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CIS Microcomputing Short Courses

- Word for Windows
10:00 am
Mon. Sept. 25 & Wed. Oct. 11
121 WCCC
- Word for Macintosh
10:00 am
Tue. Sept. 26 and Thu. Oct. 12
121 WCCC
- Microsoft Access (database)
10:00 am
Wed. Sept. 27 & Tue. Oct. 10
121 WCCC
- Introduction to the Internet
10:00 am
Thu. Sept. 28 & Wed. Oct. 4
121 WCCC
- Excel for Windows
10:00 am
Mon. Oct. 2 & Wed. Oct. 18
WCCC
- Excel for Macintosh
10:00 am
Tue. Oct. 3 & Thu. Oct. 19
121 WCCC
- UNIX Short Courses
For more information on UNIX short courses, please call 847-UNIX
- Programming Tools on UNIX
6:30-8:00 pm
Mon. Sept. 25
116 Bright

•UNIX Networking: An Introduction

6:30-8:00 pm
Wed. Sept. 27
116 Bright

•PC to UNIX Communications

6:30-8:00 pm
Mon. Oct. 2
116 Bright

•UNIX Electronic Mail

6:30-8:00 pm
Wed. Oct. 4
116 Bright

Supercomputing Short Courses

For more information on Supercomputing short courses, please call 845-0219

SGI Power Challenge

Tue. Sept. 26 (I)
Thu. Sept. 28 (II)
3-5:00 pm
39 WERC
Thread creation, parallel constructs, dependencies, and compiler directives

•Cray J90 Code Optimization: Vectorization Concepts and Techniques

Tue. Oct. 3 (I)
Thu. Oct. 5 (II)
3-5:00 pm
39 WERC

Primary Care Day highlights A&M program, informs public

□ Texas A&M's College of Medicine is doing more than its fair share to reduce the national shortage of primary care physicians.

By Lisa Johnson
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M College of Medicine's National Primary Care Day will bring guest speakers to educate medical students and the Texas A&M student body about the need for primary care physicians. Janice Maureen, College of Medicine director of public affairs, said,

"National Primary Care Day is held to raise the awareness about primary care among the medical students and the general public," Maureen said. "There is now a primary care shortage of about 30,000 doctors nationally."

It is for this reason, Maureen said, the A&M medical school focuses on developing primary care physicians. In order to get

hands-on experience in the field of primary care, second-year medical students work one afternoon a week with doctors in the community.

Donna Canney, second-year medical student, said primary care physicians have the benefit of establishing an enduring relationship with patients.

"Primary care doctors are the ones that see the patients first, before the specialists or the doctors in the hospital," Canney said. "That's one of the advantages of being in primary care — you get to know the patients and their families on a long-term basis."

The number of doctors going into primary care fields, like family practice or general internal medicine, is rising because they are becoming the doctors of choice among insurance companies and health maintenance organizations, Canney said.

"Primary care doctors can often figure out the needed treatment and necessary medicines to treat their patient's illness," she said. "So seeing their primary care physicians first can often save a person time

and money on unnecessary visits to a specialist."

In conjunction with National Primary Care Day, John Burdette, administrative director and physician recruiter for Joseph's Hospital in Bryan, will speak at a noon luncheon for medical students.

Dr. Grant Fowler, resident director of Hermann Hospital, a Residency affiliated with the University of Texas at Houston Medical School and author of *Principles for Primary Care Physicians*, will speak at a reception at the College of Medicine.

Elvin E. Smith, Ph.D., interim vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, said the college is proud of its number of primary care physicians.

"Primary care is a major part of our school, and we are extremely proud of the number of students going into primary care," Smith said. "For the year in a row, we have received the award from the Texas Academy of Family Physicians for meeting national and state goals for the number of students entering primary care."

Senate Republicans pass bill to cut spending on EPA, veterans, homeless

□ Although legislation to reduce the national debt was approved, a veto looms over the bill's fate because of its severity.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Over Democratic objections, the Senate passed a \$62 billion spending bill Wednesday that would slash money for environmental protection, housing programs and veterans' benefits.

Democrats, who said in advance that they lacked the votes to make substantial changes in the bill, urged President Clinton to veto it. The House previously approved equal or deeper spending cuts, so those differences must still be resolved.

The Senate approved the legislation 55-45 after Republicans rebuffed Democratic attempts to restore funds for environmental cleanup of toxic dumps, help for the homeless, health programs for veterans and a cherished Clinton national service program.

The legislation is the first of three broad domestic spending bills being considered by the Senate this week. Senate Minority Leader Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., called the bills "extremism on parade" and said the only recourse was to urge a presidential veto.

"There's no point in trying to fine-tune this mess," declared Daschle.

The Senate bill would cut the Environmental Protection Agency's budget by one-fourth to \$5.6 billion, including a \$430 million slash in its Superfund program for toxic waste cleanup. Clinton had sought an increase to \$7.3 billion.

It also would cut housing programs by \$5 billion, one-fifth of current spending, eliminate Clinton's AmeriCorps national service initiative and reduce veterans' programs by \$395 million.

The reduction in the EPA budget — though less severe than that approved by the House — still "places the American public at serious risk," said EPA Administrator Carol Browner. She said air and water pollution control efforts would be curtailed and work at hundreds of Superfund toxic waste sites would stop.

Republicans defended the spending reductions as part of a broader campaign to reduce the federal deficit.

"It sets priorities in very tough times," said Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., the bill's floor leader.

"We've done as good a job as possible within the dollars available."

But Democrats said the priorities were wrong and that many of the cuts would finance tax reductions for the wealthy.

Federal low-income housing programs were particularly hard hit.

Overall spending on housing would be cut by \$2 billion to \$20.4 billion. That would be 20 percent below current spending, and 16 percent less than Clinton had requested. Public housing construction funds would be reduced by \$1.6 billion and senators approved new restrictions on housing programs that critics said may lead to rent increases for poor tenants.

An attempt to restore \$360 million to help the homeless was rejected 52-48, despite pleas that the 32 percent cut in the homeless assistance program would hurt "those that are most in need." The House has made even deeper cuts of \$440 million in the fund for the homeless.

"The homeless are at the very bottom of the scale. They're out there in the streets," said Sen. Paul Sarbanes, D-Md., pleading unsuccessfully to restore funds to at least current levels.

The legislation also would scuttle Clinton's year-old AmeriCorps national service initiative, one of his favorites, by providing no money for it. An attempt to restore \$425 million — half of what Clinton had sought — was rejected 52-47.

Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., called AmeriCorps "boondoggle for kids trying to find themselves." Other Republicans said it was too costly and a liability at a time when programs across the government were being slashed.

The bill would cut veterans' programs by \$395 million from current spending levels, for a new total of \$37.3 billion, nearly half of which is fixed spending that Congress cannot change. The administration had proposed an \$875 million increase.

Veterans health benefits would be increased slightly but kept at \$700 million less than the administration had sought. "As a veteran, I find this to be an obscenity," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a decorated Vietnam War veteran.

"This is about priorities, about what we stand for," Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., declared after the vote. "We turned our backs on the veterans of this country, we turned our backs on the lowest of the low, the homeless people. We didn't have to do it."

"This bill eminently deserves the veto it is going to get," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

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