

May 13-17, 1985

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CONTACT: Darla Hightower

1-5-13-85

LUBBOCK--Archaeology, insects, quilting, doll making and more activities will be part of the 1985 Summer Youth Classes at The Museum of Texas Tech University.

Sponsored by the Women's Council of the West Texas Museum Association, the classes are offered in two sessions, June 17-28 and July 15-26. Classes are available for grades 1-12.

Session I will feature Archaeology, grades 4-6; Art 'N Everything, grades 1-6; Cultural Adventures, grades 6-9; Discovering Insects, grades 1-3; Exploring the World of Science, grades 1-3; Oil Painting Workshop, grades 6-12; and Quilting, grades 5-7.

Session II will offer Archaeology, grades 4-6; Art 'N Everything, grades 1-6; Cultural Adventures, grades 6-9; Discovering Insects, grades 1-3; Exploring the World of Science, grades 1-3; Expressions (painting and drawing), grades 6-12; Oil Painting Workshop, grades 6-12; Porcelain Doll Making, grades 5-8; Quilting, grades 5-7; and Rockhounds, grades 4-7.

Cost for the classes ranges from \$10 to \$25. Inquiries about classes or registration should be directed to the Women's Council, West Texas Museum Association, The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409, (806) 742-2443.

# Texas Tech News

UNIVERSITY NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS/P.O. BOX 4640/TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY/LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409/(806) 742-2136

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CONTACT: Sally Logue Post

2-5-13-85

LUBBOCK--The U.S. economy will remain strong through 1985, though higher inflation, interest rates and prices may result, according to the Texas Tech University Institute for Banking and Financial Studies Advisory Board.

As the economy continues to accelerate and demand increases, supply shortages will appear as the country nears full production capacity. These shortages, coupled with lower unemployment rates, may create higher inflation rates and prices.

The Advisory Board is made up of representatives from various Texas banks as well as a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Following the board's spring meeting, a summary of their conclusions was prepared.

While lower unemployment numbers indicate a strong economy, they also have the negative effect of forcing higher wages and prices. According to the summary, the "natural unemployment rate" -- the rate at which unemployment does not affect inflation or prices -- may be as high as 7 percent. When unemployment falls below that natural rate, more wages must be paid, resulting in higher prices.

Many businesses, the summary states, are borrowing heavily for expansion purposes. This may push the prime interest rate to 12 percent by the end of the year. But long-term interest rates, which already allow for a substantial inflation increase, shouldn't increase appreciably.

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It was the consensus of advisory board members that the Federal Reserve Board no longer fears inflation and is taking fewer steps to prevent an increase in the inflation rate. Pointing to the fact the Fed has been pumping money into the economy since November, the advisory board members anticipated a rise in price levels in the near future.

This rapid growth of the money supply has caused a softening of the dollar on international markets which could force the prices of both imported and domestic goods up. According to the summary damage to the value of the dollar should be slight, as it has long been a "safe haven" for foreign capital. The dollar will remain strong as long as inflation does not increase faster than U.S. interest rates.

The midwestern section of the country, including West Texas, will not experience as strong an economy as the rest of the country because of the sagging agricultural industry. The advisory board summary stated farm problems are aggravated by reduced farm programs which have resulted in lower prices on farm products. A major factor in agricultural failures is that many farmers are unable to meet high interest payments on land bought during the height of the inflationary spiral.

According to the summary, a slight weakening of the dollar could help farmers by making agricultural imports more attractive to foreign markets, but the worldwide overproduction of many agricultural products should off-set any advantages the farmer will see.

While most financial institutions will continue to thrive, weaknesses in the areas of agriculture, real estate and oil-related businesses may present problems for lending institutions that are inadequately diversified and do not have strong management.

Though the possibilities are slight, the gravest threat to the U.S. banking system would be a series of financial institution failures causing foreign investors to withdraw massive amounts of funds in a short period of time causing liquidity and payment problems, according to the summary.



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CONTACT: Sally Logue Post

4-5-14-85

LUBBOCK--Rising production costs coupled with declining prices are causing West Texas cotton farmers to re-examine the effectiveness of some of their cultivation practices.

