

The Battalion

Band Receives
\$1,000 Gift ...
See Page 5

Volume 60

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1963

Number 130



Computer Seminar Leaders

Commander Bill C. Moore, USNR, left; Capt. W. E. Berg, center, assistant chief of the Office of Naval Research; and Capt. R. H. Ballinger, USNR, discuss activities of A&M's first Research Reserve Seminar on Electronic Computers. Berg was a principal speaker. Moore and Ballinger are A&M faculty members.

AT MSC SEMINAR

Needs For Navy Computers Heard

Further success of the U. S. Navy's many computer operations will depend greatly upon micro-electronic research in fabrication of extra small components for the machines.

The outlook was made here Monday at the First Research Reserve Seminar on Electronic Computers by Capt. W. E. Berg, assistant chief of the Office of Naval Research in Washington, D. C.

The seminar, which will be held through Sept. 7, is designed to help 56 Navy, Army and Air Force Reserve officers enhance their knowledge of electronic computers. Sponsors are A&M and Naval Reserve Research Company 8-3.

BERG SAID almost every major weapon and piece of equipment in the Navy today needs a reliable electronic nervous system for its operation.

"We must have electronic reconnaissance systems capable of rapid and accurate determination at long range of the character, location, and identity of enemy targets," he said. "We need surveillance systems that can shift rapidly from active to passive or semi-active modes of operation as well as active systems capable of rapid frequency shifts. In nearly all cases, a computer will serve as the brain of such systems."

As if these challenges were not enough, the systems must be in units small enough to pack into aircraft or missiles, the captain emphasized. They must be compact enough to fit into shipboard

compartments. THIS IS WHY microminaturized components and microelectronics research are needed.

Berg also outlined a project underway for preparing computer programs to stimulate military situations. A special programming language called Militran is oriented to military procedures and is understandable by the computer.

Another project, he said, is the processing of non-numerical information, such as visual pattern recognition, speech recognition, mechanical translation of languages, and retrieval of stored information from large collections.

THE BASIC objective is to duplicate the human-life function of problem solving. The goal is not to model the human brain but to achieve some of the same abilities that have been restricted to humans.

Still another Office of Naval Research project is development of machines capable of learning and which do not need programming in the usual sense.

Info On European Study Fellowships Is Now Available

Details of the 1963-64 program of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Science Fellowships for study in European countries or Canada have been received on the A&M campus.

Information is available at the office of the Dean of Graduate Studies, Wayne C. Hall.

The program administered in this country by the National Science Foundation is planned to assist institutions to incorporate more quickly into their own advanced training and research programs the most recent developments.

Approximately 20 fellowships for professionally-established faculty members tenable for a period of eight weeks to six months will be awarded. The program covers most fields of science and technology.

Application materials must be filed not later than Oct. 18.

Staff Car Stickers Need \$7.50 Fee

In announcing the new plan for faculty-staff car registration last week some copies of The Battalion incorrectly listed the fee as \$3.

Campus Security officials explained the charge is \$7.50 as last year. Under the new plan the Fiscal Office has been accepting payment for automobile stickers since Monday.

Family Begins Sad Journey From Houston

A sad journey began shortly before noon yesterday as Mrs. Molly Woodcock, accompanied by her husband, David Woodcock, and their 5-month-old son, left Houston by jet for their home in England.

It will be the last trip home for Mrs. Woodcock, who suffers from an incurable brain tumor. She wanted to return to England to face death with friends and relatives.

The couple has been living in College Station since last September when the 26-year-old Woodcock joined the School of Architecture as one of the youngest Fulbright professors to receive a grant under the international teaching program.

Shortly after the birth of Jonathan Alfred Woodcock April 3, Mrs. Woodcock developed severe headaches.

Twelve days later she was rushed to the Texas Medical Center in Houston for major surgery to remove a brain tumor.

FOR A SHORT TIME the 27-year-old woman appeared to be recovering, but the headaches returned. A second operation revealed the tumor was malignant. Doctors told her and her husband she hadn't long to live.

Mrs. Woodcock's condition became worse last weekend and the physicians urged that she be taken home as soon as possible.

The jet took the couple to Chicago and they then flew directly to England where she will be able to see her parents in Stockport.

