

Jack



by R. DeLuna

Hybrid bees brought to A&M

By Don White
THE BATTALION

The hybrid bees responsible for the death of a south Texas woman have been brought to Texas A&M to be tested and researched. Officials said the bees should not pose any threat to A&M or the surrounding areas.

In May, a 36-year-old El Campo woman received more than 250 stings from hybrid bees. The bees responsible were crosses between the aggressive Africanized "killer" honey bees and the gentler European honey bees. The bees originated from two colonies near the woman's house and had resided there for over a year.

Paul Jackson, chief inspector for the Texas Apiary Inspection Service, said this is not the first death from hybrid killer bees and that many of them could have been prevented.

"It's unfortunate this happened," he said. "The colonies were established and could have been removed."

Knowing what to look for and where to look is the best way to avoid being stung, he said.

"In the spring, bees swarm into large, basket-sized swarms," he said. "In June, that swarming stops for most bees, but African bees begin a second swarming season called absconding."

During this period, the large swarm splits into smaller, softball-sized swarms.

"If you see a small swarm like this between

summer and the following spring, it will Africanized honey bees," he said.

Jackson said you can often find bees in or on the ground, such as in water meters or utility mobile homes.

Africanized honey bees were accidentally released in the western hemisphere in 1957, Brazil. They attained their reputation as "killer" bees since they defend their colonies much more aggressively than domesticated European honey bees. African bees do not seek out victims, but they do respond fiercely when their nests are disturbed.

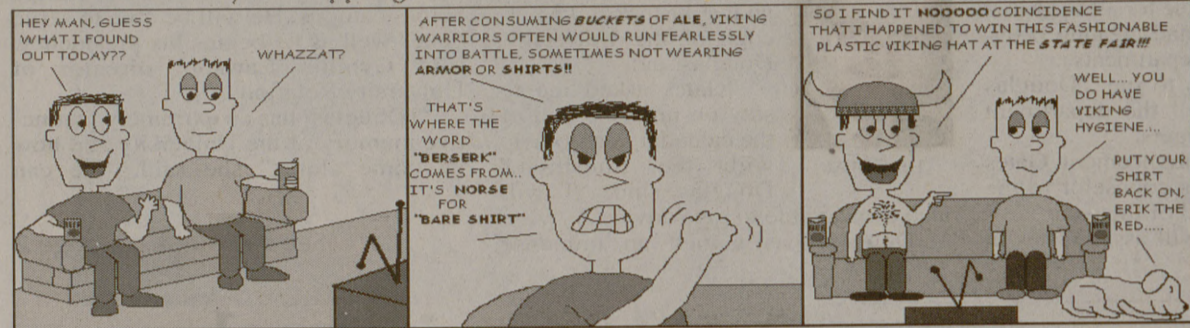
Once released, the African bees spread northward through Central America and Mexico. The first colony in the United States was reported in south Texas near Hidalgo in 1990. The bees arrived in Brazos County in 2001.

Although bees can live in the A&M area, it is not the best honey producer in the region, therefore has fewer bees, Jackson said.

"More rainfall usually means better honey production," he said. "Although we receive good rainfall, this area won't see as many bees as an area like Houston or Beaumont."

Since the bees first arrived in Texas, state officials have required quarantines in counties that showed the presence of killer bees. This quarantine was aimed at limiting the contact between Africanized honey bees and European honey bees. Brazos County has been in the quarantine since the bees' arrival in 2001.

Beernuts by Rob Appling



the Wuss Cookie by Adrian



Cotton

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Cotton has become the most honored faculty member in the history of A&M based on the number of prestigious national and international awards he has received.

Cotton said it is up to others to determine if that statement is true.

Cotton has won the National Medal of

Science, the Priestly Award of the American Chemical Society and the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Chemists to name a few.

In 2000, Cotton won the Wolf Prize, an international prize given in various fields that is viewed as approaching the stature of the Nobel Prize. The Wolf Prize jury called Cotton "the preminent inorganic chemist in the world."

Cotton earned his doctorate from Harvard and has taught at Massachusetts Institute of

Technology where, in 1961, he became the youngest professor to attain the rank of full professor at age 31.

He was also elected to be a member of the National Academy of Sciences at age 37.

His work has impacted various fields including biochemistry, molecular biology, and chemical engineering.

