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staff photo by Peter Rocha

Ever feel like just a speck on a map? Evelyn Sekera, a junior architecture major, does as she tries to locate her next class on a map. Sekera is a University of Arizona student here for the summer.

### TV dramas get new twist

## Soaps have Christian tone

by David Johnson  
Battalion Reporter

Tired of the same old soaps with the same old murders, affairs and operations? KAMU-TV offers daytime drama that gives a different perspective on everyday living.

Roger Lewis, programming director for educational television at KAMU, said the serials on KAMU are different from commercially produced shows like "All My Children," "General Hospital" or "The Days of Our Lives" because they use Christian-oriented solutions to contemporary problems such as inter-marital communication, freedom of expression and prejudice instead of sex and violence to create dramatic story lines.

Daytime serials on KAMU include: "Insight", "This is the Life", "Human Dimensions" and the documentary, "Listen", all sponsored and produced by religious groups.

Many of the programs feature well-known actors such as Martin Sheen, June Lockhart and John Ritter.

KAMU offers the programs as part of its overall programming plan, which is to offer a broad category of programs reflecting a wide variety of viewpoints, Lewis said.

The Christian-oriented programming is different, according to Lewis, because it bucks a trend of media to ignore religion or present it from a negative viewpoint.

He said a recent article in The

Quill, a professional journalism journal, illustrated this trend. The article included statistics comparing the religious beliefs of media personnel to those of the general population. The study showed that exactly 50 percent of the media personnel polled professed no religious belief or affiliation compared to 30 percent of the general population.

Because of the trends, Lewis said, the media often neglects the influence of religion in everyday life, and as a result, television news and shows ignore the importance of religion.

The programs broadcast by KAMU are distributed at no cost to public television stations such as KAMU.

The groups use private donations to finance the production of these shows.

Lewis said many commercial television stations air the shows despite the fact that they are produced without pre-programmed breaks for commercials.

"Insight" is produced by the Paulists, a Catholic brotherhood based in California. "Human Dimensions" and "Listen" are produced in Ft. Worth at the Southern Baptist Convention's recently built television studio, which is one of the largest and most up-to-date television studios in the nation. "This is the Life", a Lutheran production from St. Louis, has won several Emmy awards.

## A&M animal scientist horses around with equine trainability

by Angel Stokes  
Battalion Staff

Horses soon may be classified according to their ability to be trained for certain tasks, says a Texas A&M animal scientist.

Dr. Gary D. Potter, an animal scientist at Texas A&M, is conducting a long-term project on young horses to determine their trainability. The project began around 1973 and has continued in various stages for about ten years.

Some of the highlights of the project, Potter said, include

finding out that the learning ability of horses is a measurable trait, and both positive and negative reinforcement reduce errors and speed up learning.

The ability of horses to learn varies widely, he said. Horses can be ranked on a scale ranging from those that can never learn to those that are highly trainable.

"Some horses seem to have tendencies to rationalize or think for themselves," he said.

The learning ability is measured by training the horses to

perform tasks ranging from very easy to extremely difficult and correlating their performance to learning ability scores.

"Basically, we have measured learning differences in the horses using different techniques," he said.

In one study, horses observed other horses performing a task. The horses that had seen the task performed first seemed to learn the task quicker than those that hadn't observed, he said.

This seems to show that horses learn by observation, he

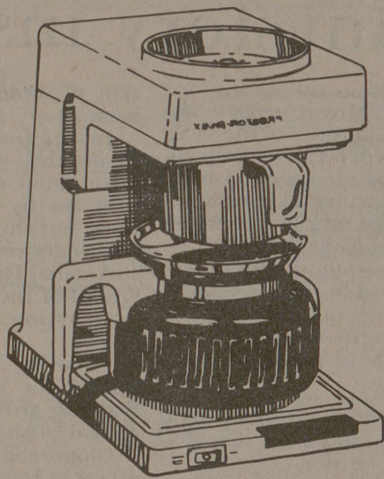
said, but the results are not as conclusive as he would like them to be.

The data is being summarized and readied for publication in scientific journals, he said.

The idea to test horses' intelligence developed from work done with other animals, Potter said.