BEFORE THEY LEFT Woodcock told Houston reporters, "Our College Station friends couldn't have done more for us. We don't know how to express our thanks to them."

Local people recently started a fund to help pay for the expensive operations and the flight to England. The Molly Woodcock Fund at the College Station State Bank held \$625 late Wednesday.

A bank spokesman said anyone wishing to contribute to the fund may do so either by mail or by bringing a donation in person. Donors should indicate that the money is to be deposited to the Molly Woodcock Fund.

The spokesman said the goal of the drive is \$3,000.

The Aggie Players staged "The Best of the Players" May 22 as a benefit performance for the English couple. Many other groups and individuals had helped before the fund was started. Friends have also helped in caring for Jonathan.

WOODCOCK AND his wife both volunteered to help the Aggie Players during the last school year. He designed stage settings and Mrs. Woodcock designed and made costumes for major productions last fall.

Under the terms of his Fulbright fellowship, Woodcock was to have ended his work here this August. But the contract was extended by special permission and the couple was going to stay another year.

19 Summer Grads Receive Commissions

Nineteen summer graduates of A&M last week received second lieutenant commissions in the Army and Air Force after completion of their undergraduate studies here.

Fourteen of the students met requirements through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program. Except for those who have received deferments, the new officers are expected to be called to active duty shortly, according to the Department of Military Sciences.

Col. Denzil L. Baker, professor of military science and tactics, spoke briefly to the new officers on the challenges and satisfaction gained through service as officers. The commissioning oath was administered by Maj. John R. Vilas of the Army ROTC staff.

THE FIVE NEW Air Force officers are now awaiting orders to active duty, an AFROTC spokesman announced Monday.

The men qualified for commissions by receiving bachelor's degrees from A&M and meeting other Air Force requirements.

The new Army second lieutenants are: Richard G. Hoppers and Gary D. Williams of Dallas; Michael B. Reveley, El Paso; George Gutierrez, Harlingen; Lyndon P. McDaniel, Hemphill; Carl H. Aiken III, Ronald D. Hunter, Harold R. Otto, and Dennis W. Sander of Houston;

Charles R. King, Livingston; John E. Blackburn, Marshall; Tommy J. Schulze, Meridian; Francis M. Pate, Duncan, Okla.; and Sanford D. Cothren, Heber Springs, Ark.

The Air Force officers: William D. Sloan, Amarillo; Delfino E. Villareal, Falfurrias; Thomas J. Enney, Harlingen; Calvin W. Smith, Houston; and Paul M. Smith, Uvalde.

Indian Ag Officials Take Ideas Home

When three agricultural officials were here Friday on the long return trip to their native India, they'll be carrying more than armfuls of suitcases.

In their heads will be myriads of extension service ideas to try in India's farming areas. And ringing in their ears will be the best ideas from hundreds of new-found friends after a year's stay in Texas.

The agents from India have observed American agriculture firsthand and have talked and worked with Texas farmers and their children.

They are Nirmal Bhushan Roy, secretary of District Nadia in West Bengal, Lachman Dass Sharma of Tehsil Hamirpur District in Punjab, and Shesh Narayan Nandedkar of Nagpur. All three district extension service agents.

THEIR VISIT was sponsored by the U. S. Agency for International Development, with A&M University and its Agricultural Extension Service co-operating.

Jack Gray, co-ordinator of the Design Programs Office at A&M, and the Indians spent the year extension staff members. They aided extension organization and disseminated the latest research information to the people.

Bloodworth worked with Agent Edward Gary in Erath County, Texas, with Agent Wayne Cranford in Fannin County, and Nandedkar, with Agent John Henry in Garret County.

They also spent several weeks at extension service headquarters at College Station, where they talked and studied with administrators and specialists to learn how the state staff supports and assists county extension personnel.

Wildlife Management Team Back After Honduras Trip

An A&M research team returned Friday from three months collecting bats and other animals in the Central American country of Honduras.

Jerry Mankins, graduate student in the Department of Wildlife Management, headed the three-man team working in conjunction with a three-year study of bats financed by the National Institute of Health.

Jack Meyer, recent wildlife graduate who will undertake advanced studies this fall, and Gordon Jarrell, high school student from Westport, Conn., rounded out the crew.

