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ResNet answers need for speed

Ethernet connections in dorms allow direct access to campus network

By COURTNEY WALKER
THE BATTALION
On-campus residents with personal computers are no longer forced to endure long nights in computer labs thanks to the convenience of direct access to the campus computer network.
On-campus students use Ethernet connections to hook up to ResNet, allowing them direct connection to the A&M network via personal computer, without the use of a phone or modem.
Raymond McCauley, a systems analyst with the Department of Residence Life and Housing, said currently the system is installed in 13 residence

halls and they hope to have Ethernet connections in all the residence halls within four years.
"The total cost to wire all the dorms is \$1 million, so a lot of the progress will depend on funding, but we hope to install the last few systems in Fall 2000," McCauley said. "If we run out of money, we won't finish in four years."
Students hook their computer into what looks like a phone jack. The copper cables from the residence halls connect with the campus fiber-optic system.
Once the Ethernet connection is established, students use a network card and jumper cable to access ResNet.
Aaron Bawcom, Appelt Hall

president and a senior computer science major, said at least more than half the students in his hall use the system.
"Appelt Hall has had the system for a year," Bawcom said. "There is a constant increase in usage."
With ResNet, students may access the Internet, campus e-mail accounts, the library card catalog and research databases.
Along with the convenience of not spending all night at the computer labs, students find the speed and efficiency of ResNet impressive.
Heath Dieckert, Wells Hall resident and a junior industrial distribution major, said Ethernet eliminates the long wait students have

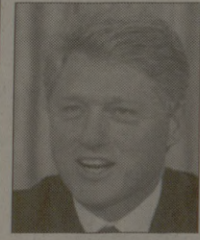
when using a modem or phone line. "When you have to dial there's usually at least a 30-second hook-up wait, and with Ethernet connections, one button you're on-line," he said.
One percent of the residential on-campus residents fund the program, not the Computer Fee paid by all A&M students.
McCauley said the service, expensive compared to commercial services.
"Say a student is paying a semester," he said. "That they're only paying \$10 for a charge at least \$20 or \$30 and nobody offers this at speed commercially."

Reno hits ball into Clinton's court

Recent changes in Cabinet cause questions about Attorney General

WASHINGTON (AP) — When a reporter asked Janet Reno if she would remain attorney general, she replied: Yes, "if the president wanted me to stay."
A stock answer, but it still irked White House aides who felt she was boxing President Clinton into a corner.
Shaking up the Cabinet, an almost painless task so far, is growing more ticklish as Clinton decides whether to reappoint Reno in the midst of Whitewater and other investigations.
Air Force One was still en route from Arkansas to Washington, within hours of the election, when word got out that three Cabinet members were leaving. Three more soon followed, and the news quickly spread about who was in and who was out.
But Reno remained a huge question mark.
Asked about her status Friday, Clinton passed up a chance to endorse her. "I should have no comment on any personnel decisions," the president said, who is making the judgment against a backdrop of legal difficulties.
If he reappoints her, Clinton will have to deal with an attorney general whom some aides view as a bit too independent. But if she goes, critics will accuse him of ousting her to

help escape legal woes.
"It would be viewed by some in a very dark light," said Joseph diGenova, a Republican



"I should have no comment on any personnel decisions."
President Clinton

who has served as a special prosecutor. "But I don't think he cares."
The uneasy consensus among White House aides is that Reno will survive. But it is remarkable that there is any doubt at all.
She is a star of the Clinton Cabinet, mobbed by friendly crowds outside Washington and respected by many lawmakers inside the Beltway. Only the president gets more invitations for speaking engagements.
But one of Reno's greatest assets — a fierce

sense of independence — may have been some of her trouble.
She shouldered the blame for the 1995 fire at Waco, Texas, in the hours after the Davidian complex fire. The president, Reno go public alone, looked meek by comparison.
She was not "muscular" enough, some aides argued, because of personal objections to requiring minimum sentences for certain crimes and the death penalty. But she rarely talked about those objections.
She sought court-appointed independent prosecutors to investigate Whitewater. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, former Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros, whispered Clinton advisers.
A team player would not have been sending allegations to independent advisers.
Just last week, the Justice Department announced the formation of a task force to amine allegations of improper fund raising by Democrats and Republicans. The action passed a more direct route toward the name of an independent counsel, but the inquiry could still embarrass Clinton.

Graham, Zamora will not face death penalty

Family of murder victim wants life-in-prison sentence to be given

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Two former military cadets indicted Monday in the jealousy slaying of a high school girl will not face the death penalty. The victim's family wants them to sit in prison instead, a prosecutor said.
David Graham, 19, and Diane Zamora, 18, could get life

behind bars if convicted in the shooting death of 16-year-old Adrienne Jones. The girl was killed because of a sexual encounter she had with Graham that angered his girlfriend, Zamora, investigators said.
Prosecutors will not seek the death penalty because the victim's family prefers a long

prison sentence, prosecutor Mike Parrish said.
Jones was found shot to death in a field outside Dallas last December. Graham and Zamora were high school seniors then; he went on to the U.S. Air Force Academy, she to the U.S. Naval Academy.
The prosecutor said the couple

carefully planned the killing.
"They are bright — bright," he said. "They know how to plan, think and kill."
The slaying went unsolved until September, when autopsies said Zamora told her mates at the Naval Academy and they alerted police.

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