Professor Dan Krieg of Texas Tech University's Plant and Soil Science Department believes those practices hinder cotton production and quality in the short growing season of the Southern High Plains.

Traditionally farmers plant too many seeds per acre resulting in excessive plants per acre on their 40-inch rows, he said.

"One of our biggest problems is using our water resources effectively and efficiently," Krieg said. "Of the 4 million acres of cotton grown on the High Plains, about 60 percent is totally dependent on rainfall whereas the other 40 percent receives some irrigation water."

Our goal is to make more of the total water resource available to the plants and not lose much to evaporation from the bare soil."

In 1983 and 1984, Krieg studied three planting patterns using about 40,000 plants per acre. He compared the traditional 40 inch row spacing to two narrow row patterns 30 inches apart.

With the first modified spacing pattern, he planted cotton in rows 30 inches apart. The second pattern used two rows, 12 inches apart on 40-inch beds. Both methods allowed better utilization of existing water supplies and produced about 20-25 percent more lint of a better quality.

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Krieg's techniques allow the cotton plants to spread out providing more shade on the soil and reducing evaporation loss. Krieg said he was originally concerned about the plants producing too much leaf area, which would use the water rapidly, but he found the narrow rows had less leaf area than the traditional rows.

"The reason for the reduced leaf area was that we had fruiting seven to 10 days earlier than on the narrower rows," Krieg said. "This is particularly important because as we get later into the growing season, cool September temperatures greatly reduce fiber maturity and quality.

"I have seen fields with 80,000 to 90,000 plants, where the first fruiting position is on the 10th or 11th node instead of the sixth node where it should be," Krieg said. "It may strip better, but if you don't have anything out there to strip, it doesn't matter how good it strips."

Krieg emphasized farmers need to carefully match the cotton variety they select to the amount of water they have available.

Farmers who use irrigation need to plant a more determinate cotton that will start producing early and set the fruit in a shorter period of time.

Dryland farmers should use a more indeterminate variety that is capable of responding to rain after being stressed. However, the indeterminate types require more heat and extend their fruiting season.

"The farmer needs to know what he has available in terms of water supply and choose the growth habit of his cotton variety accordingly," he said.

Because of rising costs and declining prices, Krieg said it is more important than ever for farmers to know what production techniques are cost effective.



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CONTACT: Preston Lewis

4-5-14-85

LUBBOCK--Dr. Magne Kristiansen, Horn Professor of electrical engineering at Texas Tech University, has been presented the Meritorious Civilian Service Award of the U.S. Air Force.

Kristiansen, who is completing a four-year term on the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, has conducted funded research for the Air Force for the past 15 years. Kristiansen is also project director for the \$3.9 million Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) grant being negotiated between Texas Tech and the Department of Defense.

Kristiansen received the award from Maj. Gen. Donald Lamberson and Lt. Gen. Robert D. Russ during ceremonies at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio.

A Texas Tech faculty member since 1966, Kristiansen has done extensive research in the area of pulsed power technology, plasma dynamics and quantum electronics.

He is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and of the American Physical Society. He also holds memberships in the American Society for Engineering Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Nuclear Society and other scientific organizations.

Kristiansen is a previous recipient of the Dads Association's Spencer A. Wells Award for teaching excellence and holds a Distinguished Faculty Research Award from Texas Tech.

He received his bachelor's and doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

CONTACT: R. Gary Cates

5-5-14-85

LUBBOCK--Texas Tech University's Division of Continuing Education has received a competitive award from the 1984-85 National University Continuing Education Association (NUCEA) conference.

Texas Tech was one of 30 schools recognized for entries in the Division of Information Services competition. The certificate of merit was awarded to Texas Tech for a brochure and a series of news releases developed to promote a 1984 Hunting Institute. The entry was cited by judges for its effectiveness in advancing continued adult education.

Bruce Barker, associate director of continuing education at Texas Tech, said, "When competing with schools that spend as much as half a million dollars promoting a program, we are pleased to have received this recognition."

