

Foundations News

The Official Student Publication of the Dubai Men's College Foundations Campus - Wednesday, 1st of April 1992

Issue *5

Foundations Math Training on Our Computer Network

CBT stands for Computer Based Training and originated at the University of Wisconsin, USA. The program was first used in the UAE at Al Ain University and last year was introduced to the Higher Colleges of Technology.

Some advantages of CBT are that it allows students to work at their own pace and homework or extra work is graded immediately.

Unfortunately the system is still quite new, therefore there are still problems (in computer language BUGS). Sometimes it grades the answers wrong, a program is not yet installed or it works very slow. We have ordered a new file server and hope that when it arrives and is installed, that many of our bugs will disappear.

The most interesting and unique part of CBT is the "Teacher Screen." The Teachers Screen can tell if the last problem any student worked is right or wrong, if the student is doing the correct assignment and if his total average for that day is above or below 85%.

--Mrs. Stella

Local Area Network

A network is dedicated to sharing data among several single-user computer workstations or personal computers. A L.A.N. can have from two to several hundred such nodes, each separated by distances of from several feet to as much as a mile. These should be distinguished from connections among computers over public carriers, such as telephone



circuits, that are used for other purposes.

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When you type *net* to work on your CBT you are not using a program on the computer in front of you. In fact, the mathematics software isn't even in the computer lab! How can you work with software that isn't in the lab? The answer is really quite simple: there are wires connecting all the lab computers to a larger computer in the teacher's room near Mrs. Homa's office. The network allows all the lab computers to use the hard disk of the bigger computer. This computer is called a file server and it is a more powerful system than the one at which you type. Nowadays, most business have LAN systems that tie their personal computers together. This means that group work can be accomplished quickly and easily. No computer is an island!

Why do we have ID Cards?

A few days ago students and teachers were surprised when they got I.D. cards. They did not know what these were for and why they were issued. Many people asked themselves these questions. So I met Ms. Randa in the Career Campus and I asked her some questions.

SEE THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE NEXT PAGE

Editorial Page

PAGE TWO

D.M.C. IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Q: Why did they issue the I.D. cards?

A: The cards were used before in the career program. And we are late to issue them from last autumn because we did not have time for that before. So when we had time we made cards for the students. We had one camera for all the college so we had to wait until it came.

Q: What are the reason for issuing it?

A: The cards are for showing where the person or student is from. He can also come to college if it's closed and when he shows the receptionist the card, the student can work any time. And the card will help you to get discounts at some companies and restaurants that have with college an agreement. He can use it in L.R.C when he wants to borrow books.

Q: What should a student do if he loses his card?

A: He must tell his student counselor that he lost his card. After that somebody will issue new one but if he loses it another time he will have problems. So the students must be careful.

---Khalid Al Jaber

As the front cover of this newsletter says, this is a **student publication**. I am pleased that I am now receiving a lot of help. But we can only print the things that YOU WRITE. Please let people know what you think. Give Omar Al Ansari or Khalid Al Jaber the things you'd like to be in the next issue.

Mr. Dennis



An Editorial Midterm examinations are soon.

The time is running fast and moving from day to day quickly. Despite this, there are some people do not take advantage of their time for good things. I say this because I see some students do not study as hard as before Ramadan. So I want to remind the students that the midterms will be after Eid Al Fater. Do not be surprised by them. I suggest the students began to study from now. Because maybe they will not have enough time when the quizzes are near. Mrs. Homa said the quizzes will be generally in every subject that students are studying. As well, the student must take these quizzes seriously. The reason for the tests are for knowing how much the student are learning. And also how much they will need in the next course. So my friends and fellow students do not waste all of your time in play and sleep. I know during Ramadan people stay up until three o'clock in the morning to play football, cards and other things they do. But you should keep some time in order to learn.

Khalid Al Jaber

News & Comment

DIFFERENCES THIS YEAR!

My Evening Time in Ramadan

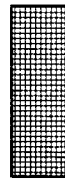
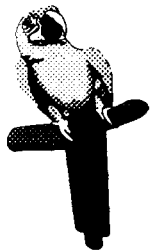
Usually, I get up at six o'clock pm. At six-thirty I take my breakfast with my family. After that I study with my son until prayer call time. From eight to nine-thirty I visit my sister because she's in the hospital. At ten o'clock I go with my friends to the Emirates Club to see a football match. At twelve o'clock I go to my house. I watch TV, after that I take my dinner or play with my son. At one o'clock I go to bed.

Saif Saifan 2-H

High-school and DMC

In high-school in Ramadan the timetable was different than DMC college this year. When I studied in school in Ramadan in the past, I went to school after 9:30 and it wasn't important to come to school if I didn't need any information. In DMC it's very important to come to college and we take tests in Ramadan and study very well. It was the opposite in the school, and in my mind the school was nicer because in past Ramadans I was absent all Ramadan. And this Ramadan I have more problems than in past Ramadans. An example is the transport and I sleep maybe four hours in the day. At the end of this Ramadan I will be very tired.

