

# Interest in Latin growing at A&M

## Studying classical languages part of new national trend

University News Service

Superabundant," said a Texas student, speaking Latin to his mates: "I will overcome." The students were not thinking of next year's warfare on the ball field. They were doing bat-stead with a list of Latin conjunctions and declensions and mentioning phrases such as "Cogitabo de deosopy," or "I will think about deosopy."

More A&M students than ever are signing up to study Latin, to the surprise and delight of University officials who were unfortunately forced to turn away dozens of students last year when the classes filled to capacity. Daniel Fallon, dean of the col-

lege, said Latin has become one of the most popular subjects offered in the College of Liberal Arts. He said so many students were unable to enroll in an introductory course last fall that college officials are now offering the class for the first time in the spring.

Fallon said the new zeal for Latin is part of a growing nationwide interest in classical languages among University students, as well as a reflection of the burgeoning numbers of liberal arts majors at A&M. Among entering freshmen, liberal arts majors increased by 33 percent from the Fall 1984 to Fall 1985.

"People are beginning to realize you can study liberal arts at Texas A&M, and the liberal arts (pro-

grams) are strong," he said. "The word is getting out."

Dr. Craig Kallendorf, an assistant professor of English who teaches several of the Latin classes, said many of the students signed up for the practical help Latin could offer them in fields such as medicine, nautical archeology and theology. Others are English majors seeking to improve their understanding of word origins and usage.

And still others enrolled for pure enjoyment.

For Holly McGuire, a graduating senior from Dallas majoring in English and Spanish, it was her last chance to study something she never had the time for until now.

"I always wanted to," she said.

"It's kind of important — it's basic to a lot of things."

Interest in classical languages has expanded to include Greek. Although the University offers no classes in Greek, Kallendorf said a number of students are so eager to get started that he formed an independent study group for them.

"What's taken place is a diversity among our students," he said. "They've become more sophisticated and cosmopolitan. You can't do any serious work in the arts, history or philosophy of English literature without bumping into classical studies. As more of our students go into liberal arts areas, we have more people who find that out."

# Court reverses lie detector ruling

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A state appeals court Wednesday rejected the argument that a lie detector policy adopted by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation is invalid because it violated employees' common law rights of privacy.

The 3rd Court of Appeals, however, sent the case back to the Austin trial court to determine whether the regulations are invalid on other grounds.

The Texas Civil Liberties Union claimed "at least a partial victory" in its efforts to ban polygraph testing by state employees but indicated the TCLU would appeal the court's ruling to the Supreme Court.

Justice John Powers' majority opinion in the court of appeals said

it may not be reasonable "to order an employee at an agency institution to surrender his privacy in favor of the public interest when a single empty beer can is inexplicably found at a place frequented by employees during working hours."

"On the other hand," Powers' opinion said, "it may be reasonable to require all such employees to yield their privacy interests in favor of a greater state interest when a series of unresolved murders in an institution has created panic that must be allayed quickly if order is to be maintained, safety is to be secured, patient care is to be continued and public confidence is not to be undermined."

The mental health department enacted regulations providing that its employees, under certain condi-

tions, may be required to submit to a polygraph examination in the course of an agency investigation of alleged employee misconduct.

The regulations also provide that an employee may be dismissed if he or she refuses to submit to such an examination, or refuses to answer certain questions related to the employees' official duties.

Powers said the regulations "are not invalid on the grounds they purport to authorize unreasonable conditions of state employment by permitting invasions of employee privacy in contravention of the common law of the state."

"We therefore reverse the judgment of the trial court declaring the regulations invalid on these grounds," he said.

# Border relief cut off; volunteers still work

Associated Press

HARLINGEN — An organization that distributed food to impoverished border residents has decided to cease operations, but a former director says he will continue the work started by a man who dedicated his life to helping the poor along the Rio Grande.

Frank Ferree, who in 1956 started the non-profit Volunteer Border Relief to deliver food and medicine to the poor along the U.S. — Mexico border, died in 1983, but five Mexi-

can volunteers have continued his work.

Agency directors this week decided to discontinue the operation after program coordinator Robert Schofield resigned earlier this month.

Schofield, saying he couldn't work with rules proposed by the new board, resigned Feb. 7. But he said he and another worker would resume weekly food distribution trips to Mexico later this year.

Before his death, Ferree and a group of volunteers went to grocery stores, bakeries and homes to collect food, clothes and medical supplies to take to the Mexican border cities of Reynosa and Matamoros twice each week.

When agency directors told Schofield that he would have to fire a paid worker and work with the volunteers, he resigned, leaving behind an offer of \$3,000 and a van to continue operations.

# Michener, 79, recuperating after operation

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Author James Michener, whose most recent bestseller is the novel "Texas," recuperating in stable condition Wednesday at Seton Medical Center after undergoing a heart bypass operation.

Hospital spokeswoman Linda Farland said Michener, 79, author of more than 30 books, was hospitalized Saturday after complaining of chest pains.

The said doctors performed surgery Sunday to by-pass five blocked arteries.

He did not have a heart attack, Farland said. "They did get some blockages, and the doctors decided now was as good a time as any to perform the bypass surgery."

Surgeons encountered no complications during the operation, she said.

Michener was resting comfortably Wednesday and was scheduled to be transferred out of the hospital's intensive care unit.

John Kings, an associate of Michener's, said the author had a history of heart problems and suffered a heart attack about three years ago.

