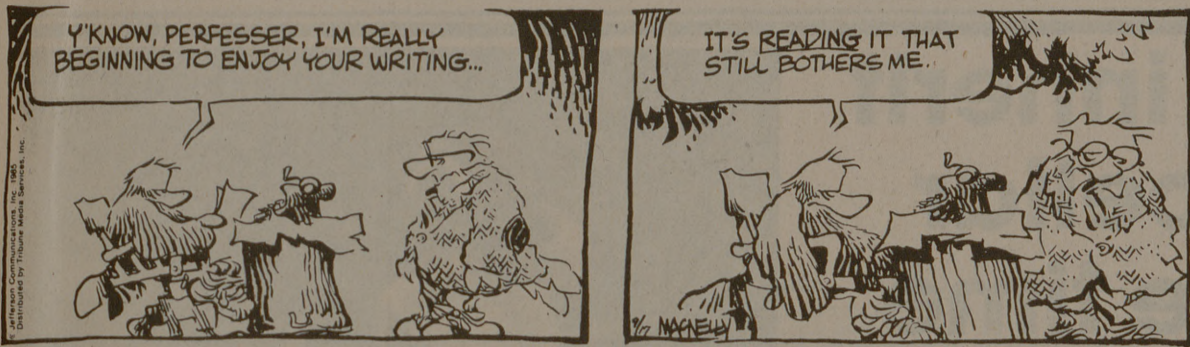


SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



Warped

by Scott McCullar



Computers

(continued from page 1)

tion (before the hiring of Dinkle), Eaton says, "but I wanted to put it on a lower level of management."

Dinkle says the University linked the Computing Service Center and the Academic VAX — including the Student Information Management Systems Project and the Academic Computer Center — under his administrative control.

The Academic VAX is a large two-machine system that provides access to what Dinkle describes as "interaction machines" — or ordinary microcomputers — which give an immediate response to the computer user.

He says the VAX system was designed for scientific use, with a network of 10-12 other machines available for faculty use.

"The VAX system is basically for number crunching," Dinkle says, "but it can do other things too."

Most students are probably more familiar with the SIMS project created to gradually computerize University student registration. SIMS was first used in August for late fall registration. Students have the advantage of making schedule changes right at the Pavilion computer terminals.

"SIMS was just recently tested under fire," Dinkle says, "and it was extremely unusual for the first implementation of a new system to go so well. It looked very, very good."

Dinkle says by combining all the separate computer programs under his direction, A&M can concentrate on taking the next organizational step — creating a workable computer system for both the ordinary student and the administration.

"A major component of planning is for the networking of the system — the telecommunications segment (of the system)," Dinkle says.

By networking, Dinkle is describing a program where the different A&M computer systems would have the ability to move through the entire system.

Dinkle says there are four mainframe computers, 60 super-minicomputers and about 2,000 microcomputers currently on campus.

And the necessity for networking is increasing as the number of computers keeps growing.

"Networking the system will be done carefully, but it's a major item on the agenda," Dinkle says. "With the variety of equipment on campus, it requires some planning. A year from now I can probably give you an answer on that (how well networking is doing)."

Dinkle's new post is administrative and not a new department creation. Dinkle says he was chosen because he had what the University was looking for.

"I think I have the academic credibility (to do the job)," Dinkle says. "In other words I went through the ranks."

Dinkle also has a record of administrative command. He served as the head of the Department of Business Analysis from 1980-83, before becoming the associate dean of the College of Business Administration where he served until September.

The Academic Computer Center was under Dinkle's jurisdiction while associate dean.

Dinkle says his job is to pull all the dangling ropes together.

"In the next year or so, we are planning to make a statement on computing at A&M," Dinkle says. "It will tell people what the computer environment is here, and tell about the telecommunications segment."

A second goal for Dinkle is to produce a computer system that balances the needs of both the students and the administrators.

"The student computer needs are for unlimited access for smaller jobs," Dinkler says. "Administrative needs are for a large data base, an immediate response time, and you get into things like the need for security."

"That means you have a natural tug for resources. "It's difficult for instructors to get what they think is the necessary amount of computer time for students (weighing resources and budgetary restraints). If you have 500 students and you want to give each student \$10 worth of computer time, then that's \$5,000."

"Add in the other different programs and that figure grows quickly. It's hard to balance those needs."

Another thrust of Dinkle's office is making the University community aware of the many A&M computer resources.

"We have a lot of powerful tools that have not been as heavily used as they will be in the future," Dinkle says.

He says one way of spreading the word and getting feedback from computer users is through computer groups on campus.

"I'd like to make a personal plug for the Texas A&M Computer User Group," Dinkler says, "that will meet Thursday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m. in 701 Rudder."

"It's open to all computer users on campus, and will be a forum to communicate ideas on all aspects of computers, mainframes and minicomputers."

And Dinkler is hoping that the human side of the A&M computer network will become an important addition to his "software."

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

In the past, certain information has been made public by Texas A&M University as a service to students, families, and other interested individuals.

Under the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974", the following directory information may be made public unless the student desires to withhold any or all of this information.

Student's name, address (local and permanent), telephone listing, date and place of birth, sex, nationality, race, major, classification, dates of attendance, class schedule, degrees awarded, awards or honors, class standing, previous institution or educational agency attended by the student, parent's name and address, sports participation, weight and height of athletic team members, parking permit information, and photograph.

Any student wishing to withhold any or all of this information should fill out, in person, the appropriate form, available to all students at the Registrar's Office, no later than 5 p.m. Friday, September 20, 1985.

R. A. Lacey
Registrar

National Business Fraternity Pi Sigma Epsilon

Orientation Meeting Wed., Sept. 18, 7:00
502 Rudder

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<p>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese-Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing-Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p> <p><small>YOU GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY WHEN YOU DINE ON CAMPUS</small></p>		
<p>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Fried Catfish Filet w/ Tartar Sauce Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of One Vegetable Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</p> <p>Roast Turkey Dinner Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Coffee or Tea Gibleb Gravy And Your Choice of any One Vegetable</p>

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General Meeting
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7:00 pm
302 Rudder

Guest Speaker: State Rep. Richard Smith

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