

## SAT score only exam A&M uses

By CARLA SUTTER  
Battalion Reporter

Texas A&M University is now the only university in Texas that accepts only the Scholastic Aptitude Test as its college entrance exam.

The University of Texas System Regents recently decided to accept either the SAT or the American College Test as college entrance exams beginning next fall.

At Texas A&M there has been no formal consideration of accepting the ACT, B. G. Lay, director of admissions said. Using the ACT for admission would call for a series of studies to determine a cut-off score where certain applicants would not be accepted.

That isn't necessary, Lay said, because the SAT meets the University's purposes — determining how well a student will do.

But at the University of Texas, Dr. Ronald Brian, vice president of student affairs said, "I'm very supportive of the decision (to accept the ACT)."

The two tests are not substantially different, and high schools in a number of areas in the state offer preparatory courses for taking the ACT, he said. It is easier for the student to take the ACT since it is accepted by almost all colleges and universities in Texas.

Texas Tech University began using both the ACT and SAT a number of years ago for the same reasons UT did, said Dr. Gene Medley, director of admissions at Texas Tech.

Comparing the two tests, Dr. Arthur Tollefson, director of academic counseling service at Texas A&M, said recent studies have shown that the SAT discriminates against people with talent but not skill.

And while the SAT tests verbal and mathematical areas, Tollefson said, the ACT tests a broader range of subject matter. The ACT is more achievement oriented, he said, while the SAT is broader and more of a test of a student's ability to take tests.

Before 1940, standardized tests like the ACT and SAT didn't exist because few people sought entry to colleges and universities.

However, this situation changed after World War II, Tollefson said, when thousands of men returned from the service to a high-technology world. They appreciated it (new technology) and wanted to enter college, he added.

There were a few standardized tests in those days, he said. Then the SAT caught on and became prestigious. Schools like Harvard and Yale relied on the SAT because so many people sought admission to the schools, he said. The ACT wasn't used until 1959.

"We're so conscious of cultural bias now, and back then they weren't," Tollefson said. "People didn't feel culturally disadvantaged."

"The courses we teach are culturally biased, based on a student's past experiences and classes."

The administrator said the SAT is a good predictor of how well the student will do academically in college.

However, receiving an unacceptable SAT score doesn't exactly deny a person entrance to Texas A&M. Those who have been denied admission to the University because of a low score can go to summer school, take 12 hours and if they make a C average or better can enroll in the University.