NUCEA is a non-profit corporation of nearly 300 colleges, universities and organizations dedicated to improved continuing education programs for adults.



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6-5-15-85

SCHOLARSHIP--Texas Tech University petroleum engineering junior John V. Heintz of Canastota, N.Y., has been named recipient of a \$3,000 scholarship from the Southwestern Petroleum Short Course. Heintz, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Heintz, West Rasbach St., Canastota, receives congratulations from short course Board Chairman Duane A. Crawford, right. (TECH PHOTO)

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7-5-15-85

SLONNEGER AWARD--Conoco Inc. senior engineering professionals Frew W. Gipson and Howard W. Swaim have been honored as recipients of the J.C. Slonneger Award by the 32nd annual Southwestern Petroleum Short Course at Texas Tech University. Attending the presentation are, from left, Gipson, short course Board Chairman Duane A. Crawford and Swaim. The award is given periodically for contributions to improved petroleum production. (TECH PHOTO)



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8-5-15-85

LUBBOCK--Retired couples who have been married 30 or more years are being sought to participate in a Texas Tech University research project on long-term marriages.

Human Development and Family Studies Professor Jean Pearson Scott is conducting the study to determine the characteristics of long-term relationships in late life.

The study will attempt to identify factors that enhance the quality of close friendships and the quality of long-term marriage relationships and to determine self-perceived changes that occur in marriage and friendships over time.

Each couple will be asked to participate in a personal interview and complete a questionnaire. The time involved is approximately two hours.

"The interview will not delve into highly private matters," Scott said. "We don't want to put couples in an uncomfortable situation. All information will be kept confidential."

Each couple will receive \$10 as a token of appreciation for the information, Scott said.

For more information or to volunteer for the study, call 742-3000.

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post

9-5-15-85

LUBBOCK--Designing a park from 6,700 acres of lake, sandy beaches and natural wildlands should be enough to spark the imagination of any aspiring landscape architect.

But when the park is in the city limits of a major metropolitan area, the project takes on the added significance of being a refuge for the populace as well as the flora and fauna.

Thirty Texas Tech University students spent six weeks this semester designing concepts that may eventually find a place in the future development of the Lake Worth area of Fort Worth. The students were all participating in Professor Garrett Gill's junior design landscape architecture class.

The students were to use the preservation ethic concept in their "Urban Wildlands" project. This concept, Gill said, was the basis of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco or the 8,200 acre Fairmount Park in Cleveland.

The students were charged not only with preserving the open space of the area, but also with creating revenue-producing recreational facilities and urbanizing the undeveloped areas surrounding the lake.

Five different proposals were prepared and presented April 30 to about 75 people, including the mayor, representatives of the Fort Worth Park and Recreation Department, members of the Streams and Valleys Commission and Lake Worth area residents.

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Because the students did not have to worry with the financial or political implications, they were free to create concepts to make city officials think about the area's future possibilities instead of designs that could be implemented tomorrow, Gill said.

"We just wanted to create the kind of social sanctuary that people living in the city need," Gill said. "Most people need and enjoy the opportunity to walk in the solitude and serenity a park brings."

Built in 1914, Lake Worth was the first lake designed specifically as a water supply by a Texas city. Now it is the final link in a chain of several lakes that supply Fort Worth with water.

"Because it is the final lake in the chain, its water level doesn't vary more than a foot or two during the year," Gill said. "Other lakes in the chain vary a great deal causing problems when you have to depend on the water level for some of your recreational activities."

The lake is also unusual because it has natural sand beaches in many areas. Gill said the geological base of sand and gravel provides the lake with unusually clean water and sand.

"What the students were trying to do is take the eight or so existing parks and the numerous old structures and combine them into a single unit to preserve the area's natural beauty," Gill said. "After all as the city grows, if we don't preserve our wildlands now, there may not be any in the future."

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CONTACT: R. Gary Cates

10-5-15-85

LUBBOCK--The Texas Tech University Recreational Aquatic Center will hold registration May 20-22 for the 1985 "Learn-to-Swim" program.

