Teacher Testing

ome teachers lake excuses avoid test

for solUSTIN — A case of the hics, a conflict with a golfing tee Postle and an old reliable — car n was able — were just a few of the Score sons given by teachers and adstrators trying to get their ointments changed to take at histate's literacy test.

in non lolan Wood, director of teaassessment for the Texas cation Agency in Austin, said, had one woman call in who in the that she gets the hiccups evawer to day at 3:30 p.m., so she for soldn't take the afternoon test." ewer than 100 of the more n 200,000 teachers and adstrators statewide have acturied to get out of taking the

Wood said. e said one of his favorites, ctually one of the most valid, ves the number of teachers are expected to give birth

matter what the excuse, said the TEA considered change request and moved hedule if the educator had a

Local teacher disagrees with use of literacy test

By BRIAN PEARSON

Senior Staff Writer

Those who took the Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers Monday probably found the exam to be less than challenging to the intelligence, says the president of the College Station Education Association.

Ann Heuberger, also a librarian at Oakwood Middle School in College Station, says the test doesn't meet its purpose of testing the competency and literacy of teachers and adminis-

Heuberger took the exam along with about 1,000 teachers and administrators in the area.

"It (TECAT) doesn't even begin to test to see if you're a competent teacher or not," Heuberger says. "It just tests to see if you're able to take

this type of test.' The TECAT, she says, which was given Monday to about 210,000 teachers in Texas, would not be helpful in weeding out the illiterate and incompetent teachers in state's public

"Anybody who doesn't pass that test does not need to be teaching."

— Scott Laws, literature teacher at A&M Consolidated High School.

According to state education officials, about 10,000 are expected to fail the exam.

Heuberger says the competency and literacy of a teacher should be determined by school principals and not by the TECAT. She added that not by the TECAT. She added that necessary because it could expose some teacher illiteracy in Texas

Apparently the principals have not been doing a good job with eval-uations if there are 10,000 incompetent or illiterate teachers in Texas," she says. "If there is an incompetent

chers in the area share the same opinion about the TECAT.

Scott Laws, a literature teacher at A&M Consolidated High School, says the test was "ridiculously easy."

Laws says the TECAT barely tested for literacy and didn't test for competency at all.

Anybody who doesn't pass that test does not need to be teaching, Laws says. "I think it was a waste of taxpayers' money.

Steve Allen, a special education teacher at A&M Consolidated High

"I think the test should have been

given," Allen says. "But I think the test should be much more difficult

Texas teachers and educators who don't pass the test by June 30 will teacher, there's a principal that lose their jobs and teaching certifineeds to be fired."

exas teachers claim tests easy but unfair

PASO — As teachers across Score as completed the state-man-ed a first competency test Monday, a faust of them said the same thing: "It easy, but we shouldn't have had

en for Many grumbled aloud that it was der Protest.' A few admitted behand they were nervous.

astic by lut although officials had antic d 12,000 failures among the than 200,000 educators tested day, no one voiced any fears of

indy Benton, a chemistry and biy instructor at Andress High -hour test in 21/2 hours at ministrators and Teachers, or TE-

Thomas Jefferson High School in the border city. She wore a T-shirt emblazoned with a red apple and the words "I'm a Teacher and I'm Competent.' A sticker on her arm read Under Protest.

"I resent it very much," Benton said. "First, I don't understand how ome wair and some illustrated their dis-ored of tent with stickers signs that read cate and then on the basis of one test tell you it's invalid.

> "Secondly, I don't feel this test measures your competency as a tea-cher in the classroom. All it does is measure your competency in reading and writing.

Students in Texas had the day off so their teachers could take the Teal in El Paso, completed the chers Examination of Current Ad-

CAT. The 1984 public school "That was supposed to have been my reforms passed by the Legislature mandated the test in an effort to improve the quality of education in Texas public schools.

Jon Heike said, "If the Legislature wants to pass a law, it's legal. Even if the majority thinks it's unfair, it's the

Heike was a student-teacher in the fall and started teaching science this

semester at Andrews High School. But Maxine Johnson of Austin, a Travis High School English teacher with 30 years of experience, dis-

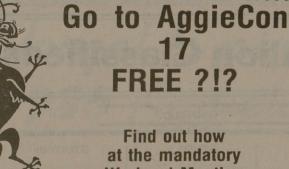
'I think it's unfair because it puts to shame my having earned a permanent teacher certificate," she said.

In Houston, Linda Savell said the test was so simple that she resented having to take it.

"After graduating from college and taking all those tests, why go back and take an eighth-grade said Savell, who teaches at

Worthing High School. "It was so easy," said Joanne Stemple, a second-grade teacher in the Houston Independent school district. "If they (other teachers) can't pass it, they shouldn't be teaching. I can read and write, and that's what it tested.'

Lorene Patneaude, an English teacher in El Paso for 11 years, said it was not a hard test, "but it's not a



Find out how at the mandatory Workers' Meeting

Tues. March 11 7:00 p.m. 404 Rudder



European

Flower Market

Flowers by the stem or bunch 1/2 price every Fri. 2:00-6:00p.m.

Major Credit Cards Accepted By Telephone 696-6713 707 Texas Ave

Two Locations

764-0091 900-7 Harvey Rd Post Oak Village

College Station THE OTHER ECLIDS HAIR DESIGN

Shiloh Place

696-8700



Paul Bhuiyan (formerly of Your Special Cut)

Paul specializes in all hair color and the most advanced care-free styles

NOW . . . Our Salon Offers You The Most Advanced And Sophisticated Tanning System.

> The Other Eclips invites all of our clients in for a **FREE** tanning session.

Why Choose Between

Low Prices

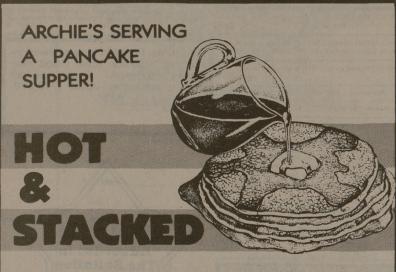
Good Service

When you can have



at Computerland

PUCCILANCE There's only one Number One.



All the pancakes you can eat!

Every Tuesday 5:30pm - 10:30pm (No coupons necessary; in-house service only)

You'll flip over Archie's pancake supper.. 2 sausage patties and all the pancakes you can eat — served piping hot and stacked on your plate until you bust!

Hamburger Place

Harvey Road in the Woodstone Shopping Center College Station

23rd & Texas