

Warped

by Scott McCullar



Computer graphics symposium

Hi-tech art to be shown

By ELIZABETH MICKEY Reporter

A computer graphics symposium presenting the current status and trends in computer graphics will be held Wednesday and Thursday at Rudder Theater, in conjunction with the SIGGRAPH '83 exhibit. The goal of the symposium is to provide the students at A&M with an opportunity to see what the cutting edge is of what is going on in computer graphics," said Jim Baker, organizer of the SIGGRAPH '83 exhibit and symposium. Computer graphics is a new medium and is opening many doors for graduates interested in the field, said Baker, a graphics consultant with the Computing Services Center at A&M. Baker said computer graphics is a field bringing in \$5.2 billion dollars annually. He also said computer graphics will eventually be a part of everyone's lives. SIGGRAPH '83 is an interna-

national exhibition of computer art. The exhibition combines artists' and technologists' works into a visual show. "The symposium will be a visually rich, multi-media affair," Baker said. The seminars will include videotapes and high-tech presentations, he said. Associate Provost Dr. Charles E. McCandless will open the symposium Wednesday at 9 a.m. Dr. Thomas Linehan, professor at Ohio State University and associate director of the Computer Graphics Research Group, will speak from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on "State of the Art Commercial Computer Graphics." Sylvie Reuff of the Jet Propulsion Lab will speak at 1 p.m. on "Scientific Uses of Computer Graphics." Then, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Andrew Lippman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's media science department, will discuss "Computer graphics and the Media Science Department at MIT." On Thursday, the seminar will be-

A&M will research climate, global ocean circulation

University News Service

Scientists around the world will soon join in the planning of the first serious scientific effort to describe and understand global ocean circulation. Through the study, called the World Ocean Circulation Experiment, scientists hope to explain long-term climatic trends and sensitivity and someday design an observation system that could predict climatic patterns, said Dr. Worth Nowlin Jr., a professor of oceanography at Texas A&M and head of the just established U.S. Planning Office for WOCE. The WOCE office will be in A&M's Department of Oceanography. The focus of WOCE, Nowlin said, will be the construction of ocean models and the collection of data necessary to demonstrate that the models are useful.

Nowlin said serious consideration of a global experiment for the 1990s is now possible because of technological and scientific developments of the last decades. Among these developments are an increased understanding of the nature of ocean circulation, better instrumentation for long time-series measurements, numerical ocean models and high-capacity computers to use them, improved methods for measurement of chemical tracers, satellite technology and a new realization of global societal problems related to the ocean. Under a multi-year grant from the Ocean Sciences Division of the National Science Foundation, the WOCE planning office will help formulate the U.S. role in the international program. International level planning is guided by a Scientific Steering group under the auspices of the

Committee on Climatic Changes and the Ocean and the Joint Scientific Committee of the World Climate Research Program. U.S. funding is coming from NSF, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Office of Naval Research. "The WOCE planning office is the focus for program development, carrying out day-to-day administrative functions and providing support for travel and other planning activities," Nowlin said. "We invite inquiries from the ocean and science community in this process." "Provisionally, the primary scientific objective is to improve our understanding of the general circulation of the ocean well enough to be able to model its present state and predict its present state and predict its evolution in relation to long-term changes in the atmosphere."

Corps commander-elect set to speak at Sully's Symposium

Attitude changes in the Corps of Cadets and its goals for the forthcoming year will be discussed by next year's Corps commander at Sully's Symposium Wednesday at 11:50 a.m. Curt Van de Walle, who as Corps commander will be the leader and spokesman for the Corps and the liaison between the Corps and Tri-

gon officials, said he will talk about policy changes within the Corps and the goals the Corps will have next year. This school year has been a destructive year in the Corps, Van de Walle said. "The Corps had its feet knocked out from under them this last year," he said. "We want to get back to the

basis of the Corps of Cadets." The symposium, sponsored each week by Lambda Sigma, will be held in front of the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross. Cindy Gay, president of Lambda Sigma, said she thinks Van de Walle's speech will be interesting because he will be the first cadet to speak at Sully's Symposium this year.

Aid programs hurt by federal law

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A new federal law may have plugged a loophole in federal tax regulations, but it also put a damper on four popular aid programs in Texas, State Comptroller Bob Bullock said Monday. In an effort to stop the loss of federal tax income, the law limits the issuance and favorable tax treatment of so-called "private purpose bonds," including industrial development bonds. A special report from the comptroller's department says industrial development bonds are treated like government bonds for tax purposes but are used to finance private business. The new federal restrictions came from charges that some of these bonds were misused, funding projects in high-growth areas — projects that would have been developed without tax-exempt financing," according to the report. The comptroller also noted that the new restrictions will critically affect three popular Texas projects — the Texas Veterans Land, the Veterans Housing Assistance and the Student Loan programs. The new law treats Texas College Students Loan Bonds as IDBs, putting them under the \$2.3 billion cap. The Student Loan Program will have to line up for approval along with all the local industrial development corporations," the report said. Under the new federal restrictions, Texas will be limited to \$2.3 billion in selected industrial development bonds and other private purpose bonds in 1985 and 1986. After 1986, the limit will be about \$1.5 billion. Industrial Development Bonds were issued for 1,458

projects in Texas between 1979 and 1984, the report said. The Texas Economic Development Commission said those projects generated more than 200,000 jobs and \$1.2 billion in federal, state and local taxes. IDBs have financed manufacturing plants in Marshall, Arlington and El Paso; office buildings in Waco, Austin and Amarillo; retail businesses in Kerrville, Falfurrias, Jacksonville and Pampa; and hotels in Laredo and San Antonio. "In Texas, the bonds typically are sponsored by an industrial development corporation created by a city, county or other governmental body," the comptroller said. In return for providing a public benefit, the IDBs were given tax-exempt status similar to traditional municipal bonds. Critics pointed out that IDBs and other private purpose bonds drive up interest rates for all municipal bonds, increasing borrowing costs for state and local governments, the comptroller said. The comptroller said the Legislature, in legalizing the use of IDBs, intended them to benefit rural and high-unemployment areas. "But a University of Texas study shows higher-population areas in Texas received the most direct employment from IDB issues," the report said. "Low population areas have received proportionately lower direct employment benefits." The new law removes the tax-exempt status of veterans land bonds, effectively ending the program after 1987, the comptroller's report said.

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