

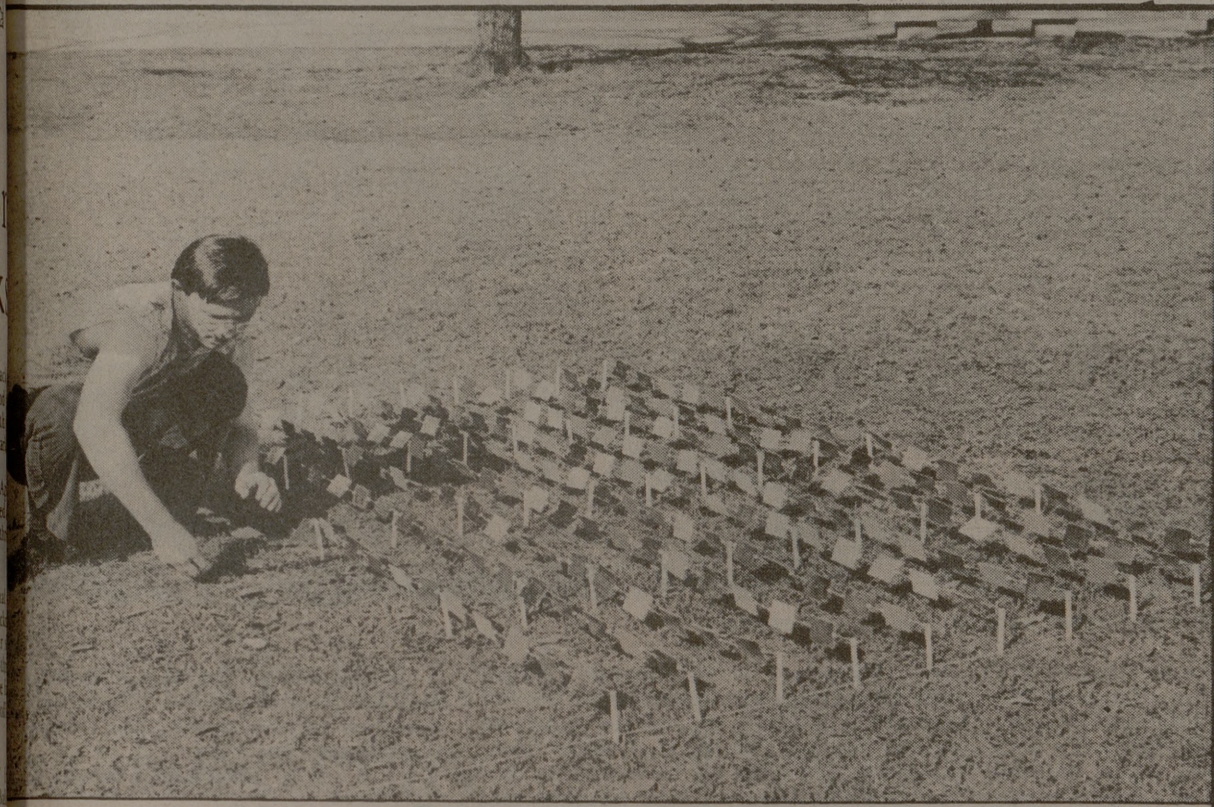
Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol 78 No. 70 USPS 0453110 14 pages

College Station, Texas

Friday, December 9, 1983



Cindi Tackitt, Battalion staff

Gilbert Flores works on setting up his color theory project on the Academic Building lawn. The pieces

were strung together and laid out in an 8-foot square. Flores is a graduating senior from San Antonio.

Senior makes colorful art on campus

by Charles Preston Dungan
Battalion Reporter

Tiny patches of color and light spun in the sunlight in front of the Academic Building Thursday afternoon. The orderly rows of color and reflections of color were hardly the usual sight on a stroll across campus.

