One of the remarkable things about the staff and students in Recreation and Parks at Texas A&M is their desire to innovate and develop new programs. One such desire was expressed in the wish for a major publication to record the highlights of each school year and its accomplishments.

It is a pleasure to present to you here the first in a series of Annals prepared by the students and staff of the department for your enjoyment and information. Naturally, not all the activities and programs can be reported in so brief an annual report to our friends, former students and graduates. But we sincerely hope these activity highlights and program achievements will prove both interesting reading as well as guidelines to future activities.

Signed

Leslie M. Reid
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In Memoriam

This first Annual of the Department of Recreation and Parks is dedicated to the memory of William Vernon Stell, Master’s student in the Department, who died suddenly May 14, 1971. At the time of his death, Bill was employed in the office of the regional director of the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in Atlanta, Georgia. He had moved to that position after an outstanding success as director of the Clark County Recreation and Parks Department in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

A 1967 B.S. graduate in Horticulture from Texas A&M, Bill had finished all course work for an M.S. degree in Recreation and Resources Development and was registered in absentia. He had planned to return to the campus in August for completion of his thesis. Bill is survived by his wife, Joyce and a baby daughter, Jennifer Lynn.

Friendliness, cheerfulness and enthusiasm were Bill’s trademarks. A “people” kind of person, he was always willing to lend a hand and was active in all Departmental activities. In an extremely short time after leaving Texas A&M, Bill had made a great many friends and impressed colleagues with his high motivation, unquenchable optimism and tireless enthusiasm. In recognition of the high esteem in which Bill was held, the city of Arkadelphia has designated one of the city parks on the Ouachita River, as the William V. Stell Memorial Park. It has also been announced that when the DeGray Reservoir is completed near Arkadelphia, the Corps of Engineers will name the lodge at the new state park the William V. Stell State Park Lodge.

In addition, the Department of Recreation and Parks has officially created the William V. Stell Memorial Fellowship, which will be awarded each year to an entering Master’s degree candidate. The fellowship, based on selection by a departmental faculty committee, will include a cash award of $200 plus the waiver of tuition fees for out-of-state students, a total value of $1000. These recognitions help show appreciation for Bill’s many contributions, but the model carried in the hearts of those who knew and worked with him is the most meaningful and lasting memorial.
FROM THE DEAN

As the department of Recreation and Parks completes its sixth year of operations, it is an appropriate time to look both backwards and to the future.

In the early 1960’s, in response to a growing awareness of the importance of need for a quality environment for parks, recreation areas and open space, we became convinced that Texas A&M University had an opportunity to initiate a new program. The initial program structure was developed by an Ad Hoc committee established by the Dean’s Office. Subsequent approval of this program proposal by the Texas Commission on Higher Education resulted in a formal beginning of departmental activities in January 1966, staffed by a newly employed department head and one secretary.

Response to the program has been amazing from its inception. Number of faculty, department budgets, and student enrollment have increased seven times since 1966.

Today, Texas A&M’s Recreation and Parks program is widely known and regarded as one of the leading quality programs in the United States. Graduates now number over one hundred, with from 40-50 students receiving degrees each year.

Graduate instruction deserves special mention. Students with the Ph.D. degree in Recreation and Resources Development are in such a high demand for teaching and research that six of the seven Ph.D.’s who have graduated now have university appointments, and 14 others, who have not yet completed the doctorate, also have fulltime university teaching positions.

This department has made a significant contribution by initiating a professional Master’s (of Agriculture) degree. This degree was developed in recognition of the fact that career aspirations of some graduates centers on professional employment in natural resource management agencies, rather than on a research career. The professional degree emphasis permits concentration on course work, individual study, and a professional internship that is highly relevant to the student’s professional aspirations. A measure of the success of this program is the rapidity with which the first five graduates have been employed upon graduation, as well as their initial salary level.

Recreation and Parks is one of our most interdisciplinary programs. This relates well to the current trend toward broad multi-disciplinary and mission-oriented team approaches. I like to think of this department as the spear-point of the College of Agriculture’s new thrust in relevant social science programs.