The Aquatic Center will conduct 11 classes in each of three two-week summer sessions in June and July. Courses are available for every age group.

Morning courses will offer instruction in Beginner, Advanced Beginner, Intermediate, Swimmer, Advanced Lifesaving, Stroke Mechanics, Diving, Swimmastics and Adult Lessons. The Aquatic Center will also offer Parent and Me, a course for children three months to three years and their parents, and Youngest Swimmer, a course for children ages 4-5. Cost is \$12.50 per person per course.

Registration for Texas Tech faculty, staff and students will be May 20-22 and registration for the general public will run May 21-22. Registration will be in the Archery/Golf Room of the Student Recreation Center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Classes will be held Monday-Friday June 3-14 in Session I, June 17-28 in Session II and July 8-19 in Session III.



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11-5-15-85

LUBBOCK--The Texas Tech University Honors Studies program has recognized eight students for outstanding achievements in Honors curricula for 1984-85.

Students recognized as outstanding Honors students at the annual Honors Banquet were: freshman accounting major Tracy Bunker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Bunker of Smyer; sophomore accounting major Kelli Crandall, daughter of Terry Crandall of 15115 Rolling Oaks, Houston; sophomore English major Trace Reddell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Reddell of 4707 81st Place, Lubbock; sophomore English major April Sansom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted L. Sansom of Route 1, Littlefield; junior English major Kathy Lemon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lemon of 9418 Northpoint, Dallas; and senior music performance major Kathy Preisinger, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Preisinger of 795 Renee St., Seguin.

The Director of Honors Award of Merit was given to senior math/history major Patti Bunker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Bunker of Smyer. Junior psychology major David Daniell was named the first recipient of the Peder G. Christiansen Scholarship. Daniell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Daniell of 3432 60th St., Lubbock.

Honors Studies Director James W. Harper, says the Honors program involves an in-depth approach to course work, stressing analysis, interpretation of course material and active class discussion.



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12-5-16-85

LUBBOCK--North Dakota livestock leader Marie Tyler, called by her peers "the first lady of beef promotion," has been named recipient of the 1985 National Golden Spur Award.

She becomes the first woman to receive the award sponsored by the nation's major livestock organizations, but for Tyler this is another in a long line of "firsts" that she has accomplished in her ardent support of the livestock industry.

In 1978 she was elected chairman of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, the first woman to serve in that position in the board's 63-year history. Tyler was the first woman to chair a committee in the National Cattlemen's Association, first woman officer for the U.S. Meat Export Federation and first woman officer of the Livestock Merchandising Institute.

John L. Huston, president of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, said in a letter supporting her nomination for the award, "The livestock and ranching industry has a rich and glorious heritage. Marie Tyler has helped add new chapters to that rich history.

"She has been a tireless leader and continuing advocate of industry self-help efforts -- especially promotion and market development programs. She is truly the 'first lady' of beef promotion."

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Tyler will be presented the award during the National Golden Spur Award and Prairie Party Sept. 20 in Lubbock. Sponsors of the national award are the American National CowBelles, the American Quarter Horse (AQHA), National Cattlemen's (NCA), National Wool Growers, Ranching Heritage (RHA), Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers associations.

Tyler was selected by a committee with a representative of each sponsoring organization. Tyler will be the eighth recipient of the award.

Of Tyler's impact on the livestock industry, Huston said, "Today economists are talking about the changing consumer preferences and demand for red meats and the growing competition the meat industry faces, especially from new poultry and fish products.

"Marie Tyler started sounding similar warnings in the '50s to her fellow cattle producers, challenging them to support voluntary efforts to finance research, education and promotion programs."

Under her leadership, the National Livestock and Meat Board vastly expanded advertising, research and education, especially dealing with red meat, diet and related health issues, Huston said.

Tyler was born and raised on a cattle and grain farm in Moffet, N.D., near Bismarck, her current home.

For 30 years she and her late husband James W. Tyler ranched near Bismarck. They were the first to introduce Santa Gertrudis cattle to North Dakota and among the first to raise registered Quarter Horses in the state.

