

STATE AND LOCAL

20 512K Macintosh computers

New lab opens in Commons

By Jeff L. Brady
Staff Writer

A 20-terminal computer lab for student use is now open in the Commons.

For the first time, students can use complete computer systems provided by Texas A&M without trekking to the library.

A Colorado computer corporation, working through the Office of Student Affairs, has set up 20 Apple 512K Macintosh computers, or Fat Macs, in a study lounge across from the snack bar.

The lab held an open house Wednesday for students to sit down

at terminals and become familiar with the Apple hardware.

"It was jammed," says Dan Mizer, manager of the Commons area office, describing the crowd attracted by the new facility.

Thursday was the first day of normal operation.

Teledata Systems President Sam Portman has been present in the lab all week setting up the terminals and helping students learn their use.

Portman says A&M is the first college or university anywhere in the nation to try this type of setup.

He says he hopes the lab will help students learn how to use ready-made programs.

The business world's biggest demand is not for people who can program a computer, Portman says.

Instead, employers want to hire those who can take an off-the-shelf program, put in real-world data and come up with real-world solutions, he says.

Commons residents can buy time on the computer for \$1.50 an hour and will be able to use any of eight software programs provided by the lab.

Available are two word processing programs, a spreadsheet program, one to check spelling, another to do graphics and two for programming. At present, only Commons resi-

dents are able to buy time in the lab.

However, Portman says that the Office of Student Affairs and his company are considering other locations on campus if demand for terminal time is great enough.

"If it is something that goes over well, it's something we would like to expand," says Ron Sasse, associate director of student affairs.

In addition, student workers are being hired to serve as monitors in the lab — collecting fees, issuing software and checking on students' Commons residence status before allowing them access to the computer.

Hours will be noon to midnight, seven days a week.

Faculty voices ideas on core curriculum

By KIRSTEN DIETZ
Staff Writer

While feedback on the Faculty Senate's recommended core curriculum has been mostly favorable, some faculty members attending Thursday's public hearing questioned parts of it.

Dr. Gary Briers, associate professor of agricultural education, expressed concern that some core curriculum requirements would be added to the Texas Education Agency requirements in some areas. For example, in math, the core curriculum requires six hours while the TEA requires three hours.

"Agricultural Education and other teaching certification departments will be required to comply with the requirements or two courses," he said.

Also, Briers said, "Specificity of courses, not the areas, should be more broadly interpreted so that programs that require a sufficient number of courses, but not the same kind of courses, would meet the intent of the core curriculum."

On the other hand, Dr. Douglas Palmer, associate professor of educational psychology, sug-

gested that new courses be designed for the core curriculum to provide greater, not lesser, specificity.

Palmer said if a student takes only introductory courses in the core curriculum areas, the student only will skim the surface of these areas and will not necessarily be competent in the areas.

The Core Curriculum Subcommittee will deliberate the comments from this hearing and the previous two public hearings before presenting a final recommendation for a vote.

The core curriculum report recommends that each student take six hours each of speech and writing skills, mathematical or logical reasoning, cultural heritage and social science and eight hours of science.

This is in addition to the state requirements of six hours of both American history and political science and the University requirement of four hours of physical education.

The report also proposes that each student complete two semesters of a foreign language unless they have taken two semesters in high school or can demonstrate proficiency in a second language.

International Week begins Monday with displays from around the world

By JUNE PANG
Staff Writer

Texas A&M students will have a chance to visit more than 30 countries around the world next week — no air fare, no suitcase packing necessary. Just go to the Memorial Student Center.

The "visit" is International Week at Texas A&M and will include cultural displays, a food fair, and a talent and fashion show. International Week, sponsored by the International Students Association, will begin Monday.

Thirty-six countries represented by student organizations have registered for the cultural displays this year, and it is estimated that about 1,000 costumes will be shown in the fashion show. The food fair will include foods from 31 countries.

"We are trying to promote and encourage the interaction between local community and local students with foreign students," said Ivo Lopez, the president of ISA.

International Week has been popular in previous years with the food fair drawing the best attendance. The large crowds at the food fairs caused some problem last year due to a shortage of food and an over-packed MSC.

This year, the ISA has made arrangements to prevent a similar problem. First, the 31 participating countries for the food fair will each prepare two main dishes with each dish enough for 300 people. Second, only 800 tickets for the food fair will be sold to reduce the crowding.

Also, the tables of food will be arranged in a circle so people will not just go back to their favorite dish a number of times.

ISA also invited local professionals and prominent people as judges for the talent show performances, cultural displays and the food fair. In addition to winners from each category, an overall winner will be chosen on general performance.

Last year, Bangladesh won the overall award and was the first place winner for cultural display.

"We built a grocery shop last year with bamboo and straws," said Saizul Islam, former president of Bangladesh Students Association. "It took five people seven days to finish the work."

"Inside the shop, we displayed foods, clothes, and played music. Someone was singing Bangladesh songs and we had people writing scripts to show literature."

"This year, we got an even better idea. The theme is going to be 'a courtyard of a middle class rural family in Bangladesh.'"

Islam said they will have a courtyard where students can see the kitchen and the patio — the front part of the living room.

"We will have people in the kitchen to explain everything, such as using coconut shells to carrying water," Islam said. "I think people will be very interested to see those displays."

Many other students from the participating countries also are working on the coming events.

Sophia Iliadou, the president of Hellenic Students Association, an organization of Greek students, said her organization is working on information to show students the real meaning of Greek culture.

"I don't want to just let people see something beautiful, I want people to learn something about Greece," Iliadou said.

The cultural displays will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday in the hallway of the MSC.

The food fair will be at 7 p.m. on March 29 on the second floor of the MSC.