In looking to the future, great opportunities are seen for Recreation and Parks. It appears certain that state and national concerns involving environmental quality, resource development, and land use planning for recreation will receive increasing attention. We believe that students will continue to enroll in the department as it is a focus for land and water development programs for leisure activities. As such, still greater innovation may be desirable and even necessary in the future to ensure that adequate program changes are made to maintain a high order of success in effectively meeting the needs of tomorrow’s student.
FACULTY AND STAFF

DR. LESLIE M. REID
Professor and Head
B.S., Michigan Tech U.
M.S., Michigan State U.
Ph.D., U. of Michigan

DR. CLARE A. GUNN
Professor
B.S., M.S., Michigan State University
Ph.D., U. of Michigan

DR. FRANK W. SUGGITT
Professor
B.S., Michigan State U.
M.P.A., Harvard University
D.P.A., Littauer School, Harvard
DR. RICHARD L. BURY
Associate Professor
B.S., Purdue U.
M.S., Yale U.
Ph.D., U. of Connecticut

DR. CARLTON S. VAN DOREN
Associate Professor
A.B., A.M., U of Illinois
Ph.D., Michigan State U.

DR. MARION L. CLARKE
Assistant Professor
B.A., Morningside (Ia.) Col.
M.A., U. of South Dakota
Ph.D., Texas A&M U.

DR. LOUIS HODGES
Assistant Professor
B.A., Rice University
Ph.D., Texas A&M U.

B. DAN KAMP
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist
B.S., M.S., Texas Tech U.
DR. BILLIE E. INGRAM
Assistant Professor
B.A., William Carey Col.
M.A., Ph.D., Texas Women’s University
(Resigned during 1971)

ROBERT E. COUCH
Instructor
B.S., Southwest Texas State
M.A., Colorado State U.
(Resigned during 1971)

BEN D. MAHAFEEY
Research Associate
A.A., Casper College
B.S., Colorado State U.
M.S., Texas A&M U.

MISS LUCIA RAE JUENGER
Lecturer
A.A., Belleville (Ill.) Jr. Col.
B.S., Southern Illinois U.

LEMUEL E. (LON) GARRISON
National Park Service
Visiting Professor
B.A., Stanford University
Texas Agricultural Extension Service

JACK L. JONES
Extension Specialist
B.S., Texas A&M U.

JAMES E. STRIBLING
Extension Specialist
B.S., Oklahoma State U.
M.S., Texas A&M U.

CARSON E. WATT
Extension Area Specialist
B.S., Texas Tech U.
M.S., Texas A&M U.
Our department is graced by the lovely and efficient secretaries pictured above. They are left to right (front row) Francis Little, Carolle Kolle, Carol McDougah, and (back row) Alice Hale, Gail Evans, Donna Pearson, Helen Stephens, Sharon Phillips and Janicee Algermissen.

Lois Beach and Ziza Schofield provide editorial and art assistance to the Department.
LOUIS HODGES, assistant professor in the Department of Recreation and Parks, received his Ph.D. degree in Recreation and Resources Development in December. Dr. Hodges received his B.A. in anthropology and biology from Rice University in Houston. He served as a graduate fellow, instructor and research associate in the department before being named assistant professor in the fall of 1971. He lives in College Station.

LEROY SHILLING was awarded a Ph.D. degree in Recreation and Resources Development in December. He studied at Louisiana State University where he received his B.S. and M.S. degrees, both in forestry. Leroi left Texas A&M in October for his new position as assistant professor in the Department of Forestry at the University of Kentucky. Leroi, and his wife Janis, and their three children, Adam, Kent, and Amy, live in Lexington, Kentucky.
MICHAEL COWART received his Master of Science degree in Recreation and Resources Development at August graduation. Mike, a B.S. graduate of Texas Tech University did his thesis research on "Recreational Boating in North Central Texas." Mike and his wife have moved to Arkadelphia, Arkansas, where he is director of Parks and Recreation for Clark County.

