



Tiger Times

The Student Newsletter

Cincinnati Technical College

November 1992

Construction Projects Nearing the End

by Daniel Trout

The 2.9 million dollar construction project that includes the main lobby, Registrar's Office, Admissions and Counseling Department, Human Resources Department, and student classrooms will be completed in November, according to Jake Meyer, CTC manager of auxiliary services. This project was scheduled to be completed in early September before the students returned from summer break, but delays in shipment of materials caused the completion date to be extended.

Mr. Meyer said student complaints during the construction

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CTC main lobby, viewed before installation of the "lamp of learning."

Engineering Tech Division Begins Environmental Major

The Engineering Technologies Division of CTC will begin a new program in Environmental Engineering Technology in the Late Fall (November) 1992 Term.

According to Engineering Technologies Division Dean Larry Morris, the new program will begin as a major in Environmental Engineering Technology within the Civil Engineering Technology's two-year degree program.

Dean Morris hopes the new

major will expand into a full two-year degree program by 1995.

Dean Morris said CTC realizes there is a need for environmental technicians who are knowledgeable in remedy and restore processes, hazardous waste, pollution, and abatement programs, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency's regulations and laws.

The environmental engineering technology program will provide education leading to certification

of personnel such as first line supervisors and field workers in the areas of industrial waste treatment; hazardous waste generation, accumulation, storage, treatment, and disposal; and lab technicians who can sample, analyze, and monitor environmental conditions.

Students who are interested in the Environmental Engineering Technology program should call the Civil Engineering Technology program chair, Greg Sketch, at 569-1745.

CTC Hoopster Receives Scholarship

CTC's Matt Reicheneker, a 6'10", 225 lb. center on the 1991-92 Tiger basketball team has received an athletic scholarship from Pan American University, a Division I college.

Reicheneker averaged 5.6 points per game and 5 rebounds per game.

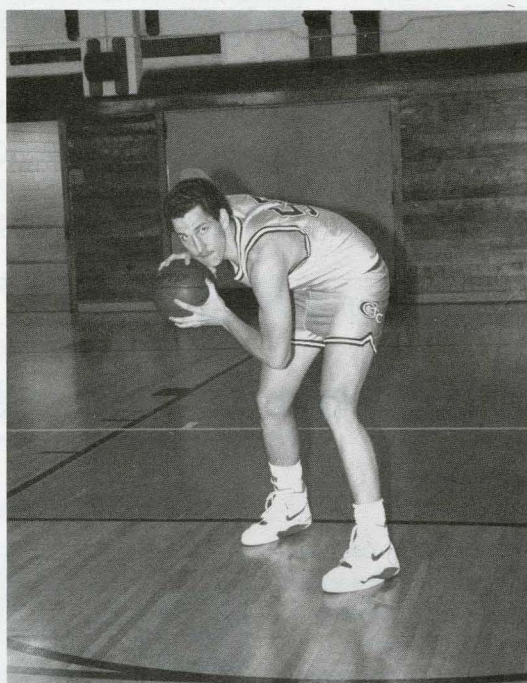
CTC to Acquire New Administrative Computer System

The CTC Board of Trustees has approved the purchase of a new administrative computer system which eventually will handle finance records, payroll, personnel, registration, admissions, student records, scheduling, counseling, financial aid, and fund-raising activities. After a year of research and evaluation of CTC's computing needs, a decision was made to purchase the Datatel administrative "Colleague" software system.

The new system will be installed late this fall and various subsystems will be put on-line one at a time over the next two years.

One major feature that could be added is telephone registration for courses. It's anticipated that the system will eventually be able to handle registration and record-keeping for as many as 20,000 students. The new system is to be paid for over the next five years at a cost not to exceed \$922,420.

The new computer system will not be used by students for computer classes or labs.



