

45 merit scholars will enter A&M next fall—35 more than in '69

Forty-five National Merit Scholarship winners, more than a four-fold increase over the 1969-70 school year, will enroll for the fall semester.

The scholars are selected by a National Merit Scholarship Corp. committee of college and school counselors from finalists drawn from a quarter of a million students who took the NMSC qualifying test in early 1969.

Texas A&M last year had 10 National Merit Scholarship winners enroll and for the three preceding years, the figure ranged from five to 10, commented Robert M. Logan.

"Over the last several years, the university has definitely attracted a much higher number of scholastic achievers among graduating high school seniors," the student aid office director noted.

"Students, high school seniors, counselors, parents and people over the state have learned of the exceptionally fine quality education obtainable at A&M," he added.

Logan said scholars preceding these are doing "an excellent job of telling the people back home of the education they are getting at Texas A&M."

The student aid director also

pointed out that the university sponsors several National Merit awards, and that recipients coming here attract others of similar quality.

"The 1970 National Merit winners are not only outstanding students grade-wise, but are leaders in their high schools," commented Bobby G. Johnson, aid supervisor. Backgrounds show the recipients are football quarterbacks, student body and class presidents, valedictorians, Eagle Scouts, National Honor Society leaders, band drum majors and Boys' and Girls' State delegates.

"This is the rounded person

who becomes a leader later in life," Logan stated.

Five of the A&M-bound National Merit winners also were President's Scholars at Texas A&M. One is an alternate in the program, which has \$1,000-a-year stipends for five years study.

National Merit Scholarships were awarded to more than 400 students in the five-state South-Central NMSC region. It covers Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. In an April 22 listing of recipients, 38 students planning to attend the university were shown, along with 21 for Rice and 20 for Texas.

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