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New accounting system

regulates computer use

by Stephanie M. Ross

Battalion Staff

Even though there are no more nuses or "happy hours" as a reult of a new accounting system for he use of computers by students, here shouldn't be problems for dents completing course work, Bruce McCormick, the new partment head of computer scie. said. Happy hour was a time when

using the computer ould do work at a lesser cost than sual. This allowed them to save part of the money allocated to hem to work on their programs oughout the semester.

"To my perspective, it was no tem that anyone could ever lan because the rates were inde-

terminant," McCormick said. resources they had last year. "This year the data processing center uses a hard cash basis for the machines.

Bob Rumbarger, left, a business major, and

Mickey Peters, a physical engineering major,

Don't ask how we do it

"When new rules were made up, the problems of groups who made significant use of happy hour and bonuses weren't looked at," he said. He added that as time goes on, the department will look at the problems and try to either redistribute money or change the rates on the machines to solve the problems.

"Obviously those resources were there last year, and obviously they were being paid for — no-thing has changed that much," McCormick said He said that this is not a funding problem, but probably an accounting problem that will be

taken care of, and said he is not very worried about it since the system presently is running at a rate equivalent to last year. "It's just that the transition to a

Right now the center is running new accounting system for that at the same rate in terms of re-sources per student as last year, he data processing center was so abrupt and so difficult to estimate that we ended up with inadequate resources," McCormick said. said, but earlier, when the money was being allocated to the depart-"Right now we're running at the ment there was a shortage there were only enough funds to same resources per student as last year," he said.

Beason said

McCormick said he sees the new accounting system merely as a "patch" on a larger problem that will need an overall solution and he already has begun looking into the problem.

staff photo by Brenda Davidso

hold up their end of a pushing exercise in

B-2. Both are sophomores from Eagle Pass.

In an age when the technology of electronics and computers is changing and developing so rapidly, it is difficult for anyone to keep up, he said. McCormick said the centralized computer system is outdated, and he hopes to change to a new, less centralized system

within three years. McCormick said he hopes to get new equipment with the highest teaching potential for the stu-dents, so they will be able to learn more up-to-date methods than are available on the current centralized system

Prof tries to meet demand for donkeys

by Karen Wallace **Battalion Reporter**

Dr. Tex Taylor, associate pro-fessor of Veterinary Large Animal Medicine and Surgery at Texas A&M, says he is trying to build up better donkey stock for people who are interested in breeding quality mules.

A growing interest in mules as recreational and work animals is creating a need to provide better quality horses and donkeys,

Taylor said Tuesday. "A mule is a hybrid," he said. 'Its mother is a horse and its father is a donkey." The better quality horse and donkey available, the better quality mule produced. Taylor said although the utiliza-

tion of mules is not new, people are interested in using mules as recreational animals — like horses - and as work animals in mule teams.

"Some people who a few years ago would ve used a tractor to do their chores will use a team of mules today," Taylor said.

"The advantage of a mule team is economic," he said. Although a tractor costs about the same as the purchase and upkeep of a team of mules, a mule team can perform a

wider variety of chores, he said. For about the last ten years, Taylor said he and his wife have traveled all over the country trying to put together a herd of donkeys. He has used the latest procedures in veterinary medivears.

cine on them in hopes of getting the quality stock he desires. "My goal is to produce good quality in big numbers," Taylor said. The stock he has now is not There has recently been a good demand for work stock abroad, near what it needs to be, as far as shape and size, he said. "It will take a few years to come up with a good stock," he said. Taylor hopes to have the quality donkey stock he wants in about 10

Taylor said. Some of the South American and Asian countries use mule teams because technologically they are 70 years behind the United States and don't have the education to manage technical. machinery

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Temporary crash barriers do well in safety testing

by Wanda Winkler **Battalion Staff**

The Texas Transportation Institute, a research agency of the Texas A&M System, has cometed its testing of a portable rash barrier designed to protect eeway maintence crews in

TTI worked closely with the ate Department of Highways and Public Transportation to produce a practical barrier, sche-duled for use in October, Dr. Hayes E. Ross, research engineer

of TTI, says. The barrier, a 44-foot steel beam suspended between two trucks, was designed by Ross and

three-inch deformation, Beason

run the system at 40 percent of the

Workers inside the barrier and car occupants are protected be-cause cars are redirected upon im-pact, Ross said. The barrier is 27 inches high — the standard height

of guardrails. "It's easy to transport, install and move up and down the freeway," Ross said. "You pull it like a trailer.

Before work on the the barrier began, in a period of a year, 12 Houston road crew workers were killed when they were struck by vehicles, highway officials said.

'It's designed to solve problems the highway department faces,'

Although the barrier project

still is in an experimental stage, Ross said he thinks it will be used and accepted. The degree of use will depend on its performance in Houston. Each new barrier will cost less than \$10,000 excluding the cost of the trucks, Beason said. Another TTI research project is

being conducted by John Strybos, a civil engineering graduate stu-dent. Strybos has been testing an emergency gate for concrete freeway barriers that provides emergency vehicles access to van pool and bus freeway lanes.

Damon Buffington and Dean Sicking, civil engineering graduate students, have been developing a crash cushion to place at the end of concrete barriers. A crash cushion is a device that will stop a vehicle safely in a short distance. Ross said TTI benefits the Uni-

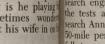
Coffee or Tea

Giblet Gravy And your choice of any

One vegetable

versity and the state through its graduate research programs.

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Hush Puppies Choice of one

vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter

Tea or Coffee

has held off spin locks, was designed by Ross and s and his top at br. W. Lynn Beason, assistant re-is he playing search engineer of TTI. During the tests at the University Re-tetimes wond wards Anney the hereit tests. times would his wife in magnetic form a search Annex, the barrier took a velop a practical, serviceable de-sign. Workers can set up the strucfull-size car and received only a ture in about 10 to 15 minutes,



(Tossed Salad)

Mashed

Potato w

gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter

Tea or Coffee

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