In August, JOHN WEAKLEY, a native of Canada, was awarded a Master of Science degree in Recreation and Resources Development. John received his B.S. degree in Recreation and Park Administration from the University of Illinois. John is now living in Mississauga, Ontario where he is a park planner for the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

A Master of Agriculture degree in Recreation and Resources Development was awarded in December to BILLIE DANIELS. He holds a B.S. degree in Park Administration from Texas Tech University. Bill is now employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as an Outdoor Recreation Planner. He and his wife, Ellen, live in Fort Worth.

TERRANCE COLGAN received his Master of Agriculture degree in Recreation and Resources Development in December. He earned his B.S. degree in Conservation from Kansas State University, Manhattan Kansas. Terry is to report for Army duty at Ft. Sam Houston. His wife, Andrea, will accompany him.
B.S. - MAY, 1971

EVA LOUISE ZWEIFEL
Bryan, Texas
R&P Society
Student Liaison Committee
Department Technical Assistant

BILL COOK
Van, Texas
R&P Society
Wildlife Biology Society
Student Liaison Committee
Distinguished Student

CLAUDIEN RENNER GLOVER
Houston, Texas
R&P Society
ASLA Student Chapter
Distinguished Student

GREGORY ALLEN HALE
Houston, Texas
Corps of Cadets
Freshman and Sophomore
Honor, Cadet Officer

TOMMIE HALFMANN
Rowena, Texas
R&P Society
Tryell of Leggett Hall
Intramural Sports

EDWARD R. JAMESON, JR.
Mansfield, Massachusetts
R&P Society
Hart Hall President
Civilian Student Council

DAVID L. KOCH
Uvalde, Texas
Phi Theta Kappa, Honor Society
R&P Society

DAVID MEL RAPP
Minneola, Texas
R&P Society—Reporter
Ag Council Representative
Distinguished Student
REMERT ZELL STEVENS
Longview, Texas
R&P Society
Distinguished Student

IVAN DEAN WELKER
Brownsville, Texas
R&P Society
Student Representative,
Dormitory Council

JIM EDWARD WIESE
De Soto, Texas
R&P Society
Distinguished Student

RUSSELL WRIGHT
Silsbee, Texas
R&P Society
Department Liaison Committee

B.S. - AUGUST, 1971

JOSEPH CLEVELAND BRUSSE III
College Station, Texas
R&P Society

TIMOTHY HENRY HUSER
Kerville, Texas
R&P Society
National Wildlife Society

GARLAND RAY SLIDER
Brownwood, Texas
TAMU Singing Cadets
This is where it all begins -- home of the Recreation and Parks Department, Texas A&M University -- the old "Horse Barn" which is our headquarters.

A display in the hall of the building depicts the four specializations available to R&P majors.
Recreation and Parks Society

In December the Recreation and Parks Society chose Susan Wittens, a senior R&P major, as their club sweetheart. Susan is pictured above, just after her election, with Dale Bransford, Society president.

A very active Recreation and Parks Society schedules activities throughout the year. Officers of the Society for the 1971-72 school year, pictured above are: (Front row, l to r) Carol Lively, secretary; Dr. Marion Clarke, sponsor; Dale Bransford, president; and (back row, l to r) Gerald Coffey, vice-president; Ray Sarno, social chairman; Robert Starnes, Ag. Council representative; Mike Erwin, reporter; and Ned Ochs, treasurer.

GRADUATE WIVES CLUB
President--Mrs. Curt Shirer
Vice-Pres.--Mrs. Max Miller
Secretary--Mrs. Mike Berger
Coordinating Board Rep.--Mrs. Glenn Kreeg
Sponsors--Mrs. Clare A. Gunn
Mrs. Frank Buggitt

UNDERGRADUATE WIVES CLUB
President--Mrs. Jess Ramsey
Vice-Pres.--Mrs. Bob Mclothlin
Sec.-Treas.--Mrs. John Moran
Sponsor--Mrs. Carlton Van Doren
An important part of the Department is the Student Liaison Committee which meets regularly with Dr. Leslie Reid, department head, to make suggestions and provide him with feedback from the students concerning departmental activities. Dr. Reid, in turn, can utilize the committee to get information back to the students on courses, curricula or general University changes. Serving on the committee for this academic year are: (l to r) Mike Heit, Ph.D. student; Sam Sitton, sophomore; Henry Wittner, senior; Jo Ann Mikeska, freshman; Bob McGlothlin, senior; Ray Sarno, junior; Wayne Hooper, sophomore; Mike Pattillo, junior; Joan Osterman, junior; Carol Lively, senior; and Tom Bidart, freshman.