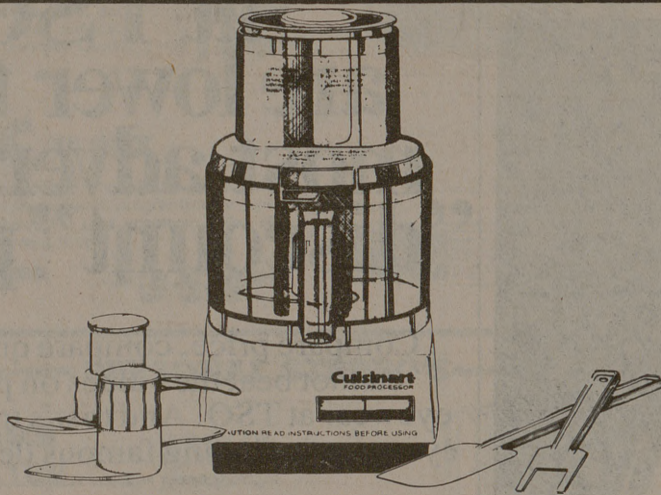
A little work in the same area also has been done at Texas Tech University and at Cornell, but most of it has been done at Texas A&M, Potter said.

# gifts for the bride



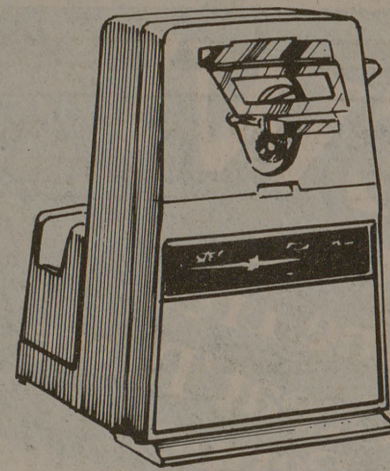
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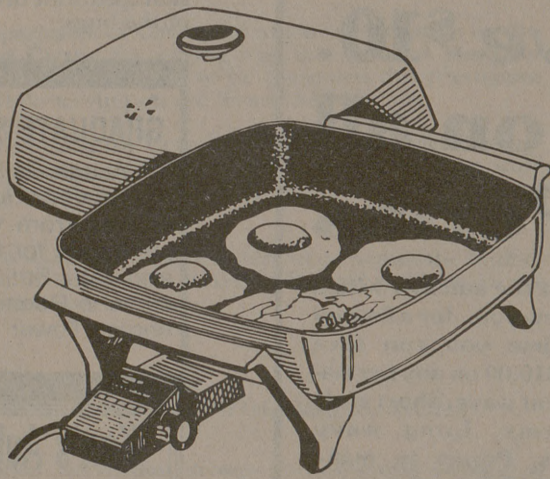
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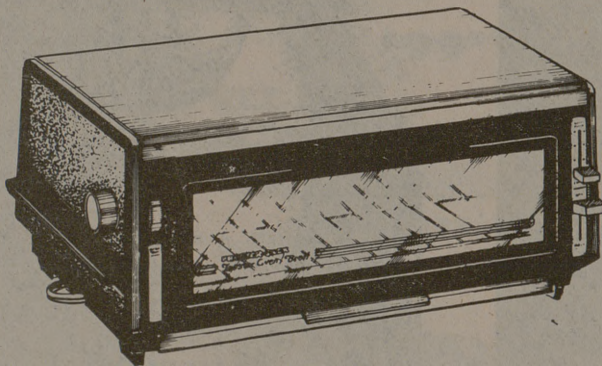
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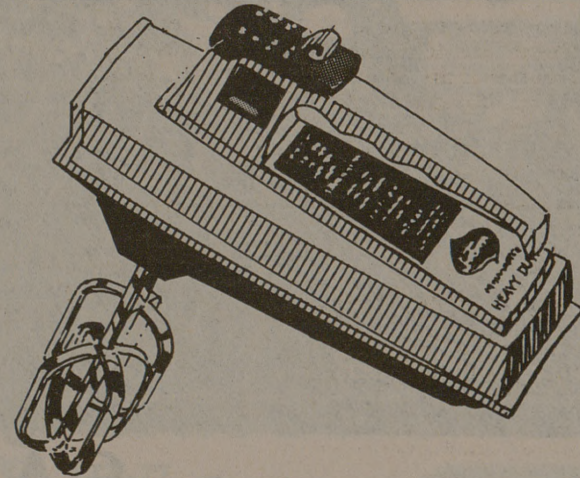
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