

Computing Toolbox

Computing News at Texas A&M
by Computing & Information Services

Hey Gals! Here's a little multiple choice quiz for y'all ...

Question: It's okay to share a computer account with a friend...

- A. Only if the friend is a student here too.
- B. Anytime, since it's my account.
- C. Only during the semester that my friend and I are taking the same class.
- D. If the friend is a trustworthy relative
- E. Never.

Answer: E. ----- Surprised?!

Check http://www.tamu.edu/cis/qapcm/policy_info.html for common computing violations to avoid.

Awareness through education is your first line of defense in maintaining the confidentiality, reliability, availability, and integrity of Texas A&M University Computing Resources. Users must respect the rights of other users and comply with local, state, federal and international laws, and university rules. Texas A&M University reserves the right to limit, restrict or deny computing privileges to anyone violating university rules and/or laws.

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NEWS

Page 10A • Thursday, January 28, 1999

Immune system-preying parasite subject of research

BY MEREDITH HIGHT
The Battalion

Microsporidia, parasites that cause illness in people with deficient immune systems like AIDS or chemotherapy patients, is a subject of research for Dr. Karen Snowden, an assistant professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Snowden is working to discover new ways to treat the illnesses; no drugs exist to treat microsporidia-related infections.

Microsporidia can lead to death, but the most common bacteria infect the intestines of AIDS patients and cause chronic diarrhea. Other kinds infect muscles, organs or the respiratory system.

Snowden is infecting mice without t-cells (the cells AIDS patients lack) with microsporidia and then testing drugs on them to

see if the drugs are efficient in fighting the infection.

"We administer the drug to infected mice to look for cures or prolonged life," she said.

"We have been working out a system and screening drugs for two and a half years."

The research is funded by a National Institutes of Health grant in collaboration with Tulane Regional Primate Center. Snowden is working with Dr. Elizabeth Didier of Tulane University.

Didier begins the process of testing by screening the drugs in a culture first to test their effectiveness before animals are tested.

Snowden initially worked on the research with the former dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, John Shaddock. Shaddock worked with parasites, but as his administra-

tive duties grew, he was not able to spend as much time in the laboratory.

"He invited me to start working with parasites," Snowden said. "I had worked with him for a year before we got funding."

Snowden has now been working with parasites for four years. She regularly reports back to the National Institutes of Health on the research. It is up to the NIH to determine if the drugs tested on the mice will go on to the next phase of testing, which would include monkeys or humans.

Blood drive to donate funds to ill infant

BY NONI SRIDHARA
The Battalion

The Scott and White Blood Center in Temple will be hosting a blood drive from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today in front of the Medical Sciences Library to reduce the blood shortage and to benefit an infant in the community.

Rocio Dejesus-Parra said her son, Carlos, is eight months old and was diagnosed with Biliary Atresia, which is a rare liver disease occurring in one in 50,000 children. She said in some cases, the liver is

never fully developed, but in Carlos's case the bile ducts of the liver were clogged, and his liver was not functioning from the beginning.

"He was born with jaundice, but we were not aware of the Biliary Atresia until just a couple of months ago," Dejesus-Parra said.

Dejesus-Parra said her family has hosted a variety of events to help pay Carlos's medical bills.

"My sister works for K&K cuts where we had a hair-a-thon and were charging five dollars for hair cuts and all the proceeds went towards the bills," she said.

"We also had a bake sale and a benefit dance, in which we have seen a lot of contribution come from the community."

Tim Waits, marketing representative for the Scott and White Blood Center in Temple, said for each unit of blood received there will be a \$25 donation toward helping pay Carlos's medical bills.

"We are trying to help fight against a nationwide blood shortage," he said. "People have to realize that the shelf life of blood is only 42 days."

Waits said there will be a 40-foot

mobile donor coach on course in front of the five beds and three intubations.

There is a shortage of blood and a negative blood type, wishing to donate are asked to eat something before bringing a picture identification form of identification and social security numbers.

Waits said he encourages as many as possible to donate. "We'll be giving out blood and we would love to have a minimum," he said.

RECRUIT

Continued from Page 1

Reserves can earn up to \$9,000 college assistance, \$10,000 to \$20,000 in student loan repayment and up to \$5,000 as an enlisting bonus.

Graduates who have been accepted to medical school and have scored well on the MCAT qualify for financial assistance through the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP).

The Army pays 100 percent tuition, most academic fees and a monthly allowance for 10 and a half months per school year. For the remaining month and a half, students receive Army officer pay. Totals on all monetary incentives fluctuate depending on the medical school chosen.

Graduates looking for further experience in specific areas can look into the Army's Officer Candidate School and Warrant Officer Flight Training. Graduates enlisting as Active full time are eligible for \$65,000 in student loan repayment and up to \$12,000 as a signing bonus.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Professor to speak about trends in weight management

Dr. Rebecca Reeves, researcher and assistant professor for the Baylor College of Medicine, will discuss methods of weight control today at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Regional Health Center in Bryan.

Reeves educates and researches in nutrition, and she will address trends in weight management and effectiveness of nutrition intervention, a press release said.

Family sues after foster child allegedly seduces young son

BOSTON (AP) — The case began nearly 10 years ago when the suburban couple who had taken in kids before was asked by the state to care for a 15-year-old girl who needed a foster home.

The family is now suing the state, saying the girl's troubled past was hidden, and that she lured their 11-year-old boy into bed and eventually bore his child.

Traver Clinton Smith, lawyer for the foster family, said no one disputes that the boy fathered the baby, but the family maintains the girl forced their son, now 20, to have sex with her.

The family is also worried the state could make him reimburse Massachusetts for aid given the mother since the baby girl's birth.

The teen-ager was placed with the family, then living in Duxbury, in 1990, and the seductions allegedly took place

NICKEL

Continued from Page 1

working on making class syllabi on the internet.

"We are envisioning an informationhouse for every course offered at university," he said. "The libraries are able to help us."

Nickel said the syllabi on the internet will require faculty support and completed all of the necessary steps.

Within Student Government Association, Nickel has worked to increase communication between organizations and the University.

Minyard said Nickel runs the organization like a corporation.

"She takes input from everyone and it all out," he said. "She can spot who the job and who can't but really has a talent for it."

Katie Hanselka, vice president of Student Government Association, credits Nickel's success to her goals and team effort of Student Government Association.

"Most everything she promised in her campaign has been accomplished; if not, then it is being done this semester," he said.

Nickel credits her executive team for the success she has had in accomplishing her goals.

"This is our University," Nickel said. "The end result is far beyond what we imagined."

TAMU Career Center Workshop

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- Stephen Austin, Ultramar Diamond Shamrock
- Ron Novak, The Sherwin Williams Company

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- ◆ MSC OPAS — Tango Buenos Aires Sat, Jan 30, 8 p.m. Sun, Jan 31, 3 p.m.
- ◆ Alpha Phi Alpha — Miss Black & Gold Scholarship Program Sat, Jan 30, 7 p.m.
- ◆ BVSO — Children's Concert Sun, Jan 31, 4 p.m.
- ◆ MSC Film Society — Dead Poet's Society Fri, Feb 5, 9:30 p.m.
- ◆ MSC OPAS — Big - The Musical Wed & Thurs, Feb 10 & 11, 8 p.m.

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