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Electric Car

Continued from Page 2

"It's a novelty," he said. "People like it, and it sounds like a jet taking off."

As far as cost efficiency, the initial investment of an electric vehicle can be high. Edwards estimated the van used by the Hilton costs about \$80,000.

Dickinson said upkeep can run into the thousands of dollars depending on the type of electric vehicle chosen. However, the cost of energy is low.

Dickinson said the average cost of a five hour recharge is \$3. The charge provides enough power for about 100 miles. That works out to about 33 miles to the dollar.

"You can hardly get a regular car that will (travel 100 miles on \$3)," he said.

To add some excitement to its research, Dickinson said the center races some of the more powerful electric cars.

One car the center has is capable of traveling up to 300 mph. The power the car produces is the electronic equivalent of 1000 horsepower.

On the other end of the racing spectrum is the center's Geo Metro that was built for longevity, not speed.

Beyond just electric cars, the center also researches fuel cells. Fuel cells, as opposed to power storing batteries, are energy conversion devices.

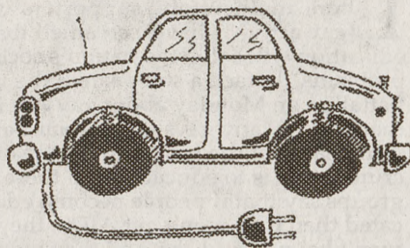
They combine hydrogen and air to create energy with no pollution.

Hydrogen, unlike other currently used fuels, will never deplete because once it is combined with oxygen to create energy, the two initial sources simply turn into water vapor.

"It's all-natural," Dickinson said. "And hydrogen is in everything."

In addition to the environmental benefits, a car equipped with a fuel cell does not have to recharge like a battery-powered car.

It only needs to refill the tank



with hydrogen.

"As big as you can build your hydrogen tank, that's as far as you can go," Dickinson said.

The cost of fuel cells far exceeds that of electric cars.

A car equipped with a fuel cell costs about \$500,000.

The center plans to take the car to Boston in May to compete in the American Tour De Sol, an electric and solar car rally that covers the course of 60 miles a day for 6 days.

"We have a real good chance of winning," Dickinson said. "Our Geo can easily beat last years (race-winning time)."

Alpha Kappa Psi
National Professional Business Fraternity



Would like to congratulate *Leslie Morris* as the Alpha Kappa Psi Scholarship Key and Certificate Award recipient.

Congratulations!

Police Beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department between April 22 - 29.

Assault

•Parking Area 39 - The person who was operating the motor vehicle that struck a Parking Service Officer has been identified.

Burglary of a Vehicle

•Parking Area 56 - During patrol of campus property, an officer located a 1987 GMC Jimmy parked in the lot with the right front passenger window broken and the steering column damaged.

•Parking Area 61 - Someone entered the victim's 1966 Chevrolet pickup truck and removed two, 6" X 9" Realistic stereo speakers and a TAMU parking permit.

Criminal Mischief

•Texas A&M University Golf Course - A motor vehicle was driven onto the course damaging the flag sticks on greens 7 and 12.

•Microcomputer Center Storage - A failed attempt to enter the facility by force resulted in \$250 in damage to the exterior doors and the lock mechanism.

•Southside Parking Garage - The victim was struck on the right foot by a marble size steel shot that was apparently launched from Dormitory 11. Investigation revealed the same type of steel shot had struck and damaged six of the windows on the northwest stairwell of the Northside Parking Garage.

•Texas A&M University Golf Course - A motor vehicle was driven through the golf course damaging the 16th green.

Disorderly Conduct / Indecent Exposure

•FM 60 at 2818 - Seven individuals were detected urinating in public.

•Underwood Hall - A subject knocked on the window of a first floor resident's room. When the victim looked at the individual, he exposed himself to her.

•Parking Area 30 - The victim was drawn to the window by the flashing headlights of a motor vehicle. When she looked out her third floor window, she observed the motorist turn on the dome light, unzip his pants and expose himself.

Misdemeanor Theft

•Parking Area 34 - The left rear tail light lens and bulb were stolen from the victim's 1982 Mercury Cougar.

•Bright Building - A Citibank Mastercard was stolen from the victim's wallet that was left unattended in a second floor laboratory.

•Northside Parking Garage - Two empty 16 gallon beer kegs and a 17 foot length of chain were stolen from the cargo bed of the victim's pickup truck.

•University Owned Apartments - Three individuals entered the fenced area behind the compound and removed two red 5 - 10 gallon gas tanks from a boat that was stored in the facility.

•Parking Area 56 - The victim was walking through the parking area carrying a grocery bag when a subject ran up to her and grabbed the bag from her arms. The grocery bag fell to the ground spilling its contents.

The subject picked up a toothbrush and ran several yards before dropping it. The victim proceeded to her residence hall and notified the police.

Fictitious Driver's License

•Mosher Lane - A subject whose car was parked on the sidewalk beside Mosher Lane had two fictitious driver's licenses in his possession. The bogus driver's licenses were released to the custody of a Department of Public Safety Trooper.

Unlawful Carrying a Weapon/Evad-ing Arrest or Detention

•Luther Street - While patrolling campus property, a police officer observed a vehicle northbound on Wellborn Road matching the description of a motor vehicle wanted by the College Station Police Department in connection with a recent vehicle burglary in the city.

The vehicle was stopped on Luther Street. As the officer approached the vehicle, he observed a handgun in the backseat. When the officer called out to alert his partner of the weapon, the two occupants of the vehicle fled the scene and ran into the Southgate Village Complex.

The pursuing officers were unable to locate the suspects in the apartment complex. The vehicle was towed and secured until contact with the owner can be made.

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