The pieces of cardboard painted different colors or wrapped in foil were parts of Gilbert Flores final project in a color theory class. The pieces were strung together and laid out in an eight-foot square. Flores, a graduating senior from San Antonio, said the project required a couple of months of work. He said this is the second time the project has been set up. The first time, it was on the grass between near Langford Architecture Center. Flores said he moved it to the Academic Building lawn to allow more people to see it and to get more response from them.

Flores, who said his artwork is completely open to interpretation, did not title the display.

"It is the way it is. If someone sees something else in it or it reminds them of something that's fine. I see it as dance," Flores said. "If it's enough to bring people over to look at it then I've accomplished what I want to do."

Flores said color is a playful medium to work in.

He said he found that out working on his project. "It's a big toy," he said.

Flores said he got a lot of satisfaction out of mixing the colors for the cards. He hopes he can use what he has learned about color in future architectural projects.

Dick Davison, instructor for Flores color theory course, said this was the first time the course has been offered by the Department of Environmental Design. He said he hopes to see the course become a permanent part of the environmental design curriculum.

Davison said Flores' project is basically simple but with some very interesting color effects.

Students in the class experimented with other effects, using color and producing color. The students used models to explore how color modifies three-dimensional spaces. In another experiment, color was created with black and white images using a color filter.

"The course tried to increase students sensitivity to color and its potential in the environment," Davison said. He said color has been ignored by architects in recent years. He said he wants to see students getting back to studying its use.

Columbia home Shuttle landing perfect

United Press International
EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The shuttle Columbia glided to a smooth landing after an eight-hour delay in orbit Thursday, bringing back six men, Spacelab and a priceless payload of scientific findings from 10 days of research.

Space pilots John Young and Brewster Shaw flew the veteran rocket plane in from the north for the first time, made a broad left-hand turn and touched down on the dry lake bed runway 40 minutes before sunset.

Astronomer Robert Parker served as flight engineer and scientist-astronauts Owen Garriott, Byron Lichtenberg and Ulf Merbold were strapped in on the lower deck.

Landing of the 110-ton Columbia came at 5:47 p.m. CST — 3:47 p.m. California time.

"What a stop, Columbia," said Young, who has been in space six times.

"Welcome home, beautiful landing," said John Blaha in mission control as the ship rolled to a stop from its sixth return from space.

Tucked safely in Columbia's cargo bay was the 17-ton, \$1 billion Spacelab research module that is the pride of European technology. It will fly again next November.

For a while, the landing was in doubt Thursday. A double computer failure five hours before the original landing time forced controllers in Houston to "wave off" the astronauts twice.

The unprecedented landing delay meant the astronauts had to approach the high desert landing base from the north, following a path taking them over the Aleutian Islands, 80 miles north of San Francisco and over Fresno.

The 10-day, 4.3 million-mile mission was the longest yet for a shuttle. It also was one of the smoothest before the electronic gremlins struck.

Young reported that one computer aboard the ship failed just as the nose wheels touched down.

The computer troubles came when the shuttle's big positioning jets in the nose fired, giving the ship what Young said was a hard jolt. One computer quit after one thruster firing and the second stopped after another firing.

Flight directors delayed the landing from the original 9:59 a.m. CST time to try to understand what happened. One computer was later revived but the second was lost for the flight. Officials said they had not determined the cause.

But John Blaha in mission control assured the astronauts there was no evidence the jet firings had anything to do with the trouble.

"We do not think it was related to thruster firings," he told Young.

"Just happened to be at the same time," said Young, indicating he still was not convinced.

Blaha said the astronauts ran the revived computer while they fired the thrusters and no problems occurred.

Columbia, which previously had flown as long as eight days, has five computers, any one of which is able to direct the critical operations needed to guide the winged space glider back into the atmosphere and to a safe landing.

The delay did not threaten the wealth of information the ship's four scientist-astronauts gathered on their flight.

