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College Station, Texas

Thursday, Auguste 8, 1968 THE BATTALION



SWINGERS

Intramural softball competition sometimes gets hot and heavy at the diamond next to the Grove Theater. Here a "Compadres" batter hits one to center field in a game against the "Statistics" this week. Intramural contests will continue the rest of the summer session, Ray Fletcher, director of intramurals says.

Carter Says Everybody, Not Columbus, Discoverer

Dr. George F. Carter, Texas came within the past five years ation at 2500-3000 B. C. opher missed the boat about 4,-500 years.

"Everybody discovered America," Dr. Carter contends.

He cites evidence that the Romans, Irishmen and Norse visited America via the Atlantic long before Columbus, and the Chinese, Japanese and Hindus crossed the Pacific ages before the Europeans ventured over.

"The best you can say for Columbus is that he re-discovered America," observes Carter, who holds the rank of distinguished professor of geography and is author of the widely used college textbook, "Man and the Land.'

Dr. Carter believes the Spanish of Columbus' era simply forgot that the Mediterranean people had previously been to the New World."

He also suspects that Chris was cheating-that he knew the Americas existed all the time.

'The chances are good that he had been here before his socalled 1942 discovery," Dr. Carter points out.

He notes that the famous voyager had earlier written of encountering 60-foot variations in high and low tide on one of his trips. The only place in the world with such variations is the Bay

A&M geographer, doesn't buy when some buried pottery was the theory that Columbus dis- discovered in Ecuador. Carbon sis technique) established its cre- pan'.'

"With its distinct appearance," Carter quips, "it might as well covered America. He says Christ- 14 dating (a radio-active analy- have been stamped 'Made in Ja-

AstroFacts

The Houston Astros will hold a "Country Music Night" in the Astrodome on Saturday when they meet the Pittsburgh Pirates in a day-night doubleheader.

The country music show will star Buck Owens and his Buckaroos and will begin at 6:30 p.m. prior to the 7:30 p.m. night game. The night game was not on the Astros' original schedule, but is a make-up of a game that had been postponed earlier in the season. The day game on August 10 will start at 1:15 p.m.

The special August 10 attraction will be part of a five-game series with the Pirates that also includes night games on Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, and a 2:00 p.m. game on Sunday, August 11, which will close out the Astros' current home stand. The August 11 game will be "Family Day" with all children, 16 and under, and accompanied by a parent, receiving a one-dollar reduction on box and reserved seats, and there will also be a game between the Astro players and their children starting at 1:15 Sunday.

Handball Courts Closed For Play

DeWare Field House and the handball courts housed there have been closed for a two-week period beginning this past Monday.

Boundary lines on the main floor of DeWare and the handball courts are currently being repainted and a floor finish will be applied. Department of Health and Physical Education officials said the finish takes at least two

play.



petition. Dorm 19 has won the bowling segment in the summer program, results of o sports will not be out until later this month.



of Fundy in Newfoundland, the professor concludes.

Carter and a handful of authorities in other fields have had a running battle for several years with anthropologists over the question of pre-Columbian voyages to America.

Most anthropologists believe "our" Indians came here by crossing the Bering Straits about 10,-000 B. C. and that everything they did afterwards was on their own, Dr. Carter points out.

He contends, however, the Indians came over much before 10,000 B. C. While they did some things on their own, he adds, people began to cross the world's great oceans about 3,000 B. C., bringing with them all kinds of ideas.

He says there is no question that the Norse visited America around 1,000 A. D., bringing with them their wives who had babies in America.

"The Norse tell you in their sagas that the Irish beat them to America," he continues, "and the Romans tell you they knew about Iceland and Greenlandand when you are in Greenland, you can see America."

A pot of Roman coins of the 125-175 A. D. era has been found in Iceland, relates the professor.

Carter, who received a B. A. degree in anthropology but switched to geography for his Ph.D. at the University of California, cites an array of other pre-Columbian evidence, ranging from plants to art, architecture and a radioactive dating system.

Carter notes the major breakthrough in the theory of pre-Columbian voyages to America