*Yahya Al Ansari
2-H*



*Some parrots live
to be 60 years old!*

Guest Speaker Talks to Foundations Students about the Environmental Problems of CFC's

On Monday the 23rd of March, there were special programs for students in Foundations Levels 3 & 4. A guest speaker came to discuss something we all read in the newspapers. Mr. Henry B. Hart came to tell us about ozone depletion in the atmosphere. First, Mr. Hart who works for Dubai Petroleum Company showed a video tape. The students watched that tape that had interviews with people from all over the world. We learned that the ozone layer protects us from the sun's ultraviolet radiation. This kind of radiation can damage our skin and eyes. But we also learned how scientists found that this protection is disappearing because of CFCs. *Chlorofluorocarbons* are from the chemicals we use in refrigeration and air conditioning (and also from electronic manufacturing). The layer of ozone is only a few millimeters thick but this special oxygen is being depleted and already there are holes.

If the world doesn't stop letting these chemicals into the atmosphere then the ozone holes over the north and south poles will get bigger and cause trouble for all of us. But the UAE signed an agreement with many of the world's countries to try to stop CFCs.

During the discussion time, we asked what we could do to help. Mr. Hart said some simple things matter. When we go to have the A/C in our car fixed, we should make sure the mechanic doesn't let a lot of the gas escape. This gas goes straight up to the stratosphere and destroys some of the ozone layer there.

The overwhelming importance of the atmosphere means that there are no longer any frontiers to defend against pollution, attack, or propaganda. It means, further, that only by a deep patriotic devotion to one's country can there be a hope of the kind of protection of the whole planet, which is necessary for the survival of the people of other countries.

*Margaret Mead 1901-1978
Culture and Commitment [1970]*

IN THE ENCYCLOPEDIA ...

Ozone is triatomic OXYGEN (O₃). Pure ozone is an unstable, faintly bluish gas with a characteristic fresh, penetrating odor. It is the most chemically active form of oxygen. *Ozone is formed in the ozone layer of the stratosphere an the atmosphere by the action of solar ultraviolet light on oxygen; this layer plays an*

important role in preventing most ultraviolet and other high-energy radiation, which is harmful to life, from penetrating to the earth's surface. Some environmental scientists fear that certain man-made pollutants, e.g., nitric oxide (NO), may cause a drastic depletion of stratospheric ozone.

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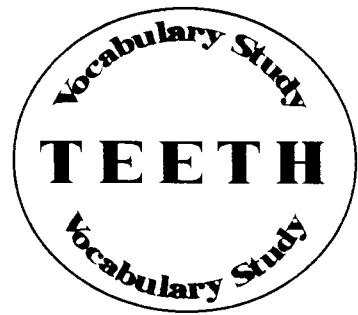


A Letter to "The News Advisor"

I got a warning letter the last day. I knew about about warning letters for students who are absent. But this one says about my attitude isn't good. What about that?

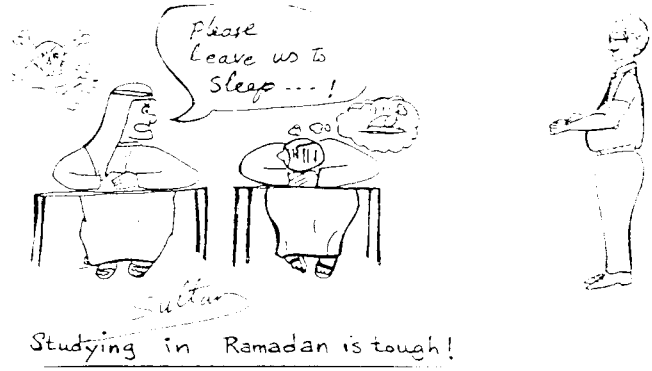
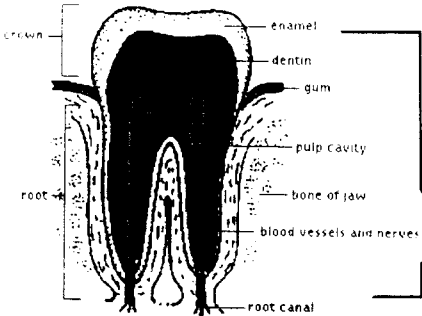
Dear student:
 Yes, there are warnings given for other than attendance problems. The idea of a warning letter is to let you know your teachers think you should change some of your ways. In the Higher Colleges teachers are interested in each student's progress. So, that you will be certain there is something that is keeping you from doing your best, teachers write the warnings. In this way, you can talk about and fix the problem before the end of the semester. Isn't this a good system? You wouldn't want to be surprised at the end of the term, would you?

The News Advisor



Teeth are hard, calcified structures embedded in the bone of the jaw that perform the function of chewing food. An adult mouth contains 32 permanent teeth. A tooth consists of the crown, the portion visible in the mouth, and one or more roots embedded in a gum socket. The gums cushion the teeth, while the jawbone firmly anchors the roots. The center of each tooth is filled with soft pulpy tissue containing blood vessels and nerves. Hard, bony dentin surrounds the pulp and makes up the bulk of the tooth. The root portion has an overlayer of cementum, and the crown has a layer of enamel, the hardest substance in the body.

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Did you know that ...

- * a female elephant is pregnant for twenty-two months?
- * the Arab people were the first people to add a zero in mathematics?
- * Denmark is the only country that has never changed its flag?
- * a female cat is pregnant for sixty-three days?

Foundations Gossip

Gossip

- Who's that ugly guy in all the Pontiac Firefly advertisements?
- Was there really a teacher rollerskating in the teachers' room?
- Which students were playing table tennis during class time?
- Which class made Ms S. so happy with the book reports they wrote?
- Isn't it time that Mr. A stop filling in all those absence reports?

Gossip

Foundations Gossip