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Researchers use particles in sun stu

BY STUART HUTSON
The Battalion

A team of physics professors at Texas A&M
has developed a new way to catch a scientific
sneak-peek into the inner workings of the sun,
which may shed some light on the mystery of
how the universe is put together.

The team discovered a way to determine
the rate at which subatomic particles, called
neutrinos, are emitted by the sun's nuclear-fu-
sion process.

Team member Dr. Robert Tribble said the
new process finds the probability of the reaction
when neutrinos are produced. The prior method
which attempted to recreate the reaction itself
often produced unreliable results that could
vary as much as 30 percent, Tribble said.

"You can't create the exact conditions of the

sun inside of a laboratory," he said. "So we in-
stead tested the conditions under which the re-
actions can happen."

Tribble said the experiments are vital to un-
derstanding the structure of all matter because neu-
trinos are considered to be one of the most funda-
mental building blocks of the universe.

Atoms are made of three types of particles:
Protons, which have positive charges; neu-
trons, which have no charge; and electrons,
which have negative charges. Electrons are
considered fundamental particles, but protons
and neutrons are believed to be made of even
smaller particles called "up quarks" and
"down quarks."

"You have these three fundamental particles
which actually make up most matter in the
universe," he said. "But then there is another
type of particle that is only found while these

other three are being shifted around
called neutrinos."

Tribble said the difference between
at which neutrinos which should
from the sun and the rate detected
used to measure the number of
the earth will tell physicists more
behavior of these particles.

Tribble hypothesizes the difference
caused by neutrinos which have
form and become undetectable.

"This will help us come closer to
working model of the universe, which
'standard model,'" he said. "Perfection
but at least this will be a step in the right
direction."

Tribble said a perfect standard model
verse would allow physicists to re-
modern world with such discoveries
of energy.

Interim dean selected for med college

BY CHRIS MENCZER
The Battalion

Roderick E. McCallum, Ph.D.,
has been selected as interim dean
of the Texas A&M University System
Health Science Center College
of Medicine.

The selection of McCallum as
interim dean followed an intensive
screening process which Texas
A&M administrators said led to the
best candidate available.

Dr. Jay Noren, president of the
A&M System Health and Science
Center selected McCallum as in-
terim dean and said he was en-
thusiastic about McCallum's po-
tential to excel in his new
position.

"We look forward to the contin-
uation of progress in the many ac-
tive endeavors of the College of
Medicine, including research ex-
pansion, teaching excellence, cur-
riculum revision, outreach, the
Coastal Bend Health Education
Center and many other areas,"
Noren said.

McCallum joined the College
of Medicine in 1992 and served as
associate dean of research and
graduate studies at the College
since 1997. He also is a professor
and head of the Department of
Medical Microbiology and Im-
munology and director of the Col-
lege of Medicine's Institute of
Molecular Pathogenesis and
Therapeutics.

Prior to joining the A&M Col-
lege of Medicine, McCallum was a
professor of microbiology, im-
munology and oral pathology at
the University of Oklahoma Health
Science Center.

He received his doctorate in mi-
crobiology and completed U.S.
Public Health Service (USPHS)
pre-doctoral trainee program while
at the University of Kansas.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

**Friday
MLSC 489 Executive Lec-
ture Series:** Guest Lectur-
er Brandon Coleman, Jr.,
founder and CEO of Cole-
man&Coleman Inc. will
speak in Koldus 144 at
10:20 a.m.

Texas A&M Rifle Team: Ri-
fle team try-outs will be held
from 5 to 7 p.m. in the base-
ment of the Military Science
building. The cost will be \$3
for two days of try-outs. Call
Tim Mitchell at 847-1058
for more information.

**Study Abroad Programs Of-
fice:** An informational meet-
ing to promote the Italy
2000 Program will be held
from 12 to 1 p.m. in 154
and 161 Bizzell Hall West.

TAMU Roadrunners: A 3-
to 4-mile run will be at 4:15
p.m. starting in front of the
Rec Center. All skills levels
are invited. For information,
call Marcos at 696-3964.

**Student Engineers' Coun-
cil:** There will be a free golf
tournament from 8 a.m. to
3 p.m. on the Texas A&M
Golf Course followed by a
free reception from 8:30 to
10 p.m. at the Hilton. Sign
up outside Wienbaker 219.

**Silverwings/Arnold Air So-
ciety:** Lt. Col. Meyer will be
speaking about his POW
experience. Taps will be
played, as well as a 21-gun
salute. 1 p.m. at the flag-
pole in front of the Acade-
mic Building.

Fish

I CAN'T BELIEVE
How WELL THAT
WENT...

I know!

THAT P.T.T.
GUY ACTUALLY
SAID TO JUST
FORGET ABOUT
THIS UNFAIR
TICKET HE
GAVE ME!!

How cool
is that??

YA KNOW...
MAYBE
P.T.T.S
ISN'T SO
BAD
AFTER
ALL...

HE'S
TOWING
YOUR
CAR...

MAN, I
THAT GUY

SIDE BURN CLUB

I'm really
excited about
our new comic
strip...

guy. We need
to be
careful
though.

We don't want
to offend anyone.
so we're walking on
egg shells.

MAYBE WE
SHOULD PUT
STYRE
PANTS ON?

YEAH,
WE CAN'T
BE TOO
CAREFUL

CENSORED

BY R. DELU

BY BEAU & BRE

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