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Campus Briefs

Dr. Rebello elected cricket club captain

Dr. John L. Rebello has been elected captain of the A&M cricket club which has opened practice for the coming season. The team will play matches this year with the Houston cricket club and has been invited for a match in New Orleans. Rebello is a post-doctoral fellow in biochemistry. The club vice-captain is B. Shankarappa and A. S. Ramamohan was elected treasurer. Both are graduate students. Prof. John F. Griffiths will continue as president and faculty sponsor of the club which meets at 3 p.m. Saturdays on the Memorial Student Center drill field for weekly practice.

Floriculture Society to see gardens

Many, La., is the destination of the Floriculture and Landscape Horticulture Society of A&M on Oct. 24. Perry R. Ragsdale, president, said the society will be making the trip to view Hodges Gardens in lieu of the regular October meeting.

Firemen's School conducting course

A&M's Firemen Training School will conduct a two-day special industrial fire-fighting school Tuesday and Wednesday for employees of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. Sabine River Works at Orange. Chief Instructor Henry D. Smith said the training will include nine fire control projects. The du Pont workers include process operators, supervisors and safety personnel who will be assigned to the company's ADN Plant, Smith said.

3,072 degrees awarded 945 on graduate level

Texas A&M has awarded this year a record 3,072 degrees, including 945 on the graduate level. Registrar Robert A. Lacey said the 1970 total, just compiled following certification of degrees earned during the summer ses-

sion, represents an increase of 443 over the previous year.

This marks the first time Texas A&M has awarded more than 3,000 degrees in one year, Lacey noted.

Baccalaureate degrees total 2,127, up 394 from last year.

The university has conferred 340 doctoral degrees this year, compared to 313 in 1969. Included in the 1970 total are 125 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees.

Master's degrees total 605 compared to 583 last year.

Career Day plans made for this fall

High school students from all areas of Texas have been invited to make plans to participate in the activities of A&M's Agricultural and Engineering Career Day October 10.

Exhibits designed to present information concerning careers and study programs in the various fields of agriculture and engineering will be open to students, teachers, parents and the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in De Ware Field House, committee chairman Agricultural Associate Dean R. C. Potts and Engineering Assistant Dean J. G. McGuire have announced.

Faculty and student representatives will be available to talk with the students, answer questions, and distribute printed materials about careers within each discipline. Twenty-seven exhibits are planned. The Cooperative Education program, in which students alternate periods of university attendance and employment in industry, will be explained, McGuire said.

County agents and advisers in high school vocational agriculture departments are asked to encourage attendance of interested students, and chapters of the Junior Engineering Technical Society are invited to make field trips to A&M for the program.

Radiation treatment makes sewage water reuseable

FISHEATING CREEK, Fla. (AP) — Dr. David D. Woodbridge lifted a glass of water to his lips and drank it dry. Hours earlier the water had been raw sewage from this south Florida campground.

"It's clean and it's good," he said.

The sewage had been transformed into pure, odorless water — like slightly warm distilled water — by gamma radiation at the first commercial nuclear sewage disposal plant built in the United States, perhaps the world.

The \$87,000 plant essentially treats sewage in the usual way until, just before final filtering, the effluent is bombarded with rays from radioactive cobalt-60.

The process is flexible. Water can be treated to such purity it can be drunk, or it can receive lesser treatment for use in irrigation.

Irradiation with cobalt does more than rid the sewage of disease-causing viruses and bacteria. It also breaks up deadly pesticides and reduces by up to one third the quantity of phosphates and other nutrients in the water.

The plant has been in commercial operation for more than six months, treating sewage from trailers, bath houses, toilets and laundry machines at the Fisheating Creek campground west of Lake Okeechobee.

Some 10,000 gallons are treated daily, with as much as 22,000 gallons on peak weekend days.