After landing Garriott, Parker, Merbold, a West German physicist, and Lichtenberg, a biomedical engineer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, still faced eight days of intense medical tests to see how they re-adapt to Earth's gravity.

Their experiments with Spacelab — the \$1 billion European-built research station in Columbia's cargo bay

— produced 2 trillion bits of data expected to produce major advances in scientific knowledge that will benefit future space travelers and have important applications on Earth.

There had been no major problems with Columbia on the record-length shuttle flight until five hours before the originally scheduled landing when Young told mission control the two computers had failed.

He said the failures appeared linked to the firing of the control jets.

"I think it was up-firing jets that made this thing fail," Young said. "I really do. It really hit the vehicle hard."

Although any of the flight computers aboard Columbia could handle the critical tasks necessary for landing, ground controllers in Houston wanted to make sure the cause of the problem was understood before they attempted to bring the shuttle home.

"We would not want to do a re-entry not understanding this particular computer problem," said Steve Nesbitt in mission control.

The scientist-astronauts had already finished the complicated process of deactivating Spacelab when the landing was delayed.

Scientists on the ground were anxiously awaiting the thousands of photographs, super crystal samples, unique alloys, frozen blood samples and other experiment results still onboard the 23-foot-long, 33,548-pound cylindrical laboratory.

In 10 days, Spacelab gathered 50 times the information radioed back from Skylab during 24 weeks of manned operations in 1973, mission scientist Charles Chappell told the astronauts.

"All of us want to express our appreciation to the crew of Columbia and Spacelab 1 for the absolutely superb jobs you had done," mission manager Harry Craft told the crew early Thursday.

System will replace food coupon books

by Kay Mallett
Battalion Staff

A new computer system to replace food coupon books on campus will be tested by a group of student volunteers next spring.

"We're aiming toward installing the new system over the Christmas holidays or shortly thereafter," said Tom Awbrey, business manager of the Department of Food Services. "It should be operational by Jan. 16 for testing in the spring semester."

The testing will be done by 20 percent of the students who usually purchase coupon books. Instead, they will use their student I.D. cards.

The new computers will read the magnetic strip on the cards.

One out of five students that sign up for coupon books this spring will be asked to volunteer for the testing. If they agree, they will go onto a point system.

Under the point system, a student may purchase an initial "point plan" for \$150 and increase the amount by \$50 increments.

The points will be placed in the computer and the I.D. card will be encoded to activate the reader. As food is bought, the balance for each student will be reduced.

Awbrey said that after each purchase, students on the point system will receive a receipt with the remaining balance in his account.

"It'll be a decreasing balance type thing," Awbrey said.

The point plan will operate under the same rules as the regular board plan. Anyone will be allowed to drop the plan at any time and receive a refund for the remaining balance — less a 10 percent fee of all money placed into the account.

Awbrey said the new system is being installed to help the validation lines into the dining halls should move more quickly and to save the students money.

In the past, if a student lost his coupon book, there was no replacement or refund. Awbrey says that the new system would save the students from losing their coupon books and ultimately their "food money."

"The only difficulty with the new system that I can foresee would be the removal of the magnetic strip from the i.d. cards," Awbrey said. "Some of the students may rub off the strip which would make the card impossible to encode. We're hoping for a more durable, more dense magnetic strip for next fall."

This spring will be the time to work

out any "kinks" within the system Awbrey said.

"I think it's going to be a darn good system once we get it going," he said. "We just want to go slow and be careful. We hope that by summer, we can implement the whole thing. Then we'll open up the whole thing and burn our coupon books!"

Marines make Moslems raise white flag after heavy firing

United Press International
BEIRUT — Druze Moslem militias shelled U.S. Marines again Thursday, but the Marines fired back so fiercely the attackers raised a white flag. The Druze later turned their guns on Christian east Beirut, wounding at least three people.

No Marine casualties were reported in the morning's 90-minute battle on the red dirt hills that form the Marines' northeast perimeter.