Dr. Richard Potts, associate dean, College of Agriculture, always enjoys a visit with students. He is pictured with Robert Starnes and Dale Bransford, R&P Department representatives to the Student Agricultural Council.
Silver Chaparral

"THE SILVER CHAPARRAL" is awarded each semester by Dr. Leslie Reid, department head, to the graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding qualities and dedication to recreation and parks. Attributes of the "total person" are considered when making the award -- personality, enthusiasm, dependability, commitment, scholarship and total contribution to the programs of the Department.

Two outstanding graduates received the award during 1971. Eva Zweifel, named winner in May, has served the Department in a number of positions, working as a secretary and technical assistant while carrying a full course load. Her volunteer activities included service on the Departmental Liaison Committee and as a representative to several district and national R&P conferences. She was also a member of the National Student Recreation and Parks Society Board of Directors.

In May, Eva was granted an International Rotary Foundation Scholarship for graduate study at a European university. She will leave in the fall of 1972 for a year’s study in Paris. At present, Eva is working as a recreation research technician at the University of Quebec at Three Rivers, Canada.

James Ellis was presented with the Silver Chaparral by Dr. Reid at the end of the fall semester. Jim graduated "With Distinction" at December commencement exercises. He was a delegate to both the TRPS conference in Fort Worth and to the NRPA Congress in Philadelphia in 1970. During that year he also served as president of the TAMU Recreation and Parks Society and as a member of the Departmental Liaison Committee.

Jim is now Superintendent of Parks for the city of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was married in December, and he and Adria are living in Tuscaloosa.

Eva received her framed Silver Chaparral award from Dr. Reid at the Spring Barbeque in May.

Dr. Reid presented "The Silver Chaparral" to Jim at the December meeting of the R&P Society. The large award plaque which stands in the hall of the R&P building can be seen in the background.
1971 Bonfire

The Aggie Bonfire blazed high again in 1971 before the home game on Thanksgiving Day with T.U. (We were outscored).
Freshman Beverly Barnes got into the swing of things early when she was elected to represent her class in the University Student Senate.

Two TAMU seniors were elected officers in the Student Chapter, Texas Recreation and Parks Society in the fall. They are Robert Starnes, president, and Danny Siebeneicher, state secretary.

Pretty senior Sue Wittens was a finalist for Aggie Sweetheart during the fall semester. Sue is very active in all of the programs of the R&P Society.

Mike Waddle, senior, was elected national president of NRPA's Student Society at the Houston Congress in October.
Jimmy Dan Ferguson, Corps Adjutant and 1st. Sgt. of the Ross Volunteers, was also elected by the student body as head yell leader. This picture of Jim, a senior, was taken at the Rice game.

We couldn't catch them in their dress whites, but these three R&P juniors are members of the exclusive Ross Volunteers. They are (l to r) William Stuewe, James Oslick and Michael Pattillo.

Senior Wayne Edwards serves as Commanding Officer of Air Force Squadron 11 in the Corps. Wayne is also an RV. He is pictured above just before a pre-game passby.

R&P major John Dye is drum major of the Maroon Band section of the "Fightin' Texas Aggie Band". John, a junior, is also an RV.
Canoe Race

They're off!!!

Would you believe they are the winners?

Spring Barbeque

New officers of the R&P Society were in charge of the Spring Barbeque. (l to r) Dale Bransford, Ray Sarno, Mike Waddle, Gerald Coffey and Lewis Hiltzold are ready.

Dr. Reid and Dr. Clarke seem to approve!
Fishing Tournament

The fall fishing tournament and campout at Toledo Bend was a roaring success.

This is where we fished!

And this is what we caught!

