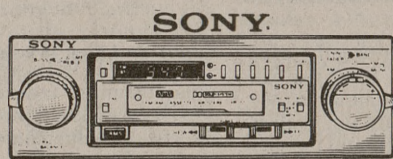
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Up to 6-hour recording time with the top quality RKO T-120 blank VHS videotapes. Compare at \$19.95.
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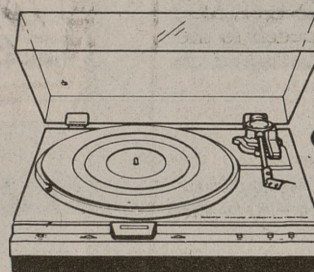
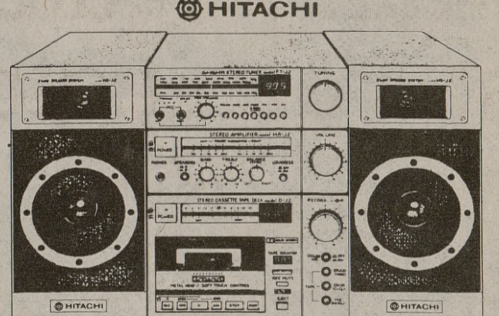
Phono Cartridge
Save almost 50% on the Empire 200-E cartridge.
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Digital Preamp Cassette
For use with external power amps, the Sony XR-70 has digital synthesized tuning with electronic push-buttons, memory, and scan. Tape section has Dolby NR for hiss-free listening. You get great sound and save money too at this Clearance price!
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Save \$350 on Complete Mini Stereo System w/Cassette

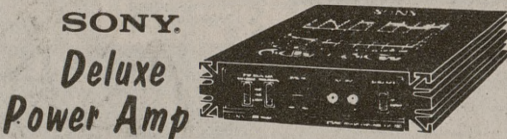
Regularly \$749.95, the Hitachi J-2 mini-component stereo stands less than 12-inches high and includes a 25-wpc amplifier, stereo tuner with digital readout, pair of 2-way speakers, and a metal cassette deck with feather-touch controls. Perfect for apartment, bedroom, or office. Limited quantity in most stores! Just 10% down for layaway!
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ONKYO Direct Drive Turntable
Quiet direct drive system and convenient auto-shutoff at record's end. Low-mass straightline tonearm. The Onkyo CP-1015 has never been sold for less!
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Reliable belt drive system and semi-automatic operation. The Nikko NP-500 is a great turntable value at this special price!
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Put home stereo sound in your car with the 120-watt Sony XM-120 amp with tone controls and the lowest distortion specs in the industry. SAVE OVER \$50!
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ONKYO Deluxe 3-Head Metal Cassette
The TA-2060 is a 3-head deck with ACCUBIAS, a direct-drive capstan motor, and Dolby NR/HX which allows you to record at levels 10 or more db higher. Best of all, it's an Onkyo and on sale!
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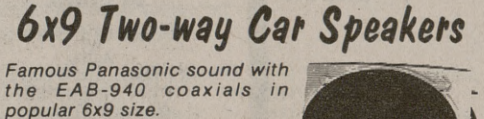
SONY Coaxial Car Speakers
Slimline Sony XS-613 two-way speakers sound much more expensive.
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NIKKO AUDIO 40-wpc Receiver
Digital quartz tuning with 12-station presets, auto or manual tuning, two tape monitors with dubbing. Nikko NR-700.
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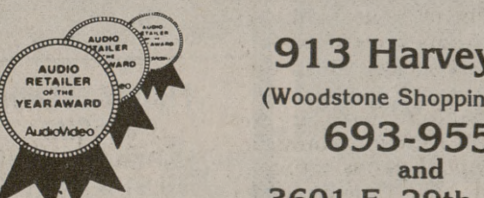
NIKKO AUDIO 50-wpc Receiver
Move up to more power and LED output meters with the Nikko NR-800. Digital quartz tuning with presets and scan. Exclusive 3-year transferable warranty.
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NIKKO AUDIO 220-wpc Power Amp
The Alpha 440 has no more than 0.008% THD, LED meters range from 0.01 to 400 watts. One of the best at any price.
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