

STATE AND LOCAL

A&M instructor flies to Australia

Lecturer listed in Who's Who

By TERI BALOG Reporter

Imogene Chamberlain, a guest lecturer at Texas A&M, is listed in the 1985-86 edition of Who's Who in American Women.

Chamberlain, 59, was the first woman to fly a four-seated Lake Buccaneer plane from California to Sidney, Australia. She also is believed to be the first woman to fly that distance solo. She made the flight in March 1978.

"There were two planes that went that distance," she said. "No one thought they could be flown there. Well, we proved them wrong."

"One of the reasons the trip hadn't been tried was because it wasn't known if the plane could carry enough fuel," Chamberlain said. The seats were replaced by fuel tanks to provide enough fuel for the trip.

The journey lasted 10 days because of layovers, she said. She flew in a hopscoth fashion. She said she flew for 19 hours to get from California to Hawaii and then for 10 hours at a time until she reached her destination.

The 15-year resident of Bryan has flown planes to Canada, Mexico, Germany and the Virgin Islands. The Chamberlains keep a four-seat Mooney at Easterwood Airport.

"If the trip is over the distance of Austin or Houston, we fly the Chamberlain Airlines," she said. Only as a last resort do they take a commercial airline.

Chamberlain's husband Howard, who is an associate professor of management at A&M, received his pilot's license before they were married, but Chamberlain said



Imogene Chamberlain, a lecturer at Texas A&M, sits in her four-seat Mooney. Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

she didn't learn to fly until they married.

Chamberlain, a member of the International Organization of Women Pilots, is an adviser of the A&M Flying Club. She also teaches Industrial, Vocational and Technical Education 475 at A&M. She says the course teaches all there is about flying except how to fly.

Chamberlain said the course can help prepare people planning to enter the field of aviation. It will help to better their understanding of the field, she said.

She said that although one might consider the course to be something like ground school, it actually has a much wider breadth than most ground schools do. This course covers regulations, training and more, Chamberlain said. And it lasts a semester, she said, much longer than the three weeks that some ground schools run.

Students in the class range from freshman to retired Air Force pilots. At the end of each semester the students can take a Federal Aviation Administration exam if they wish. They are not

required to take the FAA exam and will be given a regular course final even if they do take it, Chamberlain said.

"My husband started the class," she said. "Although graduate students taught the class for four or five years, there was a high turnover rate."

Chamberlain, convinced the department head that she could be a stable influence on the class and has been teaching it since then.

"Since the class is not offered this summer," she said, "I plan to catch up on all the projects that we have left unfinished."

Official: Rise in phone rates could break state budget

Associated Press

AUSTIN — An increase in the state's telephone bill could bust the budget, an assistant attorney general said Tuesday as the Public Utility Commission began consideration of Southwestern Bell's \$277 million rate hike request.

The package would add 18.5 percent to the state government's Bell bill, which is now about \$40 million a year, according to Assistant Attorney General Scott McCollough.

"We'd have to find it somewhere, either through personnel reduction, reducing services or reducing the number of telephone lines," McCollough said. "Certainly, that's not in the public interest. We need those telephone lines."

During questioning of Jim Adams, Bell's Texas president, McCollough also mentioned the possibility of a tax hike to pay the phone bill.

"That would be one way," Adams replied.

McCollough and Allen King, representing the Texas Retailers Association, also questioned Adams about Bell's request to add a 5 percent penalty to business phone bills

If Southwestern Bell wants more money, they should be more resourceful. — Roy Irwin, an Austin man testifying at the Bell rate hearings.

not paid on time.

Adams said the company is looking for ways to combat business customers who intentionally pay late. In some cases, King said, it takes awhile for business customers to review lengthy, complicated bills.

"It is not our intent to penalize customers with late charges on the basis of some error Southwestern Bell has made," Adams replied. "What we are attempting to do is simply provide for a more prompt payment of bills than we have previously seen."

Bell is not seeking a late charge for residential customers.