She was noted for her equestrian skills, becoming the first woman to win the Minnesota State Fair Western Pleasure Stake Riding Competition.

She has long been active in the American National CowBelles and the North Dakota CowBelles, serving as president of the state group in 1962-63 and the national organization in 1963.

Among her numerous awards, she is the only woman to be named "Agriculturist of the Year" by the North Dakota State University Saddle and Sirloin Club. The Greater North Dakota Association has recognized her "for outstanding leadership on a national level, reflecting credit on North Dakota" in 1963 and with the Agricultural Achievement Award of 1979.

She was named the North Dakota Farm Bureau's "Rural Progressive Person" of 1977 and was inducted into the Montana Livestock Hall of Fame in 1979.

Tyler was a charter member of the NCA which honored her in 1977 with its Outstanding Leadership and Service Award.

She is an honorary member of the North Dakota Stockman Association and honorary Director of the American National CowBelles, the North Dakota CowBelles and the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

In a letter supporting Tyler's nomination, North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Kent Jones wrote, "During the past 25 years, Marie has shouldered a tremendous number of state and national responsibilities benefiting agriculture, doing so with flair and proficiency."



The award presentation is the highlight of National Golden Spur weekend Sept. 20-21. Activities, centering around Texas Tech University, will include Livestock Day on Friday and Ranch Day on Saturday, when demonstrations of typical ranch chores and activities will be featured at the Ranching Heritage Center, a 14-acre exhibit of The Museum of Texas Tech. The center depicts the development of ranching in the American West through authentic restoration of ranch structures.

Previous National Golden Spur Award recipients have been, Foy Proctor, Midland, Texas, 1984; John B. Armstrong, Kingsville, Texas, 1983; J. Ernest Browning, Wilcox, Ariz., 1982; Watt R. Matthews, Albany, Texas, 1981; Fred H. Dressler, Gardnerville, Nev., 1980; the late Jay Littleton Taylor, Amarillo, Texas, 1979; and the late Albert K. Mitchell of Albert, N.M., 1978.

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13-5-16-85

LUBBOCK--Astronomy, called by some the oldest of the pure sciences, is moving at Texas Tech University this year -- from the Department of Mathematics to the Department of Physics.

But the big news is that a newly acquired observatory will expand learning facilities that can serve both students and the public.

For centuries humans have used astronomy to establish calendars, standardize time and navigate on land and sea. In this century, however, space travel and the ability to send scientific experiments into outer space have increased public interest, according to physics Professor Preston Gott who teaches astronomy courses at Texas Tech.

It was astronomy that brought Gott into a study of physics.

"I looked up at the moon over Athens (Texas) and wondered how it got there," he said. Now he has a special interest in "what's happening to things where they are" in the sky.

He said his research interest deals particularly with variable stars like the sun, with its mysterious spots and coronal loops.

The new 16-inch aperture telescope was brought to Texas Tech from the White Sands Missile Range where it had become obsolete for military use. The telescope with its fiberglass dome has been placed west of the Health Sciences Center Building on the Texas Tech campus.

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Gott hopes soon to have another telescope, a 10-inch, located at the Texas Tech University Agricultural Sciences Field Laboratory in northern Lubbock County "where city lights won't interfere as much with observation."

The public will be permitted to view the stars through the 16-inch telescope, and arrangements for such use will be made through Moody Planetarium at The Museum of Texas Tech University. Gott said the plan is to include observations after planetarium shows the first and second Thursdays of each month.

Gott said undergraduate students will use the telescope mostly for observation. More advanced research can be conducted, however, in astrophysics, photometry and spectrography. He said mathematicians are expected to use the telescope for their studies as will students of optics and members of the South Plains Astronomy Club.

The planetarium will be used by students of astronomy enrolled in the physics courses: Astronomy 1300-001 lecture and 1100-301 lab in the fall and Astronomy 1301 lecture and 1101 lab in the spring of 1986. Courses meet the eight-semester-hours laboratory science requirement for graduates in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Gott, who earned his degrees at the University of Texas-Austin, has worked four summers as a senior scientist in space instrumentation at the California Institute of Technology Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. He is editor of the Proceedings of the Southwest Regional Conference for Astronomy and Astrophysics.

