

Help for Columbians

by Ann Grever

The Columbian Volcano Relief Fund Committee is assembling whatever funds they can to help the emergency in Columbia after a destructive volcano eruption caused a mudslide that killed 20,000 people.

"The situation in Columbia is getting worse everyday", said Alfonso Rodriguez Pizarro, the president of the club.

The idea the committee is promoting is a coffee break fund. "We are asking that people put aside what money they spend for their coffee breaks," said David Johnson, a History professor specializing in Latin American history here at the U of A.

The funds will be used to "take care of immediate problems such as clothes, medicine and housing for survivors and for people in towns in the surrounding countryside," said Johnson. Later the committee would like to set up projects that are more long-term.

The Columbian government has been notified of the Edmonton effort by Rodriguez Pizarro's letters to the president, the treasurer, the attorney general and the president of the Red Cross in Columbia.

The mudslide through the Chinchina River valley may affect the Magdalena River system that connects the whole country.

"The rivers have accumulated a lot of mud," said Martha Gibson, another member of the committee. "A lot of avalanches have been caused because of the ice melting. They are trying to evacuate people who live around Magdalena."

"The whole central region of Columbia has been affected," said Rodriguez Pizarro. "Next year's coffee harvest has been destroyed along with the sugar cane crop."

Those who want to donate can deposit a cheque, made out to the Columbian Volcano Relief Fund, at any Royal Bank or drop it off at the Red Cross.



System may make drafting boards obsolete

Photo Lutfulkahir Khan

Aggies' hoedown

by Tim Kihn

Yee haw! Grab yer western duds and come join the fun! Yep, Bar None Week is here again. All week long the Faculty of Agriculture will be having a big hoedown.

Bar None will be most visible to the rest of the campus on Wednesday, with a noon hour square dance in CAB, and on Thursday afternoon when a few truckloads of Aggies and several floats will parade around the university.

All the pathway gates will be opened on Thursday morning says Ag Club president Larry Ruud, and the parade will start at noon in front of the Agriculture/Forestry building. If the parade is anything like last year's, the Aggies-on-parade should beware of anonymous snowballs and cries of derision, espe-

cially when in the vicinity of Engineering

On Friday night the party moves to the Riviera Hotel, where Mick Jadestone and the Rolling Boulders will be serving up some fancy pickin's. Bar None really takes off Saturday night in the Butterdome, thanks in part to the Cam Molley Silver Weasel Band and Leduc's own Showdown. If you want to hear the Skinny Puppy you'll have to go elsewhere.

For more information see a Bar None poster on your favorite bulletin board, which is recognizable from its slashed, marked-up, and generally scruffy-looking appearance (so nobody will decide to lift one for a souvenir and hang on their bedroom wall).

CAD/CAM for 3-D design

by Lutfulkahir Khan

Half a century ago, car designers would toil for months to create presentable design details for their 'dream' cars. However, the end result would still be an incomprehensible jumble of machine parts.

Now, thanks to Computer Aided Design (CAD), the complex cars of the future can be designed realistically in three dimensions.

Steve Drake, an applications engineer, demonstrated one such design using the U of A CAD system.

The design was complete with exterior and interior view of the car from every possible angle. Views with doors or bonnet open, design details of seats, the steering wheel

and other control parts are all available at the press of a button.

In addition, the construction and function details of every moving part of the car are simulated with miraculous fidelity.

But design of cars are not only what the CAD is used for. In fact, in the 1990's, the drafting board may become obsolete and home CAD systems be used.

Design of spacecraft, airplanes and microchips are the absolute domain of CAD. It is taking over the fields of traditional design like architecture, structural analysis and most of all cartoon animation and advertising.

Universities are exploiting these

endless possibilities of CAD and the U of A is no exception.

It has a Computer Vision CAD/CAM system worth \$3 million and it is one of the most powerful and sophisticated machines of its kind.

It is used by electrical engineering students as an aid to design complicated circuit boards and IC chips, mechanical engineers use it to design machine parts, civil engineers use it for structural analysis, and industrial design students use it for almost every design job.

According to Jo-Anne Moore, assistant manager of CAD user's group, the system is also rented for industrial use.

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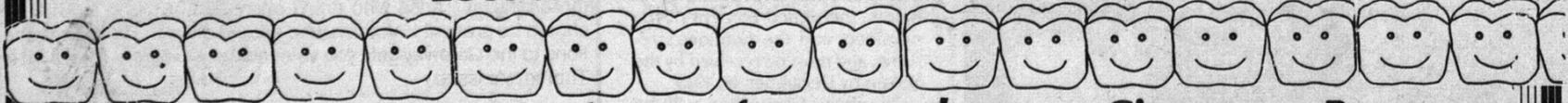
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