



photo by Mary Jo Rummel

Tom Michalsky, of the College Station electrical department, checks the lights on the community Christmas tree.

Charity tree lighting tonight

by Lynn Falco
Battalion Reporter

The first annual community Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be at 7 tonight on the northeast edge of campus at Texas Avenue and University Drive.

The 35-foot tree will be decorated with 2,500 lights and a \$5,000 star. After the ceremony, the tree will be lit every night through Christmas. Donations for the lights and the star will help support the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center.

Each contribution of \$10 or more to the center will be represented by a light on the community tree. The light will honor someone whom the donor wishes to remember. There will be a special section about the tree in the Christmas issue of the Bryan-College Station "Eagle". Included in the section will be a list of all those honored with a light on the tree.

Harold McCullough, director of development at the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center, said he got the idea from an article he read about a similar tree that stood in the lobby of a small eastern United States hospital. He decided to try it on a community-wide basis.

McCullough chose the intersection of Texas Avenue and University Drive because it is the busiest intersection between Dallas and Houston.

"I wanted to put it where everyone could see it," he said. "About 43,000 cars pass through there every day."

So McCullough asked various organizations around town what

they thought about his idea. "City Manager North Bardell was all for it," McCullough said. "Everyone is all for it and they're all willing to help out."

McCullough said that one Bryan family contributed \$5,000 for the star. He said the rehabilitation center has received \$15,000 in contributions so far, including \$10,000 for lights.

Texas A&M University, Alpha Phi Omega, the Texas Forestry Service, city officials and many local residents have been willing to help out, McCullough said. Texas A&M gave the rehabilitation center permission to put the tree on their property. APO, a service fraternity, is collecting donations from students on campus. The Texas Forestry Service donated the Christmas tree. And city officials provided the electricity and helped with the wiring for the lights.

"This is the first time the two communities have worked on a big project like this together," McCullough said.

Dr. Frank W. Hubert, Texas A&M chancellor emeritus, will hold the local Easter Seal child, Allison Utterback, while she switches the tree lights on during the lighting ceremony.

Rev. Bob Waters of the A&M United Methodist Church will be the master of ceremonies. High school coaches Harold Ferguson and Merrill Green and two local school choirs also will participate in the activities.

Donations still may be made through the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center or APO.

Scanner reads body surface

by Ann Ramsbottom
Battalion Reporter

Optical measuring instruments used in the production of new automobile models may soon have an alternate use in measuring human body surface, Texas A&M University researchers say.

Human performance researchers, under the direction of Dr. George Jessup, have been working with the instrument, called a biostereometric scanner, for a year.

"We're just in the research stage," said Jessup, associate professor of health and physical education. "But potentially the device can be used in rehabilitation to evaluate injuries and atrophy. Hopefully, it will also aid in the study of tumor growth and the effectiveness of treatments on surface tumors through external measurements."

Jessup said the device uses a

laser beam to measure human body surface, a measurement which in the past has been hard to achieve accurately. The scanner traces the body with a beam of infrared light that bounces off the skin surface and then is detected by a television camera, Jessup said.

Health researchers require accurate body surface area measurements to evaluate such things as cardiopulmonary function. Presently, many health researchers use prediction equations on a small segment of the population to estimate body surface area from height and weight.

However, people of the same height and weight can have very different bodies, so a more accurate measurement is needed. The scanner provides a means of measuring a large sample of the human population using more accurate equations.

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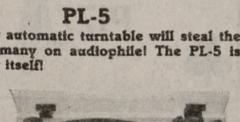
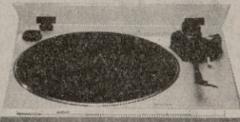
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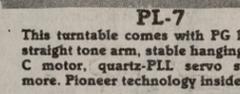
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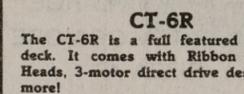


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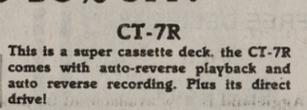
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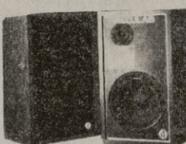
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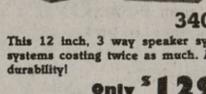
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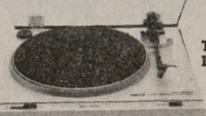
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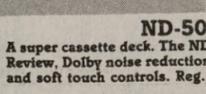
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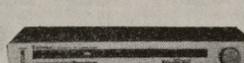
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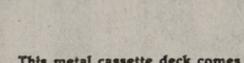
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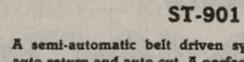
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