# What's up

Thursday

**ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STUDENTS:** will be having a Caribbean festival at Rudder Fountain on Parent's Weekend — but we need your help. Do you have any musical or dancing ability? If so please call Karen, 260-5381.

**STUDENT ART FILM SOCIETY:** will show the film "Lolita" at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Soil and Crop Sciences and Entomology Bldg. New members welcomed. For more information call Mary, 260-0827.

**MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE:** will show "The Day of the Dolphin" at 7:30 p.m. and 9:50 p.m. in 601 Rudder. Tickets are \$1.50.

**DATA PROCESSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION:** will hold a general business meeting at 7 p.m. in 130 Blocker.

**ATARI USER GROUP:** will hold an organizational meeting for all interested Atari computer owners at 7:30 p.m. in 101 Teague Bldg. For more information call Bill, 845-4054.

**MSC HOSPITALITY/MISS TAMU SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT:** will hold a contestant fashion show at 12:30 p.m. in the MSC lounge.

**SNEAD TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR/CIVIL ENGINEERING:** James E. Morehouse, Vice-President of A.T. Kearny, Inc., will present a talk on international logistics at 2 p.m. in 503 Blocker.

**GREENPEACE COALITION:** will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. in 504 Rudder. For more information call Krista, 696-7873.

**SIGMA DELTA PI:** will show Antonio Saura's video, "Carmen." For more information call Alexander, 764-6829.

**TAMU FENCING CLUB:** will hold a meeting followed by practice at 7 p.m. in 267 East Kyle.

**CORPUS CHRISTI HOMETOWN CLUB:** will hold a meeting to make final plans for the Somerville trip at 8:30 p.m. in 401 Rudder. For more information call Dwain, 260-2139.

**ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT PLANNERS:** will sponsor a lecture by Gail McMillan, Community Development Coordinator for Bryan, at 8:30 p.m. in 205 Architecture Bldg. "C." For more information call 845-8756.

**TEXAS A&M EMERGENCY CARE TEAM:** will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder. For more information call 845-4321.

Friday

**GRADUATE STUDENT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:** will hold a bible study on the book of Haggai at 8 a.m. in the Mediation Room of the All Faith's Chapel. For more information call Steve, 845-4032.

**UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY:** will hold a Bible study at 6:15 p.m. in Mike's office at the A&M Presbyterian Church. For more information call Mike, 846-1221.

**CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST:** will hold a weekly meeting at 7 p.m. in 108 Harrington.

**TAMU CHESS CLUB:** will continue its chess tournament at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder. For more information call Luis, 846-5903.

**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS:** will hold a screening Friday and Saturday for contestants in the "Battle of the D.J.'s" contest in Rudder (check monitors for other information). Deadline for registration is Friday. For more information call 260-4270 or 260-0021.

# Illiterate adults learning to read with help of newspapers

Associated Press

HUFFKIN — For illiterate adults being taught to read by Dr. Maryjane Cable, "See Run" could mean that Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill had changed his mind and is seeking re-election to the House of Representatives.

The new method being used at the Center for Adult Learning Center, student teacher alternate pronouncing words typed in the paper, the student reading the paper as needed.

"That is what is totally unique as far as I know," Cable said. "Most of the programs

will train an adult to read only in the materials that are available at that center. But if you look around at what the readers are reading, they are reading newspapers, magazines and books."

A 320-page guide, "The Reading Handbook," compiled by Cable last year, contains 100 lessons that begin with simple words such as "I," "a" and "an" and progresses to difficult but practical vocabulary, according to Cable, such as "socioeconomic," "polyunsaturated," "radioactivity" and "electroencephalograph."

"The words that I chose were words I felt would be useful to know."

Cable said there is yet another characteristic that distinguishes her technique from others.

"I teach the reading of a letter according

to mouth position and sound production," she said. "It eliminates a lot of problems."

Take the word "sat," for example. Cable begins by instructing the student to place his tongue behind his teeth and make a hissing noise by blowing air through them. Next, she describes how to make a throaty, short "a" sound and finishes by demonstrating a "t," produced by flipping the tongue off the palate behind the teeth.

"Now say it like a word," she prompts the student, and praises him if the word is correctly pronounced.

"All the way along the line the student is encouraged and complimented," Cable said. "It is essential."

Bob Quillin, director of the center, called Cable's work with his students a "godsend."

"I was jumping up and down on the telephone," he said about Cable's offer to employ her method at the learning center, begun last December. "We are just getting started with it but this is going to make a significant impact on our being able to reach the people that need help so desperately."

Having had experience in teaching adult illiterates himself, Quillin said they are difficult to reach.

"Their self-image and their expectations are low," he said. Both he and Cable agreed that their satisfaction comes when the student undergoes a personality change and begins to gain confidence in himself.

"It really is a kind of high, I guess you would say," Quillin said. "Most of the tea-

chers are here for the feeling of seeing the students blossom."

Cable said it took about a year to complete "The Reading Handbook," written after a study of adult illiteracy and available teaching materials revealed no "how-to" books were available to teach reading to this growing population.

"I kept thinking in the back of my mind that I wanted to write a book that would explain everything," Cable said. "I thought, 'Somebody ought to tell them how to figure out the perceived reading needs of an adult.'"

"It tells how to prepare yourself for teaching, how to locate the student, how to interview them, and address the student's needs."

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Photos will be taken until February 21 at Yearbook Associate's studio, above Campus Photo Center at Northgate.  
Office hours 8:30-12:00, 1:00-4:30

No pictures will be taken at the Pavilion this year