

State and Local

Police Beat

The following were reported to the University Police Department:

MISDEMEANOR THEFT:
 • Five bicycles were reported stolen.

• A backpack and a textbook left unattended were reported stolen from Lounge F.

• Two backpacks left unattended were reported stolen from storage areas in Sbis and Commons dining halls.

• An officer noticed a stop sign was removed from a campus parking lot exit.

• A sapphire ring with diamonds was found on the floor in the shelving department of the Sterling C. Evans Library after being reported stolen from a lost-and-found safe in the circulation department.

• A student reported that her moped had been stolen after she'd lent it to a friend who never returned it. An officer found the moped undamaged two days later, parked near a delicatessen on Boyett Street.

BURGLARY OF A BUILDING:
 • Several hundred dollars worth of equipment were reported stolen from a grounds maintenance building.

BURGLARY OF A HABITATION:
 • Someone came in through the window of a Hart Hall room and removed the master keys to the building.

HARASSMENT:
 • A student confessed to mak-

ing obscene phone calls after another student reported to police that she suspected him of making the calls.

• A Krueger Hall resident reported receiving phone calls at all hours of the day and night since the beginning of the semester.

• A student reported receiving five harassing phone calls between 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

ASSAULT:
 • Two women reported they were assaulted while visiting friends in Cain Hall. Three University police officers investigating the incident the next day also were assaulted by a man in Cain Hall.

INDECENT EXPOSURE:
 • A student reported that, while studying in a second floor lounge of Sterling C. Evans library, the man sitting next to her was masturbating.

PLACES WEAPONS PROHIBITED:
 • An officer found a pistol in the glove compartment of the vehicle he was towing. Police arrested the vehicle's owner after finding he had six outstanding Department of Public Safety warrants.

• Patrolling officers stopped a car traveling near the Research Park and found a 12-gauge shotgun and a .22-caliber pistol inside the car.

• A student reported seeing a rifle hanging in the gun rack of a pickup truck parked in a campus parking lot.

Researcher working to facilitate use of computers in work with children

By Sandra Saldivar
 Reporter

If a child can learn to work on a personal computer, then any adult also should be able to operate the machine, a computer scientist for Apple Computer Corp. told over 100 people in Rudder Auditorium Tuesday night.

Alan Kay is working with children, trying to discover how they learn to use computers, in order to try to help him build machines that are easier for everyone to use.

Kay, who sometimes is referred to as "the father of the personal computer," has done research for over 10 years.

When Kay was at the Palo Alto Research Center of Xerox Corp. (PARC), he headed a group of young computer scientists who developed one of the very first personal computers.

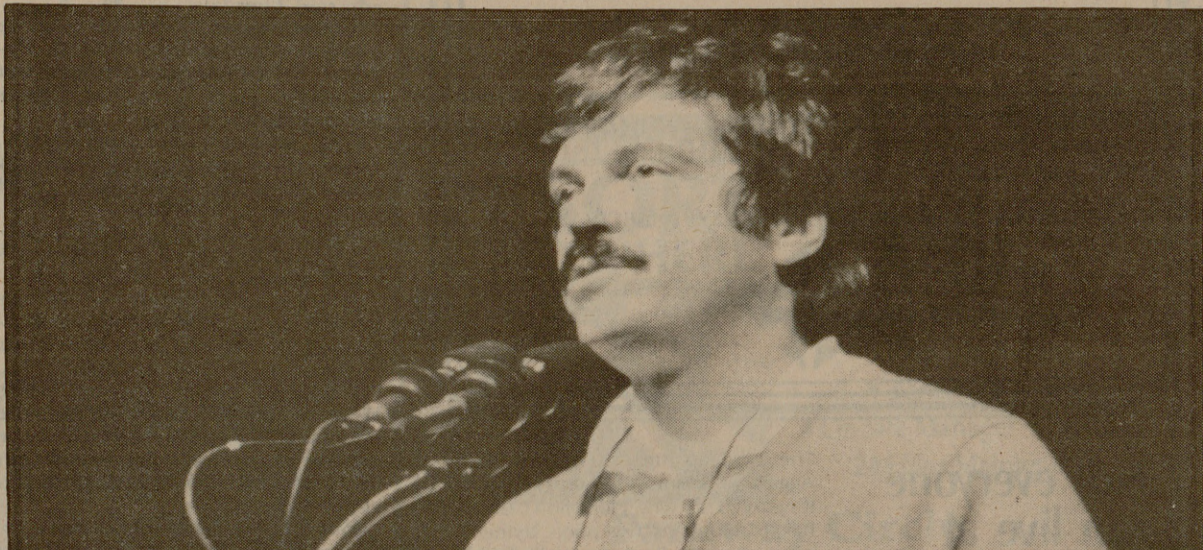
"None of us (researchers) ever knew the computer could be used sensibly at such young ages," Kay said.

The youngest user of a personal computer Kay has seen was 17 months old.

The child found it easier to use the "mouse," a computer writing tool, instead of a pencil to draw the various designs on the screen.

A 22-month-old girl, who also used the mouse, learned to store and erase her designs on the screen.

These children didn't know the technical names of the keys they



Alan Kay, computer scientist for Apple Computers, speaks in Rudder Auditorium Tuesday night.

were using, but they understood how to work them, Kay said.

Children may find computers easy to work with because they can just plunge into new tasks without worrying about doing the task incorrectly, Kay said.

When people begin thinking too much about a task, their bodies don't know what to do, he added.

