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Ditch planned for golf course

By **JAN PERRY**
Reporter

The addition of a new mammoth water hazard along the 15th hole of the golf course will, ironically, be welcomed by both golfers and grounds maintenance personnel alike.

A 20-yard wide drainage ditch is being built to alleviate the flooding problem on the east side of campus, which includes the golf course.

Andy Birmingham, the act-

ing manager of the golf course, said the course's low spots are the main cause of the flooding. Since the soil is composed mainly of hard, red clay, it's difficult for rain water to drain. He said it's also difficult for grass to grow well on the clay.

But the reverse is true elsewhere on the course. The high spots on the rough need rain. Since the sprinkler system only covers the fairways, the rest of course is dry.

Birmingham said the construction of the ditch is just part of a two-year project to improve the golf course. Most improvements, such as the drainage ditch, will be purely functional, but others will merely be cosmetic additions.

He said some of the holes will be reshaped or enlarged while other holes will be completely rebuilt.

The soil being removed from the drainage ditch will be used to fill some of the course's low



Photo by JOHN MARSH

Work continues on the 15th hole of the Texas A&M golf course. The construction is part of a two-year project

which includes the building of drainage ditch to alleviate flooding problems.

spots, Birmingham said, and some of the tees will be rebuilt.

Berms, large mounds or contours, also will be built from the excess soil to define some of the holes better and make the course a little more challenging.

"It's an easy, forgiving course," Mark Johlke, a graduate student who often uses the course, said. "It's ideal for a beginner like me."

"The maintenance of the

course is pretty good — about as good as can be expected for such low green fees," he said. "The only thing I don't like is the drainage problem. I'm glad they're doing something about that."

Greg Frazier, a senior mechanical engineering major, said he also thought the course is in pretty good shape and just a little difficult to him.

"The course is wide open —

no trees," he said. "The roughs mowed, which is good because you don't have many balls."

Frazier's golfing partner Noel Irvin, a freshman mechanical engineering major, said he liked the course because it didn't have too much water. He also thought the addition of drainage ditch was a good idea, but it would "eat a lot of

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By **MARY FRANCES SCOTT**
Reporter

Moving on campus is the ambition of off-campus residents

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who have suffered from too little socialization and too much commuting.

For many off-campus students the appeal of living on campus lies in the hustle and bustle of social activity that dormitory life offers, not to mention the convenience.

Lesley A. Stoup, a staff assistant in the Housing Office, said there is a waiting list of about 1,200 non-freshman students who want to live on campus.

Off-Campus Housing Center Coordinator LouAnn Schulze said, "Dorms offer spirit and unity that apartments don't offer. Since A&M doesn't require students to live on campus their freshman year, many students find it hard to meet people and

thus feel isolated in an apartment."

Susan Haynes, a sophomore biology major, lived in an apartment her first semester here, but moved into Hughes Hall during the spring of her freshman year. Haynes didn't have a car and said that getting to and from school was just too much trouble.

"The two biggest advantages of living in the dorm are meeting people and the convenience," Haynes said.

"But I'll probably move off my senior year; I'm tired of the dorm," she said.

Haynes said she didn't like eating in Sbis Dining Hall, so she got off of meal plan, which poses the problem of what to

eat. She said she eats a lot of fruits and vegetables, and even though she is limited to "boring" trips she has no desire to get into a meal plan.

Sheri Cattana, a junior nursing major, lived in an apartment last semester, but moved into Hughes Hall.

"I didn't have a car so it was a convenience," she said. But she said she does miss cooking herself and the quiet of an apartment.

"Sometimes it gets too quiet around here so I'll just go to my friend's apartment or to the library when I really need to study," she said.

Russell Hevenor, a sophomore economics, lived off campus a year and a half, but moved back to campus when he joined the Corps of Cadets.

"Parking was a big deal when I lived off campus," Hevenor said, "but now getting to class is so convenient. Also, I'm in the MSC which makes cash checks much easier and quicker."

"I do get tired of the dorm life; I just want to get out sometimes," Hevenor said.

Hevenor said that if he weren't in the Corps he'd be off campus because "the school living off campus, he loves privacy."

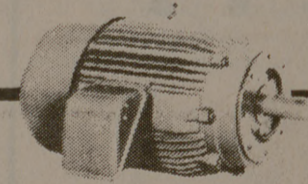
Presentation on George Orwell's novel 1984.

- * Presented by Warren A. Dixon, Assistant Professor of Political Science
- * Public invited
- * Refreshments
- * April 18, 1984
- * 7:00 pm, Room 701 Rudder

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