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**Physics installs
new computer**

by Simon C. Gonzalez
Battalion Reporter

The Texas A&M Department of Physics has a new computer system that is the first of its kind to be installed on a university campus in the United States.

The new computer, a VAX 11/782, is needed because physics students cannot do experiments easily on the University computer, said Dr. Thomas Meyer, assistant professor of physics.

"We cannot use the University computer to directly control our experiments while this computer can," Meyer said.

The \$567,000 system is made by Digital Equipment Corp. The company furnished a \$169,000 educational grant towards the purchase and the rest of the money was provided by University funds.

"It will handle a wide variety of problems from very simple editing of memoranda to very complex calculations," said Dr. Robert Tribble, head of the physics department.

The VAX system has two central processing units that share a

common memory bank. The two CPUs make the computer more powerful, Meyer said.

"Basically, it can do twice as much work as a normal computer," Meyer said.

One of the CPUs handles input and output by reading tapes and discs and the other does calculations. This allows the computer to do calculations faster when there are a lot of people using it at one time, Meyer said.

Another advantage of the VAX system is it can interact with other labs around the country, Tribble said.

"We can string a network between two computers and send information and programs back and forth," Tribble said.

"We expect to provide substantially more computing time for our students," Tribble said. "They won't be restricted to happy hour at the Data Processing Center."

Tribble said the physics department hopes to have the VAX system running at full capacity by the end of the semester.

**Nominees battle;
Clements attacked**

United Press International
Texas politicians, about to enter the final month of campaigning before the Nov. 2 election, continued their verbal attacks on each other, with the wife of one candidate joining the barrage of barbs.

Rep. Jim Collins, who is challenging incumbent Democratic Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, Monday attacked his opponent's voting record on national defense. Bentsen claimed Collins offered contradictory explanations for sponsoring legislation that would have destroyed the Social Security program.

Meanwhile, Attorney General Mark White's wife, Linda Gale White, accused Republican Gov. William Clements of "telling lies" about her husband because he's running behind in his re-election bid.

Collins, a Republican, said his Democratic opponent has not supported President Reagan's campaign to upgrade America's weapons system. He also said Bentsen frequently

opposed Reagan and Texas' other senator, John Tower, a Republican, on defense matters.

In remarks prepared for delivery at College Station Monday night, Collins said Bentsen voted for legislation to cut spending for the Trident submarine program, the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile and the Minuteman III ballistic missile.

In a statement released in Austin, Bentsen said Collins never satisfactorily explained a bill he sponsored that would have allowed workers enrolled in private pension plans to withdraw from Social Security.

"To date the explanations offered by Mr. Collins for his proposals which would wreck our Social Security system are not reassuring to Texans," he said.

"He goes into one Texas city and denies ever doing this, then he goes across the state to another city and admits doing it but says it was

and he won't do it again."

Bentsen was endorsed Monday by the Texas Women's Political Caucus who said in a statement that he had been an effective member of Congress.

Chairwoman Lena Guerrero said Collins had never passed a bill in 14 years as U.S. representative.

Mrs. White, who began a three-day campaign swing through the Rio Grande Valley, said in Brownsville Monday that Clements has no sorted to lying about her husband because he is worried he will not be re-elected.

"Having to resort to telling lies and the type of campaigning he's doing proves he's worried and will say almost anything to get re-elected," Mrs. White said.

"Clements has now shown that he was a poor governor. I think it's just a proven fact that he has big business and special interests at heart and not the people."

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**TI announces layoffs
for 2,600 employees**

United Press International
DALLAS — Texas Instruments Inc. announced the layoffs Tuesday of 2,600 employees throughout the country.

The company cited weak market conditions in several business areas as the cause of the layoffs.

A spokesman for Texas Instruments, which has a worldwide work force of 80,000 employees, would not say where the layoffs will occur, but indicated 600 jobs in Dallas would be affected.

"It cuts pretty generally

across the company, but we've got no breakdown on where or when," the spokesman said Monday. "I would expect it will begin very soon, but it has not yet taken place, though it (the layoff) did begin in the international area last week."

The spokesman said the layoffs are due to "the general need to reduce overhead expenses and to cut costs in response to continued market weakness in several business areas."

It is the second major staff reduction for TI this year. In

March the firm cut its work force 3 percent, laying off approximately 2,700 people because of soft market conditions for semiconductors and distributed computing.

The new layoffs come at a time of soft market conditions affecting the semiconductor and microcomputer areas of the company, the spokesman said.

The company's 1981 earnings were down 49 percent from 1980 and were the lowest in years.

**IRS closes office in Bryan,
toll-free number still open**

by Pam Barnes
Battalion Reporter

The Internal Revenue Service has closed the Bryan taxpayer service operation, leaving all taxpayer assistance to be handled solely through the toll-free telephone services.

Taxpayers can get IRS forms and publications and get their questions answered by calling 1-800-492-4830, any day between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Mollye Mitchell of the Bryan

IRS office said using the toll-free phone service is a more economical utilization of funds and employees.

Another reason for the phase-out was the reassignment of several persons holding major positions in the Bryan office, leaving their positions unfilled.

The office may be reopened at tax filing time if the positions are filled and funds are provided, Austin IRS Public Affairs Officer Sally Sassen said.

The office in Bryan is now used only for collection and audit purposes.

Volunteer assistance may be provided during filing season by local agencies and Beta Alpha Psi, the Texas A&M accounting honor society, Mitchell said.

The IRS also hopes to expand its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in Bryan according to a recent IRS release.

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