

A&M's Outstanding Texan Began His Career Here

The road to success for Robert L. Smith Jr., a short little man at A&M, has been brief—but perhaps a mite bumpy.

Smith recently pocketed the title of one of five outstanding

young Texans for 1961, an award sponsored annually by the Texas Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The 34-year-old former Nederland resident has won national recognition for his development of a first class Data Processing Center here, where he also serves as an associate professor in Industrial Engineering.

Smith was cited by the Texas Jaycees for the establishment of a mathematical technique for computing radiation patterns pro-

duced by radium needles.

The citation also mentioned Smith's creation of computing methods for forecasting hurricane storm waves and traffic flow patterns, in addition to development of a Data Processing Center second to none on a college campus.

Smith has only a bachelor's degree on a campus where doctorates are commonly accepted as essential, but he has no plans for advanced formal schooling simply because no degrees are offered in his line of work.

Smith collected his bachelor's degree in 1952 after he first entered A&M as a 16-year-old freshman in 1944. He withdrew from college in 1945 after a nervous "breakdown."

His flair for computing machines got its start during a tour of duty with the U.S. Army, where he learned to repair computing machines.

So, when he returned to A&M in 1949 as a student and part-time worker in the IBM room of Agriculture Experiment Station, Smith's major changed from civil engineering to electrical engineering.

The day after he graduated, Smith was employed by A&M as a statistical supervisor with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Five years later, he became head of the newly established computing center, along with teaching duties in the Business Administration Division.

When the Data Processing Center was established in 1958, Smith was placed in charge. In September 1959, he assumed an additional title as associate professor of Industrial Engineering.

Today, the Data Processing Center, under Smith's direction, solves computational problems of researchers, students and industry throughout the south.

The center itself is a modest, modern \$300,000 building with rigid temperature and humidity controls to assure against malfunction of the intricate mechanism. The structure was designed specifically for a computing facility.

The equipment on the inside, however, is a complicated collection of gadgets valued at more than \$4 million. Included are IBM 709, 650, and 604 digital computers and an analog computer.

Just what does one of the machines do? The 709 can store 32,768 facts or 10-digit numbers and can recall the items at the rate of 80,000 per second, Smith pointed out.

The machines 'thinks' at a speed of 12 microseconds (12 millionths of a second) and can perform 40,000 arithmetic operations per second.

Computers at A&M, among other assignments, have provided Houston's M.D. Anderson Hospital answers in a matter of hours regarding the dose of radiation administered cancer patients.

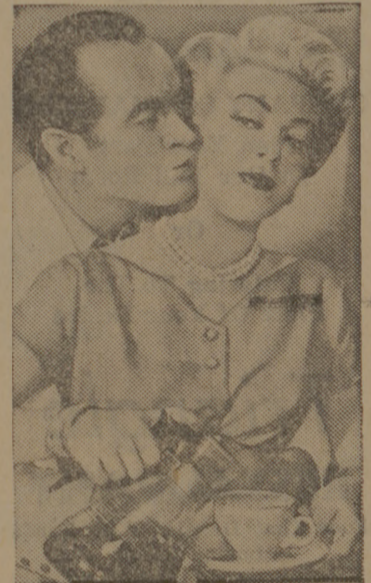
Without the computers, it would probably take weeks to get this information. The treatment project is a pet project of Smith's.

Born in Houston and educated in Nederland, Smith considers the Data Processing Center unmatched by any other educational institution.

Smith, however, dispels the theory that the computers are "mechanical brains" waiting to replace the human race.

Computers seem to think, he said, but actually all they do is follow instructions. It takes a perfect question to get a perfect answer.

CAMPUS STARTS TODAY



Love and fun in the suburbs! **Bob Hope** and **Lana Turner** in **BACHELOR IN PARADISE** with **JANIS PAIVE** and **JIM HUTTON** and **PAULA PRENTISS**

CIRCLE TONIGHT 1st Show 6:45

Rock Hudson in **"LAWLESS STREET"** & **Robert Preston** in **"DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS"**



Outstanding Aggie and Texan

Robert L. Smith Jr., associate professor in industrial engineering and head of the Data Processing Center, has been named by the Texas Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of five outstanding young Texans during 1961. He was cited by the Jaycees for the establishment of a top notch computing center, along with research projects. (Texas A&M Photo)



Here's deodorant protection YOU CAN TRUST

Old Spice Stick Deodorant...fastest, neatest way to all-day, every day protection! It's the active deodorant for active men...absolutely dependable. Glides on smoothly, speedily...dries in record time. Old Spice Stick Deodorant—most convenient, most economical deodorant money can buy. 1.00 plus tax.

Old Spice STICK DEODORANT
SHULTON

WHERE THE BEST PICTURES PLAY

SKYWAY DRIVE-IN THEATRE
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS - FREE

Wednesday - Thursday - Friday
"BY LOVE POSSESSED"
with Lana Turner
Plus
"THE MILLIONAIRES"
with Sophia Loren

PALACE
Bryan 2-8879

STARTS TODAY

The Rocket Ship That Challenged Outer Space!

X-15
THIS IS THE STORY THAT STUNS THE IMAGINATION!

QUEEN
FIESTA NITE
TONIGHT 6 P. M.

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

OPEN THURSDAY NIGHT UNTIL 8:30

ENTIRE FALL STOCK

OF

- SUITS
- TOPCOATS (ALLIGATOR NOT INCLUDED)
- SLACKS
- SPORT COATS
- SWEATERS
- SPORT SHIRTS
- IVY SPORT SHIRTS (SPECIAL GROUP)
- JACKETS
- IVY VESTS
- PAJAMAS
- ROBES

20 PERCENT OFF

SPECIAL GROUP 1/3 OFF

- SPORT COATS
- JACKETS
- SHORT SLEEVE SPORT SHIRTS IVY AND CONVENTIONAL
- LONG SLEEVE KNIT SHIRTS
- TIES

CHOICE SELECTIONS AT A SAVINGS



Varsity Shop

TOWNSHIRE

testing...
one,
two...
glub,
glub!

Some say we go overboard, the lengths we go to in testing Ford-built cars at "Hurricane Road"—our wind-and-weather lab in Dearborn, Michigan. And for practical purposes—we do. You might call it "testing in depth."

Ford scientists and engineers have devised a gigantic test tunnel that creates monsoon rains and tornadic winds in a matter of minutes. Super sun lamps boost temperatures from 20 below to 160 above zero. Fog and drizzle, snow and sleet—all at the twist of dials. Huge cylinders beneath test-car wheels imitate every kind of road: from flat, smooth turnpike to rutted mountain trail.

Out of it all comes knowledge of how to build better cars—cars that are built to last longer, require less care, and retain their value better. This constant aiming for perfection is just one more way in which research and engineering are earning for Ford Motor Company its place of leadership.

Ford
MOTOR COMPANY
The American Road, Dearborn, Michigan
PRODUCTS FOR THE AMERICAN ROAD • THE FARM • INDUSTRY • AND THE AGE OF SPACE