

A&M's Seaside School Underway



ON DINO'S TAIL

Student-Assistant Anita Sievers of Galveston and Dr. Sammy Ray, Marine Laboratory head, examines flasks containing dinoflagellates, a family of organisms which can be toxic to valuable fish. The dinos also can contaminate oysters, which then become a public health problem.

By DOYLE GOUGLER
Special Writer

Texas A&M is now conducting regular classes of instruction at its Marine Laboratory in Galveston.

The facility, quartered in one of historic Fort Crockett's remodeled buildings, has been devoted entirely to research since its establishment in 1958. But now courses are being offered by the university's Wildlife Science Department, Biology Department and the Institute of Statistics.

A&M also has another unit at the fort—the Texas Maritime Academy. In the same complex of buildings is the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Laboratory, which makes its facilities available to the Marine Laboratory.

Dr. Richard J. Baldauf, who supervises courses offered by the Wildlife Science Department, said instruction was added to the research activity at the laboratory to put students closer to their subjects. Classrooms look over the greenish-blue Gulf of Mexico where sports and commercial fishing are major enterprises.

Dr. R. C. Potts, assistant director of instruction in the A&M College of Agriculture, and Dr. Sammy Ray, head of the Marine Laboratory, believe the program is unique. They praised the cooperation of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

"There is nothing like this lab and teaching service is the whole western Gulf area," Ray said. "The lab is serving as a marine outlet for all colleges and universities in this area, and I think the system is better than each institution trying to set up and operate its own marine lab."

He said that in addition to A&M, students are now enrolled from Southern Methodist University, University of Texas, University of Houston and from several out-of-state schools.

One of those students is a celebrity. She is Phyllis Johnson of Galveston, also known as Miss Texas in the 1965 Miss Universe Contest.

Potts described the research and teaching program as "breaking new ground in the educational field with help of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries."

Milton J. Lindner, who heads the Bureau, said the help and cooperation is coming from both sides in the arrangement.

"I'd like to have some of those marine biologist and fisheries option wildlife science graduates join our staff. We need them," he pointed out.

Baldauf said 27 graduate and advanced undergraduate students were enrolled in the first six weeks summer session. Most of them took a minimum of six hours of instruction. Fifteen were in wildlife science and 12 in biology. Courses taught were marine ichthyology, population dynamics, and advanced invertebrate zoology.

Instruction during the second summer term will concentrate on

statistics, molluscan biology and research problems. Undergraduate students will have the opportunity to conduct research with guidance of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries technical staff. Equipment includes the Bureau's chartered shrimp trawler.

The federal agency is centering shrimp and effects of water quality on the delicacy, now the most important crop in the Gulf Coast fishing industry. Students will help with the project.

Students are almost constantly exposed to research, which is and will remain the Marine Laboratory's main purpose. Many studies are underway, but the following are the major projects.

(1) A study of toxic dinoflagellates, a group of organisms which kill valuable fish. One of the organisms causes the well known red tide off the west coast of Florida.

Dinoflagellates also can be a public health problem. They sometimes infect oysters, which are then toxic to humans when eaten.

(2) Studies of effects of various antibiotics on Dermocystidium marinum, a fungus parasite of oysters in the Gulf of Mexico. The antibiotics are used for control work in the laboratory.

(3) Investigations of the ef-

fect of water quality on the snail vector of schistosomiasis, a tropical disease of humans. The snail is the host for a fluke which

causes the ailment.
(4) Studies on an oyster malady known as Malpeque Bay disease.



FISH STORY

Student Lloyd Dean Koen of San Angelo discusses fish that didn't get away with Dr. Richard J. Baldauf of the Texas A&M Wildlife Science Department. Koen is majoring in wildlife science with a fisheries biology option.

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THE GRADUATE COLLEGE
Announcement of Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree
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Full Name of Candidate: Mehta, Bhogibal Kripashanker
Candidate for Degree of: Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Pathology
Title of Dissertation: Variation in Pathogenicity of the Sorghum Head Smut Fungus
Time of Examination: August 6, 1965 at 9:00 a. m.
Place of Examination: Room 203 in Plant Sciences Building.
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THE GRADUATE COLLEGE
Announcement of Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree
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Title of Dissertation: Evaluation of the Local Electron Density in the Vicinity of an Artificial Earth Satellite.
Time of Examination: August 6, 1965 at 2-5 p. m.
Place of Examination: Room 116 in Bolton Hall.
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THE GRADUATE COLLEGE
Announcement of Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree
(Defense of the Dissertation)
Full Name of Candidate: Mian, Muhammad Abdul Wadud
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Title of Dissertation: Dynamics of Root and Stem Disease Development in Archis Hypoxea L. var. Spanish
Time of Examination: July 30, 1965 at 2:00 p. m.
Place of Examination: Room 203 in Plant Sciences Bldg.
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(Defense of the Dissertation)
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Title of Dissertation: An Analysis of Factors Affecting Texas Livestock Auction Market Operating Costs
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