The talent and fashion show is March 29 at 7 p.m.

The ticket for the food fair is \$7 while the talent and fashion show is \$2. A combined ticket for the food fair and the talent and fashion show is \$8. The cultural displays are free.

Police beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department through March 21.

MISDEMEANOR THEFT:

- Twelve bicycles were stolen from various locations on campus.
- Two computer boards were stolen from the Pavilion.

BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE:

- A Panasonic AM/FM stereo, an Audio-Vox booster, five cassette tapes and a pair of sunglasses were stolen from a 1982 GMC pickup in Parking Annex B.
- A pair of T-tops, an equalizer and two stereo speakers, a light green car cover, a flashlight and a set of jumper cables were stolen from a 1979 Pontiac in Parking Annex 56.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF:

- Several windows in Aston Hall

were shot with a BB or pellet gun.

- A window was broken and the curtains torn in a student's room in Mosher Hall.

CRIMINAL TRESPASS:

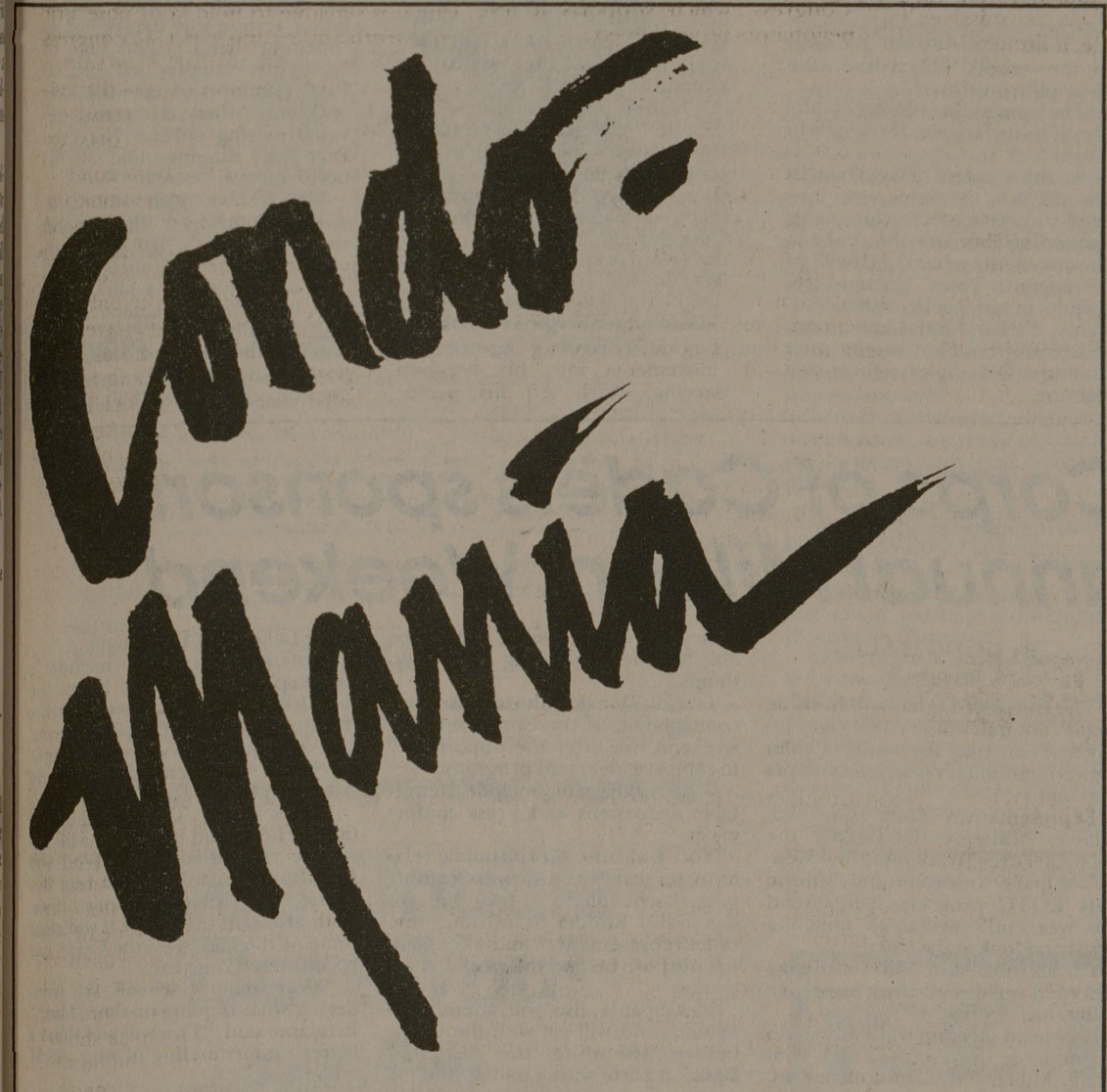
- University Police found three students leaving the Memorial Student Center steam tunnels. No arrests were made.

BURGLARY OF A BUILDING:

- An RCA Selectavision VHS, model # VGT-225, was stolen from Building 321 at the Firemen's Training School.
- An Apple II computer and printer were stolen from 313 Academic Building.
- Three air masks were stolen from 232 G. Rollie White Coliseum.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT:

- Someone reported seeing a nude man in Hensel Park.



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- Free Condomania T-Shirts for touring the new models.
- Free Margaritas from 2:00 p.m. til 5:00 p.m.
- Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament. \$100 First Place Prize. (Register at office before 5 p.m. Friday.)
- Tanning Contest. \$50 go to the best tanned bod.

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Friday March 22 from 8 to midnight
Brazos County Pavillion
Bar-B-Que by Randy Sims
Free Coors Beer

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Benefiting the Boys' Club of Brazos County