(I to r) Joe Evridge, Paul Wojciechowski, Dale Watts, and Les Brusse, shown with part of the catch of bass, composed the two winning teams at the tournament. Bob McIsaac caught the biggest fish.
Open House

Friends and colleagues were guests of the R&P Department on April 30 for a well-attended Open House. Faculty and graduate students acted as guides through the building — regular classrooms were open, along with special displays portraying the growth of the Recreation and Parks at Texas A&M throughout the five years of its existence.

Eva Zweifel welcomes visitors in the entry hall.

Two visitors check the employment board.

Dean Lawrence C. Walker of the School of Forestry, Stephen F. Austin University, chats with Dr. Richard Potts, associate dean, TAMU School of Agriculture.
With great pleasure Dr. Reid presented a trophy to the 1971 Departmental golf champion, Jessie Ramsey.

"The Coke Room" — scene of deep concentration.

Secretaries Alice Hale and Helen Stephens in serious conference with graduate student Terry Colgan during decoration of the beautiful Christmas tree sent from Minnesota.

Wrangler Clarke takes time off from his duties as driver on the fall hayride to cook a hot dog.

Francis Little is decorated while she works on the tree.
From the Graduate Loft... By Sid Nolan

New faces and new furniture livened the atmosphere of the graduate student haunts in the departmental attic this September.

Returning to occupy new desks were 16 doctoral, and 11 masters hopefuls. Joining them were 17 new students—eight doctoral and nine masters—to bring the total in-residence population to 44. Seven students continued in absentia for a total active registration of 51.

Beside the usual coursework activities, 15 of the resident students have been assisting faculty in classes and research projects. Wide ranges of interest are reflected in the latter projects which include the evaluation of the recreational potential of the Texas coast under the A&M Sea Grant research program, the public land requirements of the Tennessee Colony Lake on the Trinity River under the auspices of the Corps of Engineers, and the Austin Natural Science Center. Also, grad students have been contributing to the development of the university recreation complex, the Texas reservoir data bank, the continuing recreation vehicle studies, and the departmental self-study.

Individual research underway has included the devising of a methodology for environmental evaluation of a tourism region, the measurement of attitudes toward wildlife among refuge users, and the construction of a test to measure consumer environmental orientation. A group of students have also been acting in a park-development consulting capacity for the city of Baytown, Texas.

Graduate student initiative has been instrumental in the planning of a special project to provide financial support to Navajo Indian students in the undergraduate program. This project is pending the confirmation of a source of funds.

Undergraduate classes directly involving graduate student input have been in the areas of community recreation, natural resource conservation, environmental interpretation, and park planning along with the general introductory course.

Off campus, student activity was focused on the National Recreation and Parks annual congress in Houston in October and the Recreation Management Institute at Grand Canyon National Park in November.

Meanwhile, the end of several years of activity in these and similar areas culminated when Leroy Shilling and Lou Hodges officially added the title of Doctor to their names, and when Terry Colgan and Bill Daniels received their masters in December.

And, the remaining students each hoped for a similar fate as the first semester drew to a close and "Big Swede," the graduate Christmas tree, spread its lone needle to add a spark of natural beauty to the loft.

Graduate students pose a problem for one of the visiting lecturers to the Department during a seminar.
FEATURES

The finishing touch was put on the old “Horse Barn” which houses the TAMU Recreation and Parks Department when one of the original stalls was set up in late spring. The rustic stall front, complete with iron bars and a wide door covers one wall to the entry hall. Behind it are displayed the story of “Garrigan’s Barn”, a picture of a beautiful horse, and old horse shoes and spurs, as well as the story of two famous Texas A&M mules who lived in the barn. A recorded message telling the history of the stall front is also included. Above, Eva Zweifel admires the completed project.
Spring Symposium

The Recreation and Parks Department's Spring Symposium brought four outstanding speakers to the campus to discuss "Creating Environments for Leisure Use."

Prof. Phillip H. Lewis, Jr., chairman of the Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Wisconsin, described his methodology and concepts of landscape evaluation in a talk titled "Environmental Growth Strategy for the 70's."