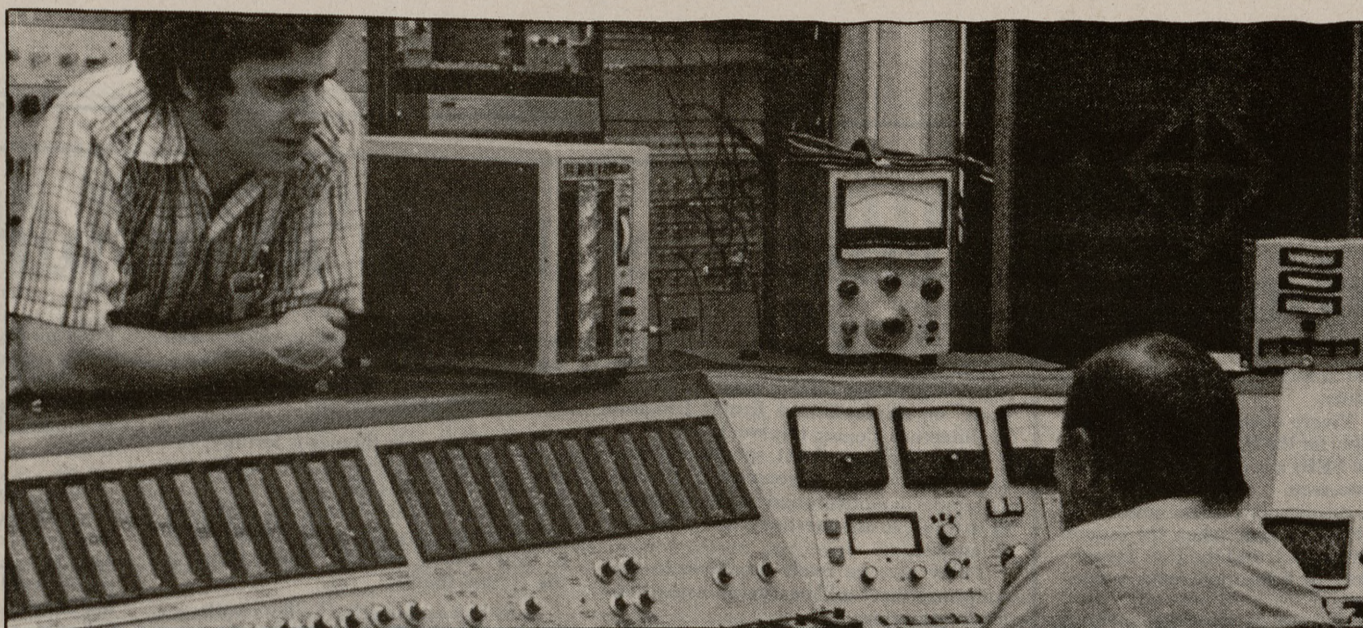


Photo by T. Garrett

Graduate student John Joyce and Cyclotron operator Jim Mullins talk about accelerating particles to almost the speed of light. A cyclotron speeds particles of one element to high

velocities and then impacts them with other elements. To increase the capacity of the unit, another \$8.8 million addition is planned for the west wing.

## Expansion of Cyclotron planned

By WAYNE COOK  
Battalion Reporter

When hurrying to class at Zachry Engineering Center, or to McDonald's for a quick lunch, many people pass the Texas A&M University Cyclotron, but few know exactly what goes on there.

At the Cyclotron, located across from Zachry, nuclear chemists and physicists conduct research to learn more about the nuclei of various atoms.

"We want to learn about the forces that hold a nucleus together, and the laws that govern its motion," said Dr. Dave Youngblood, director of the Cyclotron.

He said if researchers understand nuclei behavior through basic research, then the findings can have practical applications in medicine and industry.

Experiments at the Cyclotron study the nuclear processes occurring when one atomic element is bombarded with the high-speed particles of another element.

A cyclotron unit can accelerate

atomic nuclei to velocities approaching the speed of light. High-speed nuclei leave the cyclotron and are directed by magnets to one of four separate experimental areas.

Among the practical applications of high-speed nuclei study is radiation therapy for cancer patients. The Cyclotron has made such applications. Work has also been done to find a new means of treating bacterial eye infections.

In an industrial application, impurities in Texas lignite can be identified from the radiation emitted when the lignite is struck by the high-speed nuclei.

Youngblood said the Cyclotron has achieved international prominence because of its capability with both light and heavy atomic elements. An \$8.8 million expansion of the Cyclotron facilities is underway and will enhance the institute's reputation even more, he said.

"In the study of nuclear physics we will be clearly at the forefront,"

Youngblood said.

The expansion includes a 30-foot extension to the west side of the building plus a second cyclotron unit, Youngblood said.

Construction of the building is

to begin in January 1982 and should be completed in about one year, Youngblood said.

Funding for the expansion will be provided by the University and the Robert A. Welch Foundation.



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## Students win prizes for marketing plans

By LISA SMITH  
Battalion Reporter

Texas A&M University may not offer advertising as a major, but that didn't stop two students from winning advertising contest prizes last weekend.

Seniors Terri Heinz and Mike Probst, both marketing majors, won first and second prizes in the Student Grand Prix 1981, held Friday in Houston. The Student Grand Prix is an advertising competition sponsored by the Houston Advertising Federation, for undergraduate students within a five-state area.

This year's theme was for a Swiss Festival, which will be held in September in Houston, sponsored by the Institute of International Education.

Categories for the competition included: television, newspaper, radio, magazine, outdoor, theme illustration and a marketing and media plan.

Heinz won first place in the media and marketing plan category, and Probst won second in the same category. The two students wrote their plans for the contest in the advertising course in the marketing department, taught by Valerie Zeithmal.

"I didn't know exactly what to expect at the competition," Heinz said.

Probst also expressed some surprise over the contest. "I was shocked, because there were over 200 people in a five-state area entering the contest."

"On the other hand, I put a lot of work into it," Probst said, "and I would have been kind of disappointed if I had not won anything."

As a result of competition, both Heinz and Probst were invited to work on the Swiss Festival campaign this summer.


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