

## Lack Of Animals Pleases Graduate

A&M University graduate student Robert W. Wenck of Midland is happy that the Aggie Players seldom use animals in theatrical productions.

Wenck enjoyed two years as stage manager of Val Balfour's Oberammergau Passion Play, on an annual tour but animals sometimes gave him headaches. He recalled the time a racing camel escaped during a publicity stunt in Flagstaff, Ariz., and a hour later was found being led by a drunken Indian.

Wenck attended A&M in the 1950s and served as president of the Aggie Players before joining the road company. Later he completed a three-year duty tour in the Army.

Now the Midlander plans to make a career of theatrical arts. In September he assumes a graduate assistantship while studying for the Master of Arts degree in English. He completed undergraduate studies in May.

Wenck will serve as technical supervisor for the Aggie Players, working under the direction of Assistant Professor C. K. Esten,

producer for the campus theater. The graduate student already is preparing the lights and other essentials for the Players' coming season which opens with a modern comedy and closes with a Shakespearean production.

"It was lot of hard work mainly," Wenck said of his experiences with the passion play company. As stage manager he had control backstage over the actors including as many as 200 extras and the professional stage hands.

"We played Mobile to Schenectady to Walla Walla to San Diego and points in between," Wenck said. The show was on the road 40 weeks a year and had a 10-week summer stand.

"In Walla Walla we played on a stage about the size of a pigeon hole and then went straight to Spokane and played a 9500-seat coliseum," Wenck recalled. And they usually arrived in a city a few hours before curtain time.

The experience provided plenty of technical know-how to supplement what Wenck had learned with the Aggie Players. He prefers the technical side of the theater such as lighting and sets to acting although he has appeared in some productions of the Aggie Players.

He was president of the Aggie Players and met Val Balfour when the passion play company appeared here and the following summer went to work for the road company.

The Texas Aggie whose initial goal was an electrical engineering degree switched to an English major when his real interest became the theater arts.

"They had two courses in theater arts when I was here earlier," Wenck said.

This fall the Department of English begins offering enough courses for a student to minor in theater arts.

## Students Find Pleasing Side Of Computers

High school scholars attending college courses at A&M University are finding fun in operating a digital computer as well as more typical activities.

The students from five states are here for summer programs in mathematics and geology sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

The serious aspects of the program involves four hours of class-work daily and assignments in A&M's \$4 1/2 million Data Processing Center with its electronic computers. But the students also have their lighter moments.

A number are planning a talent show Aug. 8.

"We study pretty hard but can always scrape up two tables of bridge," David Stevens of 531 E. Lynnwood, Phoenix, Ariz., said.

David arrived here with a data processing program to compute if the planets Pluto and Neptune will collide within the next million years. He and a friend have spent eight months on the project. Thus far they have gotten only enough time on an electronic computer to verify the planets will not collide within the next 5,000 years.

Perhaps half of the students plan to study mathematics or physics in college. Some hope to attend A&M, others plan to attend other colleges.

"I hope this program will help me to get in West Point," Tommy Hannigan said. He finds the program "new, different, challenging." His father is A&M Dean of Students James P. Hannigan.

Kathy West, also of Bryan and Stephen F. Austin High School, is the only girl in the class. Her parents are Maj. and Mrs. Alfred J. West, 2111 Elmwood. Kathy describes herself as an "English bug."

## Mohole Director Tells Of Problems In Project Work

Gordon G. Lill, director of the Mohole Project, told a A&M University audience Monday night of the problems involved in drilling a hole 7 miles deep.

The National Science Foundation project will be the deepest penetration ever made into the earth, the lecturer said.

Approximately 200 persons heard the geologist outline the goals of drilling from a platform in 18,000 feet of water to pierce 17,000 feet into the earth.

Mohole drilling is expected to begin in 1967 and will require two or three years of continuous operation he said. A site south east of Puerto Rico or in the Hawaiian Islands will be announced later this year.

"Before we reach the mantle or give up something in the order of \$70,000,000 will be expended," Dr. Lill predicted.

The mantle, the portion of the earth immediately below the crust, is nearer the surface out at sea, he explained.

"First we want to sample the earth's mantle," Lill said of the goals for Mohole. "We also seek a history of the ocean basins."

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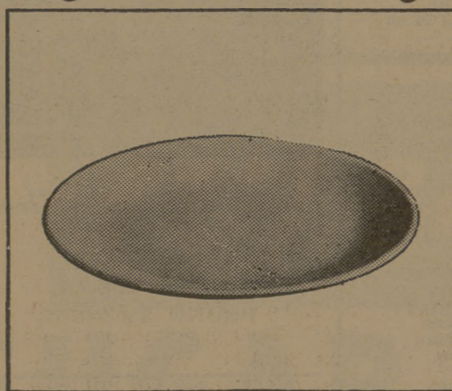
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