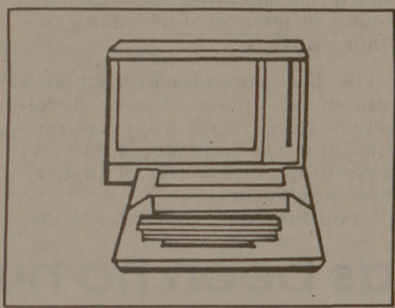


State and Local

Twenty dealers display computers at Micro Fair

By MIKE SULLIVAN
Staff Writer



Twenty Texas A&M students, faculty and staff viewed a variety of personal computers at the third annual A&M Micro Fair in the MSC, where 20 computer manufacturers and local dealers displayed their wares Wednesday and Thursday.

John Kane, manager of the Micro Center, said the purpose of the Micro Fair, like the Micro Center, is to stimulate demand for personal computers and software among students.

Holland, representing Professional Computing in College Station, said this business has gained more exposure from the fair.

Many local dealers complain they compete with the Micro Center's prices, but Holland said Professional Computing's sales haven't been affected by the Micro Center. Professional Computing deals

mostly with Hewlett-Packard products, which are offered by the Micro Center, but Holland said most of his business comes from calculator sales and service.

Holland said the Micro Center doesn't sell Hewlett-Packard calculators, so the two businesses don't compete directly with one another.

All the manufacturers represented at the fair sell their computers through the Micro Center. Becky O' Neill, representing

Apple Computers, said students interested in buying the Apple Macintosh are referred to the A&M Micro Center, and students interested in the Apple IIc are encouraged to purchase from Yes Computers, also represented at the fair.

Carrie Wisnoski, marketing support representative for Apple, said the local Apple dealers may lose some sales, but they will gain service business because of the Micro Center.

"If you buy something from the Micro Center and it breaks, you would have to take it to a local dealer," Wisnoski said.

O' Neill said the exposure Apple has gained from their relationship with such outlets as the Micro Center has paid off in the development of new software.

She said a University of Texas student recently wrote a revolutionary program that is being used by engineers at NASA.

Iacocca: Gas prices to stabilize

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Gasoline prices could bottom out around 75 cents a gallon and eventually stabilize at about \$1 per gallon, Chrysler Corp. chairman Lee Iacocca predicted Tuesday.

"I think a buck is where it's going to find itself," he said at a news conference. "You don't know what this is to our planning."

He noted that the designs for cars rolling off assembly lines were made with \$2-per-gallon gasoline in mind.

Iacocca, on the third stop of a 10-day tour to promote new Chrysler models, said he believed falling oil prices were the result of a deliberate effort by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

More important, (domestic oil)

exploration and development goes to hell," he said. "In five years, they've got us again. Cheap gas is like a drug habit. And we're going to get hooked again. Make no mistake about it."

Iacocca acknowledged, however, that the lower gasoline prices mean more Americans are buying bigger cars with less fuel-efficient, larger engines. Those bigger cars, with higher profit margins, mean more money for the nation's automakers.

"We've made a bundle of money because of America's cheap gas policy," he said, adding that he has made clear to government officials in Washington his disgust over the lack of a national energy policy.

"I go to the bank with all these cheap gas profits and not have any guilty conscience," he said.

"We are making a helluva mistake by throwing out our energy policy," he said. "We are playing right into OPEC's hands. I keep screaming this in Washington. Our energy policy is stupid. We'll all become energy hostages again."

Iacocca complained that when his two larger domestic competitors, General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co., could not meet government fleet mileage requirements, they lobbied for the requirements to be eased and "Washington went ahead and complied."

He said that in his most recent appearance in Houston three years ago, cheap imports were killing the automakers. Now, he said, cheap imports were killing the Texas oil industry.

Correction

In its March 11 issue, The Battalion reported that the 1986-87 budget of the Memorial Student Center would be unaffected by the 7 percent budget cut approved by the Texas A&M Board of Regents.

Perry Eichor, MSC vice president of finance, said a reduction in cash balances may be required, which case the money would be taken out of a \$127,000 reserve fund. But a mandated cut could result in the cancellation of program contracts, he said, although MSC President Denis Davis believes this is unlikely.

The Battalion regrets the error.

Texas company to purchase 9 Dallas area newspapers

SAN ANTONIO — Harte-Hanks Communications Inc. announced agreements Thursday to sell seven daily newspapers in Texas, Michigan, Ohio and Washington and to acquire 19 newspapers, most of them weeklies.

John T. Williams, publisher of the Bryan-College Station Eagle, is president of a group of Harte-Hanks newspapers, to which two Dallas-area newspapers will be added as a result of the deal. They are the Lewisville Daily Leader and the Plano Daily Star-Courier.

The weeklies in the Dallas area include the Carrollton Chronicle,

Farmers Branch Times, Addison-North Dallas Today, Coppell Gazette, the Mesquite News.

Harte-Hanks plans to acquire the newspapers in agreements with Garden State Newspapers Inc. of Woodbury, N.J., and Taylor Communications Inc. of Carrollton.

"We are particularly pleased with these moves...and (with) the opportunity to be in areas with faster growth potential than we have experienced in the markets we are leaving..." said Bob Marbut, Harte-Hanks' president and chief executive officer.

St. Patrick deserves more than a day. J.T. McCord's giving him a week.



Being a good Irishman, J.T. McCord feels that St. Patrick is entitled to more than a single day of tribute. After an ugly incident with a power-painter, some green latex enamel and a busload of Japanese tourists, he settled for a less extreme St. Patrick's Day celebration — St. Patrick's Week.

We're honoring St. Patrick with green beer and green drinks from March 10 through March 17. That old Irish favorite — Rueben sandwich and fries — is only \$3.99 all week long. And on March 17, we're giving away three green satin jackets for the traditional wearin' of the viridescent shiny stuff.

We realize this doesn't overcome the problem of ignoring St. Patrick for most of the year. But it does give you six more days of green beer than you'd have otherwise, and that's a start.



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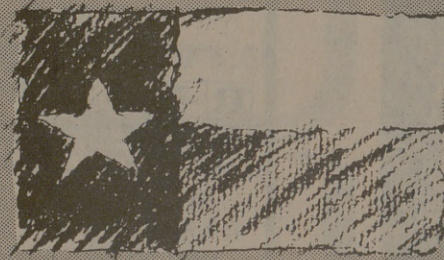
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