The plant is the brainchild of Woodbridge and his colleagues at Florida Institute of Technology — FIT — in Melbourne, Fla. Woodbridge heads the physics department and is research director. He founded FIT's University Center for Pollution Research in 1968.

William R. Garrett, a Woodbridge assistant who supervised construction, explained that water from campground sources feeds through pipes into a wet well where paper and other solid objects are trapped and either screened out or broken down so they can enter the system.

The sewage flows from there into an air-bubbling aeration facility common to most sewage disposal plants. Then its goes into the radiation chamber where it is sterilized by gamma rays. The water does not directly con-

tact the cobalt-60 but circulates around a core containing the radioactive material.

The water then moves into a dilution tank where ash created by oxidation of waste is removed. From there it goes into a primary vacuum filter, a polishing carbon filter and finally empties through a pipe into a nearby swamp.

There is no radioactive material in the outflowing water, and it is perfectly safe to the surrounding area, Garrett said.

Allowing for evaporation, Woodbridge said a municipality could save 80 per cent of its water by recycling it any number of times through an irradiator.

He claimed the system removes 90 per cent of detergents; 99 per cent of all bacteria; reduces by up to 33 per cent the phosphates and other nutrients, and is lethal to viruses causing such diseases as influenza and poliomyelitis.

He noted that water produced through conventional plants, with chlorine added, will stunt vegetation. The irradiated water is so pure that not one weed has been affected at Fisheating Creek, said.

Pilots of light aircraft seek jumbo jet flight restrictions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Owners and pilots of light aircraft are campaigning to restrict flights of new jumbo jets which, government tests show, create tornado-like winds that can spin smaller planes out of control.

Tests being completed by the Federal Aviation Administration showed the winds swirl off wingtips of the 747 and C5A at speeds up to 90 miles an hour and can trail behind the planes for miles.

The FAA has ordered a five-mile separation at all times between the giant jets and planes weighing less than 300,000 pounds. It also is conducting an educational program to alert pilots of lighter aircraft to the hazards of the winds—called wake turbulence or wingtip vortices.

The Airplane Owners and Pilots

Association, which represents fliers of the 139,000 aircraft in the general aviation field, objects to this approach.

"The jumbo jets must be rigidly confined, rigidly regulated so everyone knows where they are," says Max Karant, vice president of the AOPA. "They are the deadliest kind of aircraft to encounter in the air. They constitute a clear and present danger."

Although all planes cause wingtip vortices to some degree, FAA officials say the extent of turbulence from the 747 passenger plane and C5A cargo plane was underrated.

Flight tests showed that light aircraft which penetrate the vortices within three miles of the jumbo jets can be forced into a sudden roll of 75 degrees.

"If they fly into it just right they could go into a spin and lose control of the aircraft," said Robert Martin, FAA's chief of regulation and procedures. "The vortices are just like little tornadoes."

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A&M gets grant from Phillips Co.

Phillips Petroleum Co. has awarded a \$9,000 grant to A&M. J. P. Jones of Bartlesville, Okla., director of Phillips' Recruitment and Placement Division, formally presented the funds to Acting President A. R. Luedecke during campus ceremonies Monday.

The award was made through Phillips' Professional Development Fund. Jones said the fund was established in 1966 to support professional growth and development of students and faculty in Engineering, the physical sciences, business administration and related fields of critical importance to the petroleum and petrochemical industries.

Jones said individual grants will be administered by deans and department heads in the areas of greatest need for student and faculty awards, traveling expenses and fees for off-campus professional societies meetings, expenses for visiting speakers and programs and purchase of reference books and professional publications.

University officials said the Professional Development Fund award is in addition to fellowships, scholarships and other established financial support programs provided by Phillips. The firm's other support totals more than \$9,000 this year.

DEMOCRATIC REBUILDING COMMITTEE

Dave Shapiro, Director of Organization will speak on "The Democratic Stake in a Two-Party System in Texas"

Come, Listen, Question Tue., 22 Sept. 7:30 p. m.

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