Dr. Roy Wolfe's topic was "Reversing the Friction of Distance in Long Distance Travel Modes." Dr. Wolfe was a researcher for the Ontario Department of Highways until 1969, when he became a member of the Department of Geography, York University, Toronto, Canada.

Dr. Jack Ellis also came to us from York University in Toronto where he is with the Department of Environmental Studies. Dr. Ellis spoke on "Recreation Planning and the Computer: Friend of Fee?"

Mr. Donald G. Brauer related the effectiveness of his unique professional "studio" approach in which his organization of engineers, planners and architects approach each project on a team basis. Mr. Brauer is president of Brauer and Associates, Inc., Eden Prairie, Wisconsin.
Visiting Lecturers

Madame F. Cribier, Ministry of Education, Paris, France, discussed “A Study of French Seaside Resort Towns” at a graduate seminar in late October. Madame Cribier has made a far-reaching study of French vacation habits. She has analyzed movements of Frenchmen as they originate in every part of the country, from the cities outward, and also from vacation areas to other parts of the country.

On March 9, Mr. Earl E. Gaylor, General Manager, Wheeling, West Virginia, Park Commission, came to the Department as a visiting lecturer. Mr. Gaylor, a recognized authority in park recreation administration, spoke on “Design and Organization of Park Facilities to Enhance Park Operations,” “Recreation Finance” and “The Wheeling Park Commission.”

A fall semester visiting lecturer to the Department was Dr. Rabel J. Burdige, associate professor of sociology at the University of Kentucky. He spoke to a graduate seminar on “Analysis of Substitutability of Leisure Activities in Capital Budgeting for Outdoor Recreation.” He also took over as editor of the “Journal of Leisure Research” from Dr. Carlton Van Doren.

Mr. Robert M. Howes came to the campus from the NRPA Congress in October to make two presentations. Mr. Howes is director of Land Between the Lakes, a national recreation area developed by the Tennessee Valley Authority. The theme of his talks centered on the objectives and challenges encountered in this unique recreation area.

Dr. Neil Cheek (left) and Mr. Hugh Beattie (right) were visiting lecturers in the R&P Department in early April. Dr. Cheek who is research sociologist for the National Park Service in Washington, met with a graduate-faculty seminar on socio-behavioral research methods. He also participated with Mr. Beattie in the RP 481 seminar on professional employment and training. Mr. Beattie, superintendent of Isle Royale National Park in Houghton, Michigan, met with several classes, and talked on “Management of an Island Paradise” to the student Recreation and Park Society in the evening.

Dr. H. Douglas Sessoms, chairman, Curriculum in Recreation Administration, University of North Carolina, visited the R&P Department in December. He met with several undergraduate classes and had a seminar with members of the faculty on innovative teaching methods and behavioral research.
This year's successful Recreation Management Institute was held November 15-19 at Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona.

Mr. James Krieger makes a point during the discussion on the Southwest Energy Study, while (l to r) Mr. Thomas Manyakya, Mr. David Monogye, Mr. Tom Sullivan and Dr. Frank Suggitt look on.

Mr. Robert Twiss in an after-session discussion with Dr. Carlton Van Doren and Dr. Frank Suggitt.

Institute Director Lon Garrison and Dr. Marion Clarke, Co-ordinator, present a certificate to Mr. Leroy Rowell at the completion of the Institute.
An important part of the R&P Department is "the bus", formally called "the mobile classroom". Owned by Dr. Frank Suggitt, the bus is loaned frequently for graduate and undergraduate field trips. In the spring, 10 seniors and 2 R&P professors utilized it for traveling, eating and sleeping on an 8-state, 2,400 mile RP 466 field trip. The 8-day journey gave them an opportunity to investigate city, state and national parks as well as private ventures. The students are pictured at left with Dr. Marion Clarke, (far left) and Dr. Richard Bury (front).

