



Oh say, did you see? staff photo by Eric Evan Lee

Tuesday was Flag Day. Flag Day is the American flag in 1777. It is the anniversary of the adoption of not a legal holiday.

# Enrollment sets record

by Jennifer Carr  
Battalion Staff  
Texas A&M has set yet another enrollment record with over 14,000 students enrolled in the first session of summer school.

Donald D. Carter, associate registrar, said the unofficial fourth class day records showed 14,144 students enrolled in classes, a 6 percent increase over last summer's enrollment. The increase is due to a number of factors, he said.

Many students are having a hard time finding summer jobs, especially in the Houston, Dallas

and Austin areas, so they come to summer school rather than just sit around, he said.

Graduate enrollment is also up, Carter said. Graduate students account for 27 percent of the summer enrollment with 3,826, compared to 15 percent for the fall enrollment. The graduate percentage usually is higher in the summer because many teachers work on their master's degrees during the summer, Carter said.

The most significant increase, however, is in the freshman provisional admissions program.

Texas residents who meet all other requirements for incoming freshmen but have low Scholastic Aptitude Test scores for their class rank may be offered provisional status.

This means the student must complete nine hours in two summer sessions and maintain a 2.0 grade-point ratio with no failing grades. Students meeting the conditions are then granted admission to the University.

Last summer, about 150 students participated in the program, Gale T. Wood, associate director of admissions, said. This

summer there are about 1,000 students enrolled in the raised admission status that went into effect last year.

There are no provisions for accommodating the large number of students, as facilities are available during the summer, Carter said. There are fewer faculty members available during the summer, usually requested during the summer.

Carter said second session enrollment will probably be lower than this session. He expects another record

# Michener

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Michener attributes his success as a writer to his compulsion to organize and his love of hearing or telling a good story. He is not a typical writer in that he started late, at the age of 40, but he said the lateness accounts for his stability as a writer. He said he is neither awed by success, nor destroyed by failure.

Michener, who has worked in all aspects of print — as an editor, publisher, writer and consumer — said he thinks of his profession constantly, and takes it seriously.

"To be a writer is one of the glorious professions of this world."

Michener gets up every morning at 7:30, and is at work by 7:35. He writes, using two fingers and an old typewriter, until 12:30. He said he never works in the afternoon, and rarely at night.

He goes to bed after the news each night and one of the things he likes best about Texas is that the news comes on at 10 p.m. rather than 11 p.m.

He writes in big blocks, usual-

ly 100 to 120 pages, he said, and doesn't correct his manuscript until he finishes a block. If he is stuck, he might turn to an easier section, but can't afford to indulge in writer's block.

Michener said the easier parts of his text he has worked on in advance always are unusable, because by the time he reaches them again events have changed. But he said they are helpful because they get him through a rough spot.

He said he does everything at least twice, then employs someone to read and criticize. Altogether, five people critique his work. When he is finished, the book is read by the editor, the text editor and someone the publishing company hires.

"The problem of what to write next is a painful one," Michener said. The phrase that often comes to mind when he's writing is a negative one — "It

doesn't have enough weight." It may be a story, theme, character or an entire novel, but if it doesn't have enough weight he'll drop it, he said, no matter how far along, because he knows he'll lose interest.

Michener said he always has seven or eight ideas for a book, and half are not as good as he thought — they didn't have adequate weight. He said he has

never had less than three ideas he could launch on with the greatest enthusiasm.

"My mind is so fertile, I can think up a good book every week."

When he does decide on a subject for his next book, he writes down the day's thoughts, and what he gets out of it. It then becomes a commitment.

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# AODP

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Because of the desire to use a more advanced ship, the National Science Foundation looked into the possibility of renovating The Explorer — a salvage ship — into a drill ship, he said. But, that would have been too expensive, he added.

The National Science Foundation has been approached by several drilling companies about the possibility of leasing a ship for the project, he said. There is a surplus of drill ships because of the slump in the petroleum business, he said and leasing a drill ship is the most economical way.

One or two scientists from Texas A&M always will go out on the ship and about 15 scientists from the international community will be involved, plus technicians and other support

staff for a total of 40 to 50 crew members, Rabinowitz said.

Texas A&M will be science operator of the project for a minimum of 10 years, he said, and the cores will be stored here permanently.

Research on the cores, taken from all the ocean floors, will be studied internationally, he said. By studying the cores, he said, scientists will try to determine how the ocean basins have evolved through time.

Half of the cores will be archived and the other half will be studied, he said.

"The cores are in great demand," he said.

Some of the advantages of having the core repository at Texas A&M include international visibility and having large groups of scientists visit, Rabinowitz said.

# Currie

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At that point, Currie contacted the Rescue Coordination Centers at Sondrestrom, and Trenton, Canada, about using a search and rescue satellite, SARSAT, to find the planes.

SARSAT, Currie said, is a joint effort of the United States, Soviet Union, France and Canada and is still in the experimental stage. The first SARSAT was launched by the Soviets on June 30 of last year.

Before this particular mission, the satellite had contributed to four search and rescue operations and the saving of seven lives.

"About an hour and a half after takeoff, we received the

SARSAT coordinates for the ELT," Currie said. The ELT is the emergency locator transmitter on the planes. "As we neared the predicted position, the downed crewmen saw our aircraft and vectored us to their position."

Currie said the rescue team then landed and fueled the undamaged plane and returned to the Canadian ice camp, Cesar. They returned to Thule the next morning.

Currie said that being far away from College Station did not dampen his Aggie spirit.

Currie will return to Texas at the end of this month and will be stationed in Fort Worth.

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