"Residential customers on occasion do pay late," said Adams. "They

do not pay as late as businesses do, who have a concerted effort" to pay as late as possible.

The lawyers took over the case Tuesday after comments from just one consumer. No consumers showed up Monday for a session set aside to hear Texans' thoughts on Bell's plan that would raise monthly residential bills by about \$1.50.

Roy Irwin, an elderly Austin man who has testified at previous Bell rate hearings, used his white cane to help find his way into the meeting room.

"I just wonder why year after year we have these rate increases," he said. "If the company wants more money, they could be more resourceful."

He also complained about Bell's request to lower the number of free directory assistance calls from five to three per month. There is a 30-cent charge for directory assistance calls above the limit.

"There are many people who are not too good on looking up numbers," Irwin said.

Faculty Senate meeting set for Monday

The Faculty Senate will consider recommendations Monday for criteria to be used in the determination of which scholarships are competitive academic scholarships.

Texas' tuition increase bill allows "a student who holds a competitive academic scholarship of at least \$200 for the academic year or summer for which the student is enrolled and who is . . . a nonresident . . . is entitled to pay the fees and charges required of Texas residents . . ."

Guidelines submitted for Senate approval are:

A sufficient number of applicants, including Texas residents are considered for the award.

Promotion of academic excellence is the primary consideration in awarding the scholarship.

Selections made are forwarded the scholarship committee for approval of the waiver.

And, international student recipients must not have entered a Texas college or university prior to June 19, 1975.

Former A&M student to be in District 1 runoff

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The nationally watched election in Texas' 1st Congressional District will be settled Aug. 3, when a runoff election is scheduled between Republican Edd Hargett and Democrat Jim Chapman.

Hargett, 37, was the starting quarterback for Texas A&M in the 1968 Cotton Bowl. He has also been a professional football player and is currently an electrical engineer.

Hargett is making his first bid for

office. He said Saturday's election results met all his expectations.

"I had two goals," Hargett said. "One was to win by 10 percent, and the other was to get over 40 percent (total vote). And we accomplished both of them."

State officials Tuesday certified a canvass of the election, showing Hargett the winner with 42.01 percent, 29,720 votes. Chapman finished second with 30.2 percent, 21,382.

The election is being held to re-

place Democrat Sam B. Hall, who resigned his seat in the U.S. House to become a federal judge.

The race has drawn considerable attention as the national political parties have watched it for indications of public sentiment and trends.

Chapman, 40, a former Hopkins County district attorney from Sulphur Springs, pointed out that he faced five other Democratic candidates while Hargett was the only Republican running.

"If a candidate can only get 41 percent of the vote and outspend the other candidates 2-to-1, that indicates Texas is still Democratic country," Chapman said.

Gov. White agreed, pointing to the large amounts of money the GOP has spent on Hargett's race.

"In spite of all the money they could pump in from the North and all the Republican areas, there was a very strong Democratic turnout," White said.

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Coming to the second session of Summer School? OPTIONAL MEAL PLANS ALL students may dine on a meal in the Commons Dining Center from July 11 until August 16. We offer 3 plans: 7 day - 3 meals a day, except Sunday evening - \$227.00 plus tax 5 day - 3 meals a day Monday through Friday - \$210.00 plus tax Any 12 - Choice of 12 of 20 meals served during week - \$204.00 plus tax Indicate your choice of plans during registration on July 11. Aggie Point Accounts are active during the entire year, so you may either open an account or add to your account at any time at Validation Center, Sbisas Basement. You Get More for Your Money When You Dine on Campus

MSC GROVE 85 At-A-Glance July 3-9 "Who's Killing the Great Chefs of Europe" wed "City Heat" Thu "Betty Boop Festival" fri "Bridge on the River Kwai" sat sun mon tue A&M Students with I.D. ....1.00 Non-Students .....1.50 Children (7-12) .....1.25 Children (6 and under) ....FREE SESSION PASS .....12.00 SUMMER PASS .....20.00 Showtime .....8:45pm Gate Opens .....8:00pm