

Team earns intercollegiate honors

# Sailors enjoy travel, competition

By MAYVIE LUBY  
"It's dirty, rotten to the core, mean and I love it," said Texas A&M University sailing team member Doug Shelton. He was referring to the highly competitive sport of intercollegiate sailboat racing.

Last semester Texas A&M finished third in the Southeastern Intercollegiate Sailing Association (SEISA) competition. Competitors included the University of Texas which is ranked seventh in the nation, Tulane University ranked eleventh, Rice, Baylor, University

of Dallas, Florida State, University of Florida and others.

Intercollegiate, the team races 420 boats which are 16 feet, holding two persons. In general, the skipper steers the boat and the crew adjusts the sails.

The team travels to New Orleans, Florida, Houston and Dallas to compete in about six intercollegiate regattas each semester.

Last semester Texas A&M captured fourth place in the Baldwin Wood regatta in New Orleans, the biggest intercollegiate event of the year. It was intersectional, meaning people competed from universities outside of SEISA with the Illinois team being a top competitor. Texas A&M won their invitational regatta and took second place honors in both the UT invitational and the Baylor fall regatta. The team finished third in Tulane's regatta in October.

This semester the team received top honors in the Rice regatta with

competitors such as the University of Southern Louisiana, Baylor, Rice and UT. In the Ensey Memorial regatta sponsored by Baylor, A&M took a second place and finished third in the Tulane invitational.

In the 420 intercollegiate events there are two divisions, A and B. Universities enter one boat per class. Scoring is calculated on a low point system, meaning a first place boat would receive a one and a second place would receive a two.

Upcoming events for the team include singlehanded championships in Florida April 1 and 420 dinghy eliminations in Austin April 8. These regattas are eliminations for national competition this summer.

"Even though we are up against good competition in SEISA," said team captain Greg Schertz, our women's team has proven that they have an excellent chance of qualifying for the national competition by their results in recent eliminations and regattas.

Four Texas A&M team members will travel to Florida for singlehanded eliminations April 1. Races will be held in Lasers, which are 16 foot, one person boats. Jon Salis will help represent the Aggies with his experience in sailing Lasers to 23-25 foot quarter-ton boats. Other A&M participants have not been selected.

Representing Texas A&M in the eliminations for the national sea exploring championships May 20-21

will be the 1975 national sea exploring 420 champion, Doug Shelton.

A&M regatta participants are selected from the approximately 20-member team. To be eligible to attend regattas, one must place first or second in elimination races which are held on the Sunday prior to the regatta. The short, triangular race courses are set up on Lake Somerville. Also, one must belong to the Texas A&M sailing club, have prior sailing experience and regularly attend the Tuesday night meetings.

During the five hour practice sessions under the coaching of Pete O'Connell, members rotate among the five 420s until each skipper has sailed each boat. Scoring is kept on a low point system, with the top two skippers being the ones to represent Texas A&M. The skippers then choose their crew.

Advisors for the team and club are William Anthony and Jerry Mainord. Anthony helps the team by locating accommodations during regattas and Mainord is the sailing club advisor on financial affairs and distributes keys for access to the boats during the weeks.

In regard to the team O'Connell said, "We have good sailors but the equipment we have to work with isn't good enough to keep our sailors up to par with the rest of the teams in SEISA." He added, "I would like to see us win all of the SEISA championships."

As an overview of next semester, Shelton said, "I believe our biggest problem will be finding someone to replace Greg Schertz as team captain. The reason being that next year's team will be made up mostly of freshman and sophomores and there won't be many who have the experience that he does."



Members of the Texas A&M Sailing Team work out during five-hour practice sessions at Lake Somerville. Under the coaching of Pete O'Connell, the team races against schools from the Southeastern U.S., for a shot at national competition.

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Tues., March 28

Library Rm. 226

7:30 p.m.

International Meditation Society

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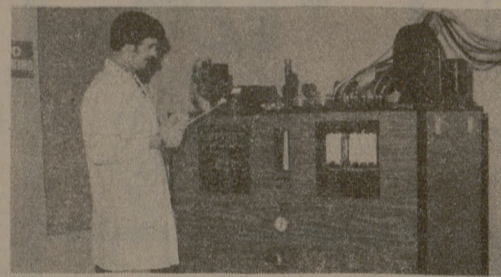
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## A&M research funding up 19% from last year

Research funding at Texas A&M University totaled more than \$44 million for the first six months of the 1977-78 fiscal year, a 19 percent increase over the same period last year.

February grants totaling \$1,893,745 included \$853,123 from private organizations, \$507,248 from state agencies, and \$503,374 in federal funds.

The fiscal report, from September through February, showed a \$6,093,260 increase over last year's figures--indicating another record research year for Texas A&M. Total

research grants for 1976-77

totalled \$51.2 million. Office of University Research for February showed \$1.2 million to the College of Engineering, Texas Transportation Institute, Texas Engineering Experiment Station, and \$223,000 to the College of Science.

Also, \$215,222, College of Sciences; \$104,703, College of Architecture; \$67,146, College of Education; \$11,500, College of Business Administration; \$9,000, College of Liberal Arts.

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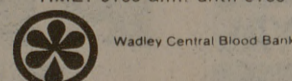
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