Dr. Carlton S. Van Doren, associate professor in the R&P Department, received the first annual Family Camping Federation Award for excellence in research related to family camping at the June FCF Congress in Chicago. Dr. Van Doren's award-winning paper was based on research done while he was a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of Geography at Michigan State University. It measured the attraction of Michigan State Parks and relates a "park attraction index" to visitation rates and to recreational travel throughout Michigan. In the picture at the left, Wilbur LaPage, Family Camping Federation research chairman, presents the award to Dr. Van Doren.
New Equipment

Sid Nolan and Curt Shirer, both Ph.D. students in the R&P Department, inspect the new Planvariograph which was purchased by the Department during the fall semester for use by faculty and graduate students. Manufactured in Vienna, Austria, this machine has the capability to enlarge or reduce maps, diagrams and illustrations and is very useful in recreation planning and research.

Ben Mahaffey (right), R&P instructor, explains the new portable videotape system which has been used extensively in the Department during the fall semester. One person can operate the machine which has instant replay capability. It has been utilized for lectures, demonstrations and field trips, especially in the interpretation classes. Many of the informative talks given during the Recreation Management Institute at Grand Canyon will be available to students and faculty through use of this new equipment.
6 Years of Growth
By Dr. Leslie M. Reid

As our first six years of activity as a new university department ends, I hardly know what things should be -- and can be -- mentioned that would have much meaning in our first Annual.

This young department has posted truly remarkable accomplishments in these first six years. The list of achievements is even more surprising in view of the fact that a recreation and parks program did not previously exist as part of a larger department structure.

Phenomenal growth has been one of the department's hallmarks thus far -- growth in student enrollment of roughly 50 per cent per year for the past three years. Explosive increases on this scale result in a doubling every second year.

But growth alone is an inadequate measure of Recreation and Parks. I believe program quality is a better yardstick of achievement. Quality is difficult to measure. Partly, it is reflected in the success of our graduates as they return to tell us of their activities. Quality education is also cited by entering students, who come from all over the United States and Canada, as the reason they selected this department. And finally, it is quality that is responsible for the respect which our faculty enjoys with educational colleagues and professionals in our field.

Improvement in quality is a difficult and never-ending concern. Fortunately, the administration at Texas A&M University has continuously provided maximum support for Recreation and Parks in terms of budget, faculty, and desired programs. Consequently, crucial attributes such as faculty positions, scholarships, graduate awards, etc. have paralleled overall growth.

Two elements make an outstanding university program and they are so closely inter-related that one cannot exist without the other. The first is an exceptional faculty. The teaching, research and extension faculty in Recreation and Parks is widely regarded as a most outstanding group. Our faculty represents eleven different disciplines, I take pride in being associated with this team of teachers -- and they are all teachers, each in his own way.

The second element is a body of students that is aggressively committed to preparing for a significant career contribution. Texas A&M has that kind of student. No assignment is too long or too tough, because he knows his teachers teach from experience and he is eager to absorb all he can. Neither element can prosper without the other. The faculty grows as it responds to superior students. And a great teacher helps good students become great graduates.

These six years have demonstrated that the experiment tried here has succeeded beyond all expectations. In a single department we have a group of teachers and researchers representing many disciplines -- all focused on recreation education and leisure concerns. But we are barely started.

Looking ahead, we must become even more responsive to changing needs. New courses are needed. New specializations are on the horizon. Challenging individualized study opportunities should be available to our advanced students. Better programs of public service must be designed in response to off-campus requests. Our research effort needs to focus on basic problem areas. And we must do a better job of sharing results of work done here with colleagues in other places.

Accomplishing all these things is no small task. But I have tremendous confidence in the group assembled here at Texas A&M. The dedication, the spirit -- the fun of doing -- is greater than I have ever experienced. Exceptional things must be in store for a "happy gang" such as this.
Sea Grant and Water Resources Research Efforts

By Dr. Clare A. Gunn

"Environmental Evaluation of a Seacoast for Tourism-Recreation Development" is the title of a Sea Grant supported research effort, partially completed in 1971. The purpose of this investigation is to devise an approach to regional design for tourism that is more closely related to both human behavior and resource characteristics than present methods. Included will be experiments with quantitative and computerized techniques in order to seek out faster and more insightful resource allocation.