He said the project is greatly indebted to students and astronomy buffs who have assisted in preparing the telescope for use on the Texas Tech campus.



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14-5-17-85

LUBBOCK--Texas Tech University and Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department will be hosts for athletes from throughout West Texas for the Hub City Triathlon June 23.

The Triathlon puts athletes through a rigorous course of swimming, cycling and running that tests fitness and endurance. Each participant will begin with the swimming event at 8:30 a.m. and continue non-stop until they have finished all three events.

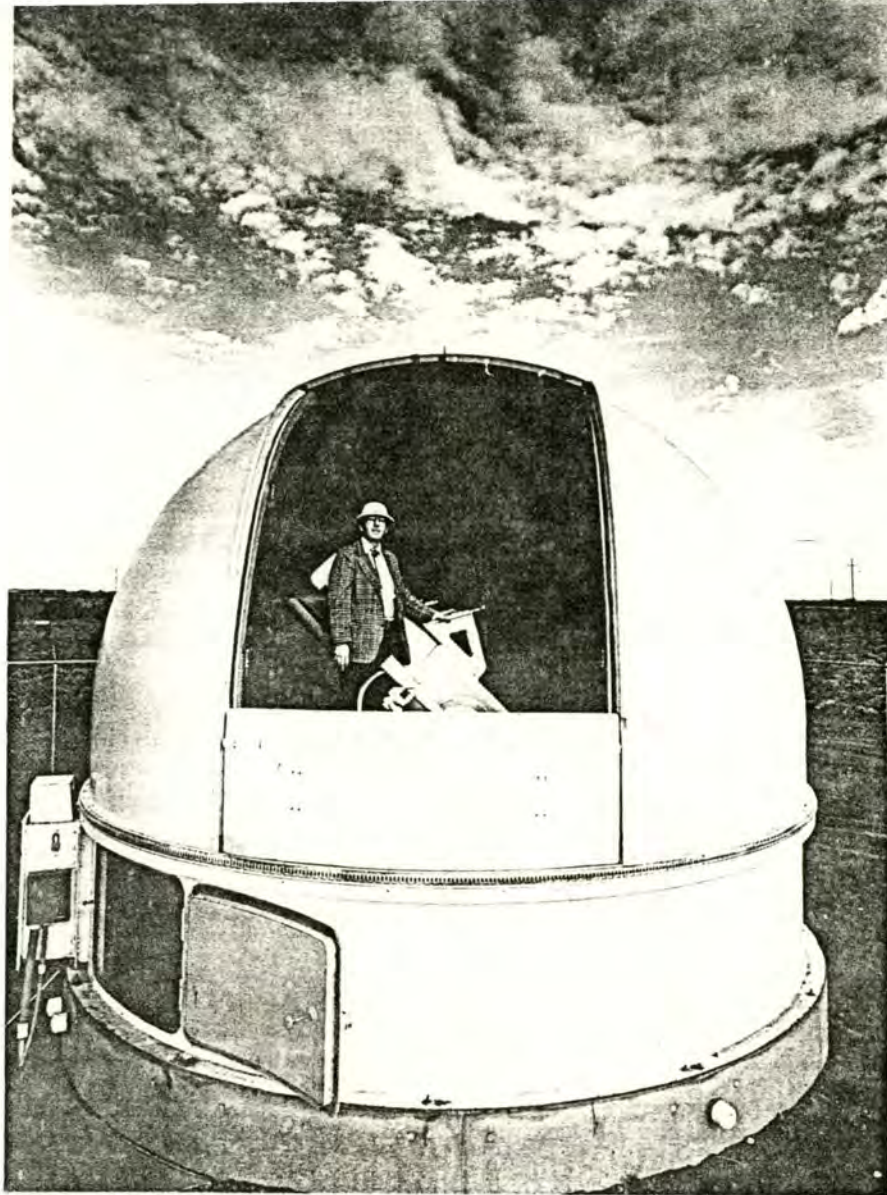
Participants will start the day with a 900-meter swim at the Texas Tech Aquatic Center. Immediately after the swim they must change clothes and begin a 22-mile cycling course that stretches through northwest Lubbock. As they return to the Aquatic Center each athlete will begin a five-mile run around the perimeter of Texas Tech's campus.