But Druze leaders and Syria vowed to continue the repeated assaults on American forces and the 1,200 Marines deployed around the Beirut airport spent another night confined in darkened bunkers on a Condition 1 maximum alert.

The battle came four days after eight Marines were killed and two wounded in assaults following an American air strike on Syrian troops.

At mid-evening, Druze artillery shelled Christian neighborhoods in the capital for nearly 100 minutes and three people were reported wounded, the state-run radio said. Shelling between Druze and Lebanese army units also erupted in the Shouf mountains southeast of Beirut.

Christian Phalange radio said President Reagan's Middle East envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, arrived for a new effort to end the Lebanese fighting. There was no immediate word of his plans for talks.

However, with the deepening U.S.

military involvement, Italy said it wanted to slash its peace-keeping force in Beirut by half, to the 1,100 originally committed.

At a NATO meeting of foreign ministers in Brussels, the U.S. and three nations contributing troops to peace-keeping forces in Lebanon — Italy, France and Britain — vowed they would stay on to support Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Describing the morning battle, Marine spokesman Maj. Dennis Brooks said the Marines came under "heavy and concentrated" small arms, mortar and rocket-propelled grenade fire from an enemy bunker northeast of the airport.

The area is controlled by Syrian-backed Moslem Druze who oppose Gemayel's Christian-dominated government.

"We hit back with wire-guided Dragon missiles, M-60 tanks, light anti-armor weapons and machine gunfire, destroying one bunker," Brooks said.

Although the fire gutted the bunker, Druze gunmen resumed firing on the Marines less than a half hour later, and the compound's front gate came under sniper fire, he said. The Marines responded with 60-mm mortars.

Final note from the editor

Readers:

This is the last edition of The Battalion I will be editor of, and I thought it appropriate to mark the occasion.

The new editor is Rebecca Zimmermann, the editor of to-

day's At Ease. She takes over when I leave the office today, so the three editions for next week will reflect new management.

Hope E. Paasch
editor

Head of English emphasizes lit study

by Tracie L. Holub
Battalion Staff

David Stewart, head of the English department, says students should study different types of literature as well as learning the skills of writing.

Jerome Loving, a literature professor in the department, says in a letter written to Stewart in March that the English department has been harassed by many "bottom-line" thinkers who believe the primary duty of the department is to teach writing.

Loving says writing is not the only

aspect of English that is important — literature also is very important.

Loving says enrollment has dropped in many literature classes. One reason, he says, is that many departments are asking for more technical training from English classes.

In too many cases, Loving says students are locked into majors by the beginning of the sophomore year. In many majors, electives a student has are controlled or limited by his/her department and he/she can't take many different kinds of classes.

Another reason Stewart cited for de-

clining enrollment in literature courses is that many people have a bad attitude about literature.

"There are a lot of people that think that studying literature won't help," Stewart says. "Many of them want students to take the course in technical writing saying that it will be more of a benefit. Skills are important, but it is also important to become a better reader which is what literature helps to do."

Stewart says students should study literature because it better equips one for a more flexible lifestyle after graduation.

"Students should get exposed to a whole range of subjects," Stewart says. "Writing is important. Literature is important too, though. Studying literature actually improves a person's ability to read contemporary stuff."

Katherine O'Brian O'Keeffe, professor of literature, says that writing is only the tip of the iceberg — the main part of any class is the thinking aspect.

"We aren't teaching writing but thinking," O'Keeffe says. "Literature is where the heart of what we do is."

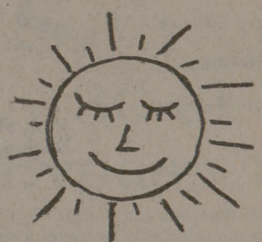
Rings here

Senior rings which were ordered during the second summer session have arrived. They may be picked up in the Pavilion from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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forecast



High today in the low 70s, sunny with clear skies, low tonight in the 40s.