

Bicycles becoming more popular with students, faculty

L. J. LAWRENCE
More than 2,000 multispeed touring bicycles will be purchased this year by A&M students and faculty, local dealers estimate.

The local appetite is greatest for 10-speed lightweight racing

bikes, and is a hunger shared by college students nationwide. Some reasons are: Bikes are fun, healthy, easy to park and don't pollute. And they fit student budgets, although prices can go as high as \$500.

"For about \$150 you can get a real bad car or a real good 10-speed," observed Jim Kyle of Central Supply, a bicycle sales and service agency at 715 S. Main in Bryan. "Some faculty members buy these bikes for the sport and exercise, but for most of our student customers the bike is their primary means of transportation."

Kyle pointed out that the 10-

speed models are durable and easy to maintain. "Quite a bit of engineering goes into these bikes," he said, "but most owners are able to do their own maintenance."

Five and 15-speed bicycles are also available. "Most people could get by as well with a five-speed," said Eddie Spalten, owner of Andre's Bicycle Shop, 213 University Drive. "The only difference between a five and 10-speed is a single front sprocket. That translates into about \$15, and for that amount of money most buyers feel the extra five speeds are worth the price."

Speed changes are facilitated by Derailleur (French, meaning

"to derail") gears. The chain drive is manually derailed and transferred among five rear sprockets. Ten-speed bikes have a second Derailleur system for two front sprockets. Fifteen speed bikes have three front sprockets.

Most 10-speeds have the same basic equipment. Price ranges are accounted for by the variety of materials used. Kyle indicated a floor model which had a forged aluminum pedal crank. "That crank alone costs \$86," he said. "That's more than the price of some 10-speed bicycles."

Both dealers agreed that purchase of a used bike can be a

good deal. "Most people at A&M don't put a lot of miles or much strain on their bikes," Kyle said, "so buying a second-hand 10-speed can be a good idea."

Spalten cautioned, "People should make sure the bike they're buying isn't hot."

Local police agree. They say a stolen bike will be impounded and returned when ownership can be proved. Police encourage owners to mark their bikes with names, addresses and Social Security numbers. University police and Bryan and College Station departments offer free use of electric engravers for this purpose.

"American-made bikes have serial numbers stamped on at the factory," Spalten said. "Owners should record that number. Foreign-made bikes don't have such identification. That's because stealing a bike in Europe is almost like a crime against the church."

Both dealers recommended "The Complete Book of Bicycling" by Eugene A. Sloan to prospective purchasers who are serious about

bicycling. The University Library has the book, but there is a long waiting list.

Prospective buyers should also seek suggestions from bike owners. Some of the most avid bicyclists belong to the A&M Wheelmen bicycling club. The club meets monthly and stages frequent weekend trips. The trips range from a few miles to a planned 100-mile journey April 15.

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Receives \$24,000 grant

A&M to expand model cities program

A&M has received a \$24,000 grant from the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System to expand its Model Cities Urban Extension Fellows Program.

The program assigns graduate students in urban and regional planning to work as urban extension fellows in model neighbor-

hood areas across the state, noted Jesus H. Hinojosa, project director and acting head of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design's Urban and Regional Planning Department.

Currently in its third year, the fellows program is designed to extend the teaching, research and extension resources of A&M to

local officials and community groups participating in the Texas Model Cities program, Hinojosa said.

Fellows will be sent this year to Houston, Texarkana and Edinburg. San Antonio, Eagle Pass and Laredo have been served by urban fellows in the past.

Hinojosa pointed out the grant is made through the U. S. Office of Education under provisions of the Community Service and Continuing Education Program of the 1965 Higher Education Act.

A&M and the three model cities agencies are providing \$24,000 in matching funds to bring the total

funding to \$48,000.

Hinojosa estimated 12 to 15 master's candidates will participate between March 1, 1972, and Feb. 28, 1973.

Students spend a semester working in the city's program and receive an assistantship of approximately \$416 per month.

In addition, the student receives degree credits for his work.

Students currently spending a semester as interns are Chuck Desanti of East Hampton, N. Y., at Edinburg; Rick Gerlach of Abilene, at Houston, and Raymond Demilliano of Brookfield, Ill., at Texarkana.

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Strap Air Force students are requested to contact AFROTC for unit fund disbursements. Phone 845-7611, Sgt. Holcomb 9212

The English Proficiency Exam for all seniors and juniors who are 4 year majors in Biology, Botany, Microbiology, and Chemistry will be given Wednesday, March 8, at 4:00 p. m. in Room 113 of the Biological Sciences Building East. All seniors and juniors who have not taken the exam previously are expected to do so on this date. Three year premedical dental students who are in their junior year are also expected to take the exam. Examinees should bring pen, pencil, and calculator.

The English Proficiency Examination for all seniors and juniors will be held Tuesday, March 14, at 4:00 p. m. in Room 108 Nagle Hall. Economics majors will pass this exam to be eligible for graduation. Please come by Room 113 Nagle Hall, by Friday, March 10, to sign up for the exam.

"SPRING AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS"—Application forms for Spring Awards Program may be obtained from the Student Financial Aid Office, Room 303, YMCA building until March 31, 1972. All applications must be filed with the Student Financial Aid Office by no later than 5:00 p. m. April 1, 1972. Late applications will not be accepted.

To be eligible to purchase the Texas A&M University Ring, an undergraduate student must have at least one academic year in residence and credit for ninety-five semester hours. The hours passed at the preliminary grade report period on March 13, 1972 may be used in satisfying the ninety-five hour requirement. Students applying under this regulation may now have their names with the ring clerk, room 303, Richard Coke Building, She, in turn, check all records to determine ring eligibility. Orders for these rings will be taken by the ring clerk starting March 27, 1972 and continuing through May 5, 1972. The rings will be returned to the registrar's office to be delivered on or about June 15, 1972. The Ring Clerk is on duty from 8:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday, of each week.

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OPA to collect clothing, cash for Austin Home for Retarded

Wearable clothes, hosiery and cash contributions will be collected Saturday by the A&M chapter of Omega Phi Alpha for the Austin State Home for the Retarded.

Delta chapter members of the national service sorority delivered flyers announcing the drive Thursday. They will pick up donated articles starting at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Project chairman Sandra Huebner said 25 OPA members will assemble the clothing. She emphasized that wearable clothing for all ages will be acceptable. Old hosiery also is needed and cash contributions will be welcome.

Persons wishing to make donations should contact OPA at 845-5336.

McGrory to give physics colloquium

Dr. J. B. McGrory of the Oak Ridge (Tenn.) National Laboratory will give the physics colloquium Wednesday at A&M.

Dr. McGrory is associated with ORNL's Physics Division. His 4 p.m. Physics Room 146 lecture is entitled "The Use of the Nuclear Shell Model to Study Quantum Collective States." The public is invited.

Wicks & Sticks In Manor East Mall "Red Tag" Sale

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