Awards will be presented for first, second and third best times in men's and women's divisions and for first man and woman over 35 to finish the course. All participants will receive certificates and T-shirts. Athletes must be at least 17 years old by the day of competition to qualify.

Entries are limited to the first 150 applicants and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. All entries must be received no later than June 14 and there is a \$12.50 entry fee.

Entries may be brought to the Recreational Sports office of the Texas Tech Student Recreation Center or to the Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Ninth St.





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14-5-16-85

STAR STUDY--A new 16-inch aperture telescope at Texas Tech University expands learning facilities for students and the public. Professor Preston Gott, standing beside the instrument, said the telescope will be used by students for observation and research. Members of the public can make arrangements to view the stars through the telescope after programs in Moody Planetarium of The Museum of Texas Tech University. (TECH PHOTO)



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CONTACT: R. Gary Cates/P. Lewis

15-5-17-85

LUBBOCK--The Texas Tech University Petroleum Engineering Department has received a \$100,000 grant from the Burlington Northern Foundation.

The grant, announced by foundation President Donald K. North, will be used to acquire training equipment for the undergraduate petroleum engineering program.

Department Chairperson Robert E. Carlile said the grant is part of a \$1.83 million campaign to raise funds to equip new laboratories in the department's expanded facilities.

In the fall of 1983 an expanded 62,000-square-foot building was occupied by the department, increasing from three to nine the number of laboratories available for student training.

Carlile said the Burlington Northern Foundation grant will help the department acquire the latest in training equipment for the core and natural gas laboratories.

Burlington Northern Foundation represents oil and gas interests, including El Paso Hydrocarbons Co.; Meridian Minerals Co. and Meridian Oil Inc.

Les Truby, director of production for El Paso Natural Gas Co., a Burlington Northern Subsidiary was instrumental in securing the grant for the Texas Tech department, Carlile said.



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CONTACT: Sally Logue Post

16-5-17-85

LUBBOCK--Government assistance may be necessary to make soil conservation economically feasible for farmers, according to a Texas Tech University researcher.

Horn Professor Harold E. Dregne, of plant and soil science said that while awareness of the seriousness of soil erosion is good, incentives to practice soil conservation are absent.

Dregne will speak on the global perspectives of soil and water conservation at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) annual meeting May 26-31 in Los Angeles.

"The 1982 U.S. National Resources Inventory concluded that about 44 percent of all U.S. cropland is eroding at rates greater than the permissible rate," Dregne said.

Several studies have indicated that farmers are correct in their contention that soil conservation is not always an economical short-term investment, but Dregne said the off-site damages caused by unchecked soil erosion may be large enough to make control economical at the public level.

Uncontrolled soil erosion can cause problems including silt and sediment deposits in streams and reservoirs; flooding triggered by reduced stream channel cross-sections; sand drifts covering highways and severe dust storms. While these damages are expensive, it may be difficult to assign responsibility to individual farmers, he said.

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"The public may be forced to assume the costs of control or a kind of carrot-and-stick approach," Dregne said. "The carrot would be government assistance in erosion control and the stick would be penalties for off-site damages."

While soil erosion has been a problem for thousands of years, Dregne said the latest round of accelerated erosion started in the early 20th century.

"Our latest erosion problems are associated with wind erosion in developed countries like the U.S. and a combination of wind and water erosion in the developing nations," he said.

Dregne said countries facing the greatest economic threat from erosion include Nepal, Ethiopia and Mexico. These country's over population problems are forcing cultivation of some marginal farm lands without proper management.

"Given the widespread occurrence of destructive soil erosion and the slow pace of corrective measures, decisions will need to be made on where to concentrate government efforts to control the erosion," he said.