Former CTC Tiger basketball player Matt Reicheneker

Career Center Hosts Open House

The CTC Career Center hosted an open house on Wednesday, November 18, in celebration of National Career Development Month. The theme of National Career Development Month, *Career Planning Opens the Door to the World of Work*, reflects the commitment of the career counselors to the vision of career development and career planning as a key to the world of employment.

Open house activities included an orientation to the career center, free career assessment, demonstration of the "Discover" computer, tours of the career resource library, opportunities to talk with career counselors, viewing of the video *The Career Journey*, and tours of the LRC career book display.

The Career Center's goal for National Career Development Month is to inform the CTC community about career development services on campus and how

they can help students make sound career choices.

According to Linda Meador, a CTC Counselor, career planning is an often bewildering experience that is necessary for full exploration of educational and vocational options.

Career planning is appropriate at any age, whether it involves small children looking at the world of work through inquisitive eyes, or adults seeking occupational options. In an era of rapid technological change, career counseling services are vital to the adult faced with career changes, retraining, or retirement.

The Career Center's regular hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

For more information, or to set up an appointment with a CTC career counselor, call 569-1544.

International Essay Contest Asks Collegians to Predict the Future of Computing; First Prize is \$10,000 Award

Computerworld magazine, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society, and the NCR Corporation have announced a "New Ways of Computing" Essay Competition.

The sponsors are asking college and university students from around the world to participate in the \$60,000 competition. The competition is designed to challenge the imagination of students from the U.S. and overseas in an effort to envision the world they will inherit and help shape.

"We believe that this competition will foster new ideas and break through old ways of thinking about information technology," said Giuseppe Bassani, vice president, NCR Stakeholder Relations Division. "These students represent the business leaders of tomorrow. The essays could offer novel insights into new ways of computing."

The entries will be judged at the state level by selection committees comprised of NCR employees, IEEE Computer Society members, and leaders from the business and education fields. The semifinalists' essays will be evaluated by a blue-ribbon panel of nationally recognized leaders by May, 1993.

The essays must be original, unpublished work and not exceed 3,000 words. All work must be typed and double-spaced on one side of 8.5 by 11 inch bond paper. A separate sheet should list the entrant's name, school, home address and essay title, as well as specify the student's level in school as either an undergraduate or graduate. Pages should be

numbered and include the essay title in the upper right hand margin.

All entries must be postmarked by December 15, 1992 and received by January 1, 1993. Entries should be sent to: College Essay Contest, Manning, Selva & Lee, 79 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016.

"Students represent the leaders of tomorrow. Their essays could offer novel insights into new ways of computing."

Because the essay contest's scope is so broad, the sponsors expect to receive entries that range from the role of information technology in corporations to essays on social and ethical issues that may arise because of pervasive computer technology.

The judges will be looking for essays that provide an imaginative, well thought-out vision of the information technology environment that these students will become part of in the near future.

Specific judging criteria include: social, technological and business implications; creativity

and originality; clarity; and skill in presentation.

Undergraduate and graduate students worldwide are eligible to enter. A total of \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded to the three top winners by the contest sponsors. The award-winning entries will be published in *Potentials*, a student magazine for up-and-coming engineers and computer scientists.

The grand prize winner will be awarded \$10,000 in cash and an NCR notebook computer. The second prize winner will receive \$5,000 in cash and a notebook computer; the third prize winner will receive \$3,000 in cash and a notebook computer.

Professors or faculty advisors who work with and encourage the three winning students will also be awarded NCR notebook computers.

Questions regarding the contest should be addressed to: Sean Glynn, MS&L, 79 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, phone (212) 213-7192. NCR employees and family members are not eligible for the contest.

CTC OTA Program has 100% Pass Rate

CTC graduates of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (OTA) had a 100% pass rate on the most recent OTA certification exam.

All ten CTC graduates who took the OTA exam passed it on their first attempt.

Tips for Buying A Home Computer, Part 2

by Terri Preston

This is the second part of a two-part series on tips for buying a home computer. Anyone who would like a copy of the first part, which was published in a previous issue of Tiger Times, should contact Pam Ecker, Tiger Times Editorial Advisor, in Room 215.

