

staff photo by Guy Hood

Aggie robotic lighter

Chip Eagle, an electrical engineering major from San Antonio, takes a break and instructs his sidekick robot, Hero-1, to flick his bic. Hero-1 was built by engineering students here.

Michener says West is for him

United Press International LUBBOCK — Author James Michener told Texas Tech University Wednesday students that he probably would live somewhere west of Abilene if he were to become a Texas resident.

Michener visited Lubbock so he could learn more about the Ogallala aquifer. He has spent the last several months researching for a book he plans to write about Texas.

Michener, 76, said several pages would be devoted to West Texas, a region he became acquainted with as a youth while traveling from Amarillo to San Antonio.

"My new book will be 85 percent finished by the time I even get to West Texas," Michener said.

The state's immigration problems also have been mentioned in some of his previous novels, he said.

Known for devoting segments of his books to geology, Michener said he would not concentrate much on Texas geology because he wrote about it in previous novels.

However, water and oil geology important to the Texas would be included in the new novel, Michener said.

"The geology of Texas is not as interesting as the geology of Colorado," Michener said, quickly adding "but any geology that provides the oil that Texas does has got to be interesting."

The novel will be about the entire state, Michener said, adding he did not want to become trapped writing about only Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. The story's construction is an escape from that triangle, he said.

"You will not be disappointed if I write what I have in mind to write," he promised.

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Entrepreneurs to share past

by Jamie Hataway

A panel of three student entrepreneurs from Texas universities will discuss how they started their own businesses in a meeting at 7 tonight in 601 Rudder. The Society for Entrepreneurship and New Ventures, a group formed to help students succeed in the free enterprise system, is sponsoring the meeting.

"We want to provide a meeting place for people interested in entrepreneurship and small business."

The three speakers are: Marc Ostrofsky, University of Texas student; Mitchell Butler, a Texas A&M student; and Mark Wyant, a Southern Methodist University.

Ostrofsky owns a company called Kermar that sells jewelry and Marco's Polo shirts. He also works for an Austin real-estate agency selling condominiums.

Butler formerly owned the local T-shirt Plus stores.

Wyant owns a charter airline company that transports money for Purolator Courier.

The society, organized a year ago, is for students owning a business or for those hoping to own one.

"We want to provide a meeting place for people interested in entrepreneurship and small business," vice-president Neill Marshall said.

The objectives of the society are:

- *Give first-hand experience in entrepreneurship.
- *Develop and sharpen personal skills not ordinarily learned in the classroom.
- *Supply a personal network of on and off-campus contacts.
- *Promote skills in oral presentations and group leadership.

Marshall said anyone can join the society regardless of his major. "Anybody can start a business," he said. "It's not just for business majors."

An upcoming meeting will host Norman Brinker who started the Steak and Ale restaurants and the Bennigan's chain and now owns the Chili's restaurants.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY to MIKE WATSON from the Group

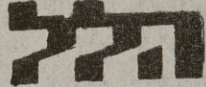
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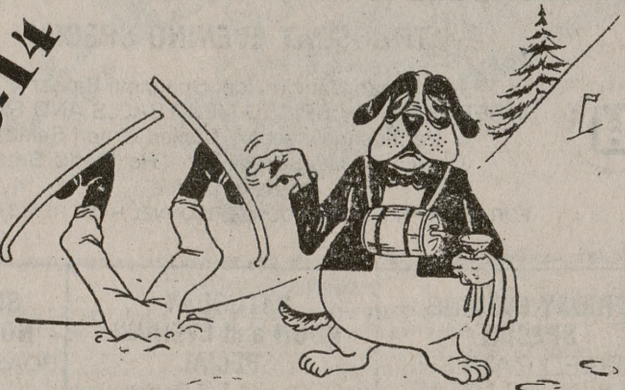
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