Natural learning abilities occur when a person concentrates on a task and ignores any doubts over success, Kay said.

"The parts of the body don't know English, so our minds must teach the body," Kay said.

The American education system shouldn't just teach about math and science, but should force children to apply what they learn, he said.

With computers, the brain not only absorbs information but also puts it to use, he added.

Kay's latest computer concepts have been adopted for the Macintosh by Apple Computer — where

he is now a research fellow — to keep the personal computers easy to use and versatile for everyone's use.

The computers of tomorrow will have what Kay calls "agents" software that can do any number of specified jobs, such as assembling a personalized newspaper from data bases or automatically shepherding a memo through a bureaucracy and letting its author know where it is.

Kay's visit was sponsored by the Texas A&M Macintosh Users Group and the Apple Computer Corp.

Brownsville tries to attract teachers with beach climate

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (AP) — One of the state's fastest growing school districts, scrambling to find 200 new teachers by fall, hopes the beach here that attracts college students on spring break will bring them back after graduation to work.

The Brownsville Independent School District says it can't find enough graduates locally to fill its growing need for teachers. So this year, it turned to the students partying in this Gulf Coast resort town.

"Love the beach, live and teach," says a

billboard on the highway between Port Isabel and Brownsville.

The school district also bought radio time and newspaper advertisements and has placed brochures in businesses frequented by students.

"If I can get 15, I'd be really happy; 15 or 20, every little bit helps," said Oscar Barbour, assistant superintendent for personnel for the school district, on the border with Matamoros, Mexico.

The BSID began recruiting students on spring break last year and received more than 50 responses, Barbour said. A few were hired.

"We're not getting the teachers (locally) we need to staff our schools," he said. "For the last several years, we've had to go out of state. There's a shortage in Texas and rapid growth in Brownsville."

The school district has more than 2,000 professional teachers on its staff now and is

growing at the rate of a new school a year, he said.

A middle school will open this year, two elementary schools opened last year, and the city's fourth high school will open in 1988-1989, Barbour said. Another elementary school is on the drawing board.

"As long as economic problems in Mexico continue and the maquiladoras keep growing, we'll continue to grow at the same rate or more," Barbour said.

He said the maquiladoras, or twin plants, which operate on both sides of the border, are responsible for part of the district's growth, along with a surge in people from Mexico and a trickle from Central America.

The school district, in trying to convince college graduates to move to Brownsville, is promoting the sub-tropical climate, "the beach, a good salary schedule, good working conditions — we're trying to keep class sizes low," Barbour said.

MSC OPERA and PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY

PRESENTS

CLASSICAL AND BROADWAY PERFORMANCES AND

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WHO: ANYONE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE OPAS STUDENT COMMITTEE

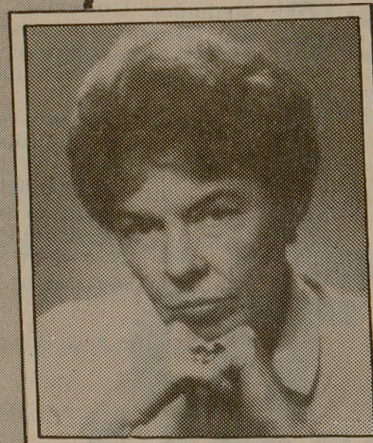
WHAT: A MANDATORY NEW MEMBER INFORMATION SESSION (IT IS ONLY NECESSARY TO ATTEND ONE SESSION)

WHEN AND WHERE:
 MONDAY, MARCH 30,
 ROOM 410 RUDDER TOWER
 AT 7:00 P.M.
 or
 TUESDAY, MARCH 31,
 ROOM 701 RUDDER TOWER
 AT 7:00 P.M.

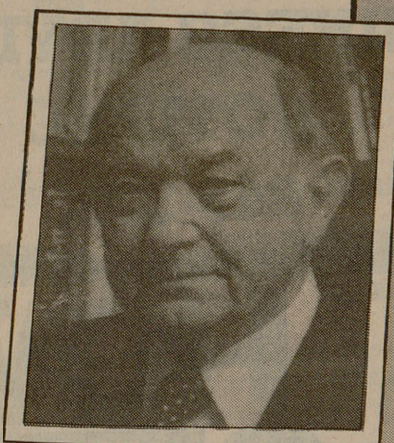
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
 SARA WALL 764-8279 OR 845-1515

We the People of the U.S.

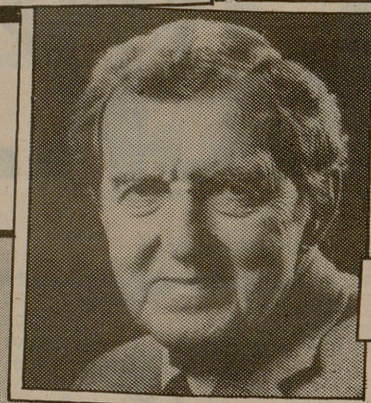
Constitution & Foreign Policy:
 A Question of Control
 Moderator Howard K. Smith



Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick
 Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.



Dean Rusk
 Former Secretary of State under Kennedy and Johnson



Senator Edmund S. Muskie
 Member of the Tower Commission,
 Former Secretary of State

Wednesday, April 1, 1987

Rudder Auditorium 8:00 pm

Texas A&M University



MSC Wiley
 Lecture Series
 Texas A&M University



Ticket Information: Rudder Box Office and Dillards Ticketron
 Students: \$6, \$8, \$10 Non-Students: \$8, \$10, \$12