According to Meyer, the trio spent all three months of the trip traveling dirt roads of Honduras in a Texas Agricultural Experiment Station panel truck. He added that the collectors also flew into two areas inaccessible by auto.

Members of the Department of Wildlife Management have been working on the long-range project since early 1962 in Texas, Mexico and several Central American coun-

tries. Next year the collecting will continue in South America.

The scientists are trying to determine some of the relationships of South, Central and North American bats and where those from the U. S. go in winter.

Meyer said the threesome brought back about 1,000 bat specimens, as well as a number of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

He said the bats were taken from caves, buildings, hollow trees and with special nets across streams or in banana plantations. Meyer said he and Jarrell were almost washed away by a flash flood one time while hanging a net.

The trio kept a parrot, a howler monkey and a porcupine as pets. The porcupine was of the Central American variety that has a prehensile tail for grasping limbs.

Near disaster came once, said Meyer, when Mankins sat on the spiny animal while driving and the truck almost swerved off the road.

Two Employees' Efforts Cited

The A&M campus for years come will continue to show the results of efforts by two grounds maintenance workers honored last week by fellow employees. Mike J. Renghofer, and William J. Vavra, retire Saturday.

Renghofer, whose only job in this country has been his more than 40-years of service at A&M, especially proud of his role in planting live oaks on the campus, among his first tasks was planting the trees honoring the memory of A&M's dead of World War I. Later, he planted several thousand of the trees.

Vavra joined the grounds staff 18 years ago, but it was 72 years ago when his father bought a farm on land within sight of the Texas A&M campus. Vavra was 3 years old then.

"Both of these individuals are very valuable people to this department for many years," Richard Thornton, head of the grounds maintenance department, said. He especially praised

the men for their conscientiousness and initiative.

Renghofer served as foreman of the grounds maintenance crew from 1930 through 1949. Recently he has operated the department's nursery which provides plants and young trees to be set out on the campus.

A native Austrian, he completed landscape architecture schooling there and also fought in the Austrian Army in World War I.

"I fought the Russians for 12 months, till they shot me all to pieces," Renghofer said of his war experiences.

He came here and went to work for A&M through the efforts of a half-brother who now lives in Rockford, Ill.

He arrived early in 1923 with 40-cents in his pocket and completely lacking a knowledge of the English language. For the first six months after going to work, Renghofer concentrated upon learning English.

Coming here also allowed him to renew his acquaintance with

the young lady who became Mrs. Renghofer on Thanksgiving Day, 1924. The couple were schoolmates in Austria, but she and her family immigrated to Bryan in 1912.

The Renghofers have two sons and two daughters, and are proud that the boys graduated from A&M.

Renghofer has spent his life working with plants, and at the nursery he refers to them as "little fellows."

"They've got a life just like you and me," he said.

But he also likes people and is especially proud of the number of former students who look him up when visiting the campus.

Both Renghofer and Vavra are members of St. Joseph Catholic Church and third degree knights of the Knights of Columbus.

A&M's curricula were extended from two to four years at about the time the Vavra family moved onto their farm near the campus with its small cluster of buildings. Lawrence Sullivan Ross,

who became one of the well-known presidents of A&M, assumed the presidency while then young Vavra played and did boyhood chores.

"About 50 years ago I heard the old folks say Bryan and College Station would meet someday . . . and now they have," Vavra said. He admits he was dubious that streets, houses and buildings ever would fill in the fields which separated Bryan and the campus until relatively recently.

"In 1944," Vavra said, "I hung farming on the fence and came out here."

His first work included pushing handmowers across campus lawns, but more recently he has kept the grounds around the Memorial Student Center.

The Vavras have three sons, including two who graduated from A&M, and a daughter. One son, Frank, works on the campus as a technician in the floriculture section. The other children live in other states.

The Vavras' 50th wedding anniversary will be Nov. 4.



DR. M. E. BLOODWORTH
... new department head

Bloodworth Is Head Of Soil, Crop Sciences

The new head of the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences will be Dr. Morris E. Bloodworth, professor of soil physics.

Dr. R. E. Patterson, dean of agriculture, said Bloodworth will replace Dr. William O. Trogdon, who has headed the department since 1958. Trogdon, whose resignation is effective Sept. 1, will join a Texas fertilizer company as an executive vice president.