As a base for such experiments, the work this year has accomplished three goals. First, using tourism functions (primarily from a human behavioral point of view) a typology was devised that links tourism-recreation activities with resource characteristics. This will be useful in identifying "touristic ecological zones" -- areas best able to support activities. Second, an approach for the extraction of pertinent local opinion concerning resource allocation for tourism was devised. This involves an element often omitted in planning -- local concepts of their own region by those who will be decision-makers for change. Their investigation and application of the elements of this overall model were applied to the Corpus Christi area.

Several graduate students are involved in this effort -- for their individual dissertation research, for project data-gathering and for classes. A related study, Recreation Vehicle Use of the Texas Gulf Coast, is now being summarized for publication.

"Cultural Benefits From Metropolitan River Recreation -- San Antonio Prototype" a Departmental research effort, is partially supported by The Texas Water Resources Institute. The objective is to generate urban river recreation development principles by examining the very successful San Antonio River Walk.

The research includes investigation of the environmental characteristics of the River Walk as well as study of the opinions and attitudes of those who own, manage and use it.

The results, based upon this research, show an overwhelming support and use of the River Walk. It is viewed as the primary focal point of the entire urban area -- for entertainment, pleasure, relaxation, and shopping. By turning this small segment of a river into such an asset the urban core has gained in status, contrary to the blight of most urban centers.

Two graduate students have utilized the research for their dissertations and one is developing a professional paper based upon the project. The study summarized other research in the area and a proposal to refine basic development principles has been made to the Institute.

What's Happening in Texas

By Frank W. Suggitt

If we listen to some, Doomsday is just around the corner, for we will have destroyed our habitat through a wide variety of environmental pollutants. Almost everyone is now an expert on pollution in one of the greatest outpourings of emotional concern in our history. Engineering projects which would scarcely have been questioned less than a decade ago are now ground to a halt by injunctions, class action suits and governmental orders. This is by no means unique to Texas, but perhaps it is more pronounced, considering the magnitude of the petroleum industry and the industrial development along major streams which flow into the Gulf of Mexico. What's happening in Texas is more so and faster than in most other states.

Population growth and its concentration around large urban centers is basic to what's happening in Texas and the United States, and its numerical growth during the decade of the Sixties surpassed by only two states. Eighty percent of the state's population is now urban, compared to 62 percent only 20 years ago.

To accommodate this urban growth requires the harnessing of rivers to provide a constant source of water and to reduce the threat of floods. This in turn has given rise to hundreds of reservoirs that now place Texas second among the states in the surface of acreage of water.

The storage capacity of Texas reservoirs has tripled since 1950, and is expected to double again before the year 2020. This will happen, unless those who are more concerned for a never-to-be-recaptured pre-settlement environment place that illusion ahead of the needs of the 11+ million people who reside in the state and the 15+ million out-of-state tourists who visit Texas each year.

Every concerned citizen is interested in the environmental impact of dams, reservoirs, impoundments, new highways, channel improvements and airports. Something is out of focus, however, when the only targets for the wrath of the environmental activists are projects of this type. Suburban sprawl is consuming far more acreage than are all the water development projects. Between 1960 and 1970, if 1,617,000 new residents of Texas settled on the land in a density comparable to that of the Houston SMSA (316 per square mile), they would require more than 5,100 square miles of previously rural land. Yet our 157 major reservoirs use about 3,500 square miles.

One of the encouraging things happening in Texas is the rapid growth and involvement of regional planning commissions or councils of government. A great deal of excellent planning research is being produced, and sizeable strides are
being taken toward regional development coordination.

However, to date, society has no control over the use of land in the unincorporated areas of Texas, other than the limited extraterritorial jurisdiction of those cities which wish to extend their zoning, subdivision control, and utility control beyond their city limits. Counties are next to powerless in guiding and directing urban and urban-like growth in rural areas.

One notable exception, Polk County, in deep East Texas, fronting on Lake Livingston, may set a pattern for new legislation and for other progressive counties to follow. This county has adopted the unit system for county road administration, it has employed a qualified county highway administrator, and it is embarking upon comprehensive planning (the first county in Texas to do so) in order to better employ the limited road dollars and to thus direct the pattern of future settlement through this elemental means. Polk County was among the first counties in the state to adopt subdivision control standards, which will be improved upon as part of