The first part of this article presented the first three steps to take when buying a home computer: assess your needs; determine your budget; and decide whether to buy an IBM or Macintosh computer. This article continues with the final steps to take when buying a home computer.

Determine your technical needs

All computers, whether they're IBM, IBM-clone, or Macintosh, are typically categorized by their processor, the amount of memory (RAM), and the size of the hard disk, along with other features. The computer's processor determines how fast the computer responds to instructions. The higher the processor's number, the faster and more powerful the processor. For example, a 486 processor is faster and more powerful than a 286 processor. The computer's memory is where your application software and your data are temporarily stored when you use the application. The hard disk is used for permanent storage of all your applications and data.

The computer's memory and hard disk are measured in bytes. One byte is equal to one charac-

ter. Today, the computer's memory and hard disk are usually measured in megabytes, also called meg or MB. A megabyte is one-million bytes or roughly one-million characters. For example, at the low-end of the computer spectrum, typical IBM computers (IBM-manufactured or clones) consists of a 286 processor, 1 MB of memory (RAM), and a 40 MB hard disk. At the high-end, IBM computers typically consist of a 486 processor, 8 MB of memory (RAM), and a 200 MB hard disk.

Deciding what you need is usually based on what your application software requires, what you can afford, and what you may need in the future. If you plan to use your computer for many years to come and you want to keep up to date on the latest versions of software, then you should consider a computer that allows you to expand the memory (RAM) and the hard disk.

Determine where to buy

The three major sources to purchase a computer from are computer stores, discount stores, and mail order catalogs. Each has its advantages and disadvantages.

According to David Shay, an Account Executive at ComputerLand, computer stores offer more payment options and provide better service and support for their customers than discount stores or mail order vendors. Shay says that discount stores and mail order vendors usually can't provide the local service and support that computer stores can. Shay also believes that when you

buy products from a computer store, you're getting better quality.

"When you buy from a discount store or mail order vendor, you don't know where the equipment came from," comments Shay. "You don't know the environment of the warehouse where the equipment was stored, or how the equipment was handled during shipping."

Jim Shelvy, a Sales Manager from Circuit City, disagrees with Shay. Shelvy says that Circuit City, a major electronics retail store, provides its customers with local service and support along with the guaranteed lowest price.

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Shelvy says that each store has a regional service center and they also offer extended service policies. Shelvy explains that these extended service policies offer varying protection terms for your purchase, in addition to the product's manufacturer warranty. The policy states that "if your product does not properly perform to manufacturer's specifications, then Circuit City's factory-authorized technicians will repair it promptly using original equipment parts."

Shelvy reports that all Circuit City stores are currently in the

process of opening computer centers. Shelly says that these centers will enable them to offer their customers a wider selection of computers and a staff that specializes in computers.

"If our customers have problems with their software, they can call us here at the store for assistance," says Shelly.

For mail order shopping, the *Computer Shopper* is a good source. According to *Computer Shopper*, it has "hundreds of companies that offer thousands of bargains on computer products." *Computer Shopper* claims that "mail order shopping is convenient, economical, and growing more popular with buyers each year." However, as a mail order shopper, to make a successful purchase, you should follow some guidelines. These guidelines include tips on how to order, what to do if you encounter problems, and the mail order laws. The *Computer Shopper* publishes these guidelines in every issue.

Wherever you decide to buy your computer, you should check out the dealer first by calling the Better Business Bureau.

Ask the experts

After you've done some or all of this preliminary work, and you find yourself asking if it's worth investing the time and money into a computer, then ask for advice from professionals in your field of study or your teachers who use computers.

Pam Ecker, who uses a computer extensively, believes that a home computer can benefit students.

"Having a computer at home provides convenience for the

student," says Ms. Ecker. "It makes it easier for them to get their homework done and it allows them to produce quality work."

