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Solid-fueled Boosters To Compete With Liquid

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CREAMY SMOOTH FOR YOUR SALADS.

LIMIT 1, WITH \$5.00 OR MORE PURCHASE EX-CLUDING BEER, AND CIGARETTES.

1 Doz. 49¢

300 CAN

24 OZ.

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6 OZ.

Salad Dressing



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10¢

10¢

29¢

29¢

6½ OZ.

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FRESH ROMAINE. RED LE AF, BOSTON
3 HEADS 59¢ BROCCOLL CAULIFLOWER HEAD 39¢ 3 LBS. 29¢ YAMS

Finely tailored.

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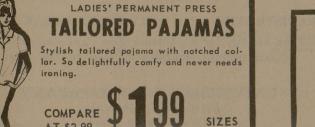
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RIBIER GRAPES U.S. NO. 1 RED POTATOES

15 LB. 89¢



32-38

SIZES

CANDLE HOLDER

BOTTLE **ASSORTMENT**

22 INCH DECORATIVE

Kroger BLACK

Today, liquid-fueled rockets have it over the solids in the

in the middle of a bang? And

This is very nearly the problem that the designers of tomorrow's big solid-fueled rockets face as they seek ways to make their boosters competitive with the

manned spaceflight program. Although the solid-fueled Minuteman plays a defense role with its intercontinental capability, there are definite problems in rating them for manned flight.

Yet, NASA Administrator James Webb predicted here recently that competition between solids and liquids would again open up. And it is at A&M that a team of space researchers are studying the tiny structure of solid fuels in an attempt to determine their behavior and predict

THE GROUP is headed by Dr. W. B. Ledbetter who believes that the methods of study developed may eventually determine not only why rockets blow up, but also why auto tires tear apart.

The group, including L. Dale Webb, formerly with Rocketdyne, and Davie Elliott, a Ph.D. candidate, has been stretching, squeezing, twisting, heating, aging and chilling solid fuel to see where the tiny cracks begin.

"A rocket with a crack in its fuel becomes a bomb," says researcher Webb.

Elliott was instrumental in developing a new device last year which can accurately stretch or compress materials while they are under a microscope.

"OUR PURPOSE had been to develop a microstructural apparatus and to learn whether other people's hypotheses were significant," says Ledbetter. The researchers have found some error in theory.

Composite rocket fuels are sort of a raisin pudding affair-with the rubber compound "binder" being the pudding and the oxidizing compound "filler" being the raisins. The A&M researchers know that the beginnings of failures more often occur at the points of contact between binder and filler.

SOLID FUELS will become more competitive with liquid fuels when some way is found to give them "start, stop, restart capability and throttleability,"

says Webb.

At present, the researchers point out, the retro-rockets used in the Mercury and Gemini manned spaceflight programs were solids and there's a whole family of small vector control rockets which are used to keep satellites facing one way.

Engineering Talk To Be Delivered **By Rice Gradute**

G. E. Nevill of Houston will be featured Wednesday (Oct. 4) in the first Engineering Lecture, a series inaugurated by the College of Engineering this fall, announced Dean Fred J. Benson.

A staff engineer for Cameron Iron Works, Nevill will address students, faculty and the public on "From Titusville to Cook Inlett-The Evolution of the Oil Well Drilling Industry and the Outlook for Engineering Respons-The 3:30 p.m. lecture will be

in the Architecture Auditorium. The Engineering Lecture Series was set up to present industry, education and government representatives with addresses centered on engineering frontiers, industry, society and education. Nevill has been in oil field

drilling and production equipment design and manufacture most of the 39 years of his career. The Engineering Series speaker has been assistant chief engineer, forge and ordnance division chief engineer, standards engineer and quality control manager at Cameron since 1948. The Registered Professional

Engineer is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, chairing the ASME South Texas section and its petroleum division.

The 1928 Rice graduate and member of Tau Beta Pi served in the Southwest Pacific Theater with the Sixth Army Headquarters during World War II. He organized and commanded a reserve research and development unit and is a retired colonel, U. S. Corps of Engineers, USAR.

Nevill's son, Gale Jr., is acting chairman of the Engineering Mechanics Department, University of Florida.