BLOODWORTH IS known for his teaching and research in irrigation and soil-plant-water interrelationships. He is the author and co-author of 42 publications in these areas.

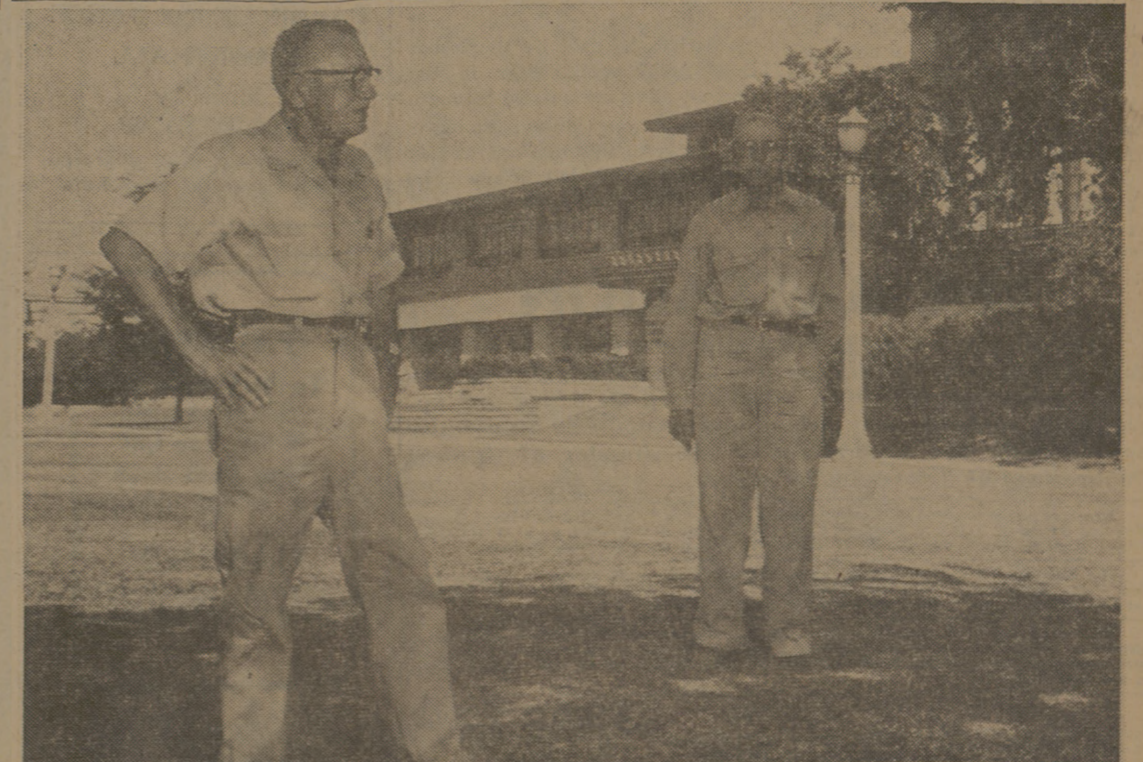
His environment control chamber, which he designed and built, has attracted much attention among soil scientists.

"Dr. Bloodworth is an outstanding research scientist and stimulating teacher. He can be expected to provide capable guidance and leadership in this important agricultural area," Patterson said.

Bloodworth was born at Axtell, Texas. His BS degree in agricultural engineering came in 1941, and his MS and PhD in soil physics in 1953 and 1958 at A&M.

FOLLOWING GRADUATION, Bloodworth was agricultural engineer at Seguin for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1941-42 and 1946-48; agricultural research engineer with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Weslaco, 1948-51; graduate assistant, A&M agronomy department, 1951-54; associate soil physicist, Agricultural Experiment Station, Weslaco, 1954-56; associate professor of soil physics, A&M soil and crop sciences department, 1956-60; and professor of soil physics at A&M, 1960 to date.

The scientist is a member of the Soil Science Society of America, International Soil Science Society, Western Soil Science Society, American Society of Agronomy, American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Texas Agricultural Workers Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Sigma Xi.



Two Lifetimes Around A&M

Mike J. Renghofer Sr., left, and William J. Vavra retire Saturday to end long careers in the grounds maintenance department. Renghofer joined the staff more than 40 years ago, while Vavra grew up near the campus but not did not go to work for the university until 18 years ago.