For professional goals, Ms. Ecker says that a home computer is beneficial for a couple of reasons: "For freelance work, it enables you to offer more services to the customer, such as desktop publishing or editing other people's work. For a full-time job, a home computer provides more flexibility, allowing you to do work at home."



The decision

After spending lots of time researching my needs, this is what I decided to do in my quest for a home computer.

Since I've nearly completed my degree program, I needed to consider my professional goals. These goals consist of using word processing, desktop publishing, and graphics applications to do freelance or consulting work at home, either on a part-time or full-time basis. I also needed to consider my husband's needs. He is a first year engineering student and his future courses consist of using CAD/CAM applications.

After assessing my needs, I decided on a high-end computer that will allow me to upgrade the processor and expand the memory (RAM) and hard disk. Having a high-end computer now will

enable me to use the current CAD/CAM and desktop publishing applications. And having an upgradeable and expandable computer will allow me to use these applications in the future when they will probably require more processing speed and memory.

What I haven't decided yet is whether to buy a Macintosh or an IBM-clone. Since I've been using the Macintosh for the past four years at school, I'm somewhat Macintosh-biased. But I have found that with IBM-clones, you can get more of a system for less money than you can with a Macintosh. Before deciding on an IBM-clone, though, I will need to "test drive" one using desktop publishing.

Since I decided on a high-end computer that has the ability to grow for future purposes, it will probably cost well over \$2,000. And since my extra cash flow is currently paying for school, I decided to wait until I finish my degree to purchase a computer. (Who knows, maybe by then they'll be as inexpensive as the calculator.)

Wherever I decide to purchase my computer from, I will make sure that the vendor provides fast and reliable service and support. This is essential, since I plan to use the computer for business purposes.

Good luck in your search for the right computer!

The United African American Association
Student Organization
will meet on the **2nd** and **4th** Wednesday of each month
for the 1992-1993 Academic Year

Time: Noon until 1 p.m.
Place: Room 259

Late Fall Term Meetings

November 25

December 9

January 6 and 27

Construction Projects, continued from page 1

period have concerned the use of stairwells, availability of restrooms, and the improper installation of drapes.

Delays in the shipment of railings caused the stairwell by the cashier's office to be closed, Mr. Meyer said. However, on October 20, this stairwell was open for foot traffic. Other stairwells are still closed to complete construction.

Mr. Meyer said that when a restroom is under construction, another restroom on the same floor is always open. He said that the construction workers have been instructed to leave at least one restroom open on each floor.

The problem with the drapes, Mr. Meyer said, was that some of the classrooms did not have new drapes installed. When some instructors used the overhead

projector, students were not able to see a clear image because the room couldn't be darkened enough.

Don Gammon, CTC Controller of Finance, said the cost of these construction projects will not affect the students' tuition. Mr. Gammon said funds for these projects were supplied by the state a year ago.

Mr. Meyer said the students will benefit from the new modular work stations in the Financial Aid Office, Admissions and Counseling Department, and the Human Resources Department. Mr. Meyer said that the modular work stations are designed for maximum efficiency.

John Wagner, Dean of Admissions and Counseling, said, "The project will enable College employees and students to have

better use of space. The more efficient use of space will mean quicker service and less waiting in lines for students."

"Despite the inconvenience of the construction project," said Mr. Meyer, "the cost of construction is worth every cent."

Tiger Times

a publication by and for the students of Cincinnati Technical College

Staff for this issue:

Kristin Foell, TWE
Christopher Patton, TWE
Daniel Trout, TWE

Student Activities Director

John Hurley

Editorial Advisor

Pam Ecker, TWE Program Chair

The mission of *Tiger Times* is to promote cohesiveness among CTC students by providing timely, valuable, interesting information about students' lives, activities, concerns, and attitudes. The news and opinions contained in this publication are not intended to be interpreted as official policies of Cincinnati Technical College.