Cotton said his greatest feeling of accomplishment from his research is knowing he has discovered compounds nobody knew existed.

Summer

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for graduation.

Freshman enrollment increased to 533 compared to 445 last year, sophomore enrollment decreased from 1,460 to 1,437, junior enrollment increased from 3,990 to 4,201 and the senior enrollment increased from 5,848 to 6,051.

"Upperclassmen are more directed in their studies because they know what classes are necessary to complete their degrees, whereas many underclassmen are undecided in their pursuits," said Katie Rogers, a senior community health major.

Roy Mitchell, a senior adviser in the College of Liberal Arts, said he does not particularly emphasize that students should take summer school. He encourages students to make their own decisions regarding degree work and summer school, but also advises them in the process.

"A lot of students are taking summer school simply to get done faster," Mitchell said.

Many seniors agree the reason for their summer enrollment as upperclassmen is due to their intentions of finishing their required curriculum work.

"I'm just trying to graduate," said fifth-year senior Spanish major Adam Wells.

It is Wells' first time to take summer school, and he aims to complete a few courses in order to

lighten his course load in the fall. The appeal of summer school to Wells is that classes are every day and frequent testing allows for greater retention of classroom information.

Similarly, Rogers said she just wants to get her last six hours completed so she can begin internship work.

"(Summer school) is more relaxed, has smaller class sizes and it's quick," said Rogers.

The consensus among some undergraduate students included no consideration of the cost of summer school, increased course offerings, or that they had been encouraged to take classes in the summer.

Gerald Wertz, a sixth-year senior psychology major, sees no great financial advantage to sum-

mer school.

"It's not cheaper collectively. The fees are proportional to the hours, so I pay the same amount regardless of when I take classes," Wertz said.

The \$1,000 Tuition Rebate program is designed to provide tuition rebates as a financial incentive for students to complete their undergraduate degree in four years with as few courses outside of the degree plan as possible.

According to Estrada, the likelihood of this program contributing to the enrollment increase is

Estrada does not anticipate the Summer 2002 enrollment to increase dramatically; however, usually more enroll than are expected, he said.

Provost

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greatly assist Dr. Gates as he comes up to speed and learns about the University and understands the inner workings of the faculty and staff."

Douglas said Gates will be able to appoint an interim administrator within the next six weeks and a national search committee will work to find a new provost on the recommendations of Gates.

Douglas will not assist Gates in appointing a new provost nor will he make any

recommendations. He said he has not spoken with Gates and does not know of any candidates for the position.

Douglas began his academic career as a professor in mathematics and plans to return to teaching and studying mathematics after his service as counselor to Gates.

Before beginning his service as provost in 1996, he served five years as the vice provost for undergraduate studies at State University of New York at Stony Brook and five years as dean of the Division of Physical Science and Mathematics.

Douglas has received many

awards and served on many committees associated with science and education policy at the National Science Foundation, the National Research Council, the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America.

Douglas has high hopes that Gates will recommend a development leave after this year so he can spend time learning and coming up to speed with new issues in mathematics, he said. His development leave must be approved by the Board of Regents.

He will then return to A&M to teach in Jan. 2004.

Resolution

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memorial underway.

"We are about to reconstitute the Bonfire Memorial Committee to be more focused on the project," Southerland said.

Southerland also said the memorial designers will take more time to meet with several people before the building can start and a definite price can be set.

"The selected designers will work with the families and students," Southerland said. "There's still a lot more to do.

They just presented a concept. It is much more complicated to reach an exact price."

There was no impact from the short delay, Southerland said. The definite plans on the memorial, including a timeline and price, will be in place by fall.

The original estimated price the design team quoted was between \$4 million and \$7 million.

"The cost is under discussion," Southerland said. "A lot of thought is being given to it and we should have a definite price and plan between now and September."

The Bonfire Memorial was

designed by Robert Shemwell, Class of 1982. Overland, Inc., along with members Jeff Russel, Jones, Michael Rey, Steve and Elizabeth Day.

The memorial, which will be built on the Polo Fields with Bonfire once burned, consists of 12 bronze-lined gates constructed by 27 panels to symbolize 12 students killed and the injured when Bonfire fell.

Each gate will be positioned towards the hometown of a victim.

A walkway leading to the memorial will consist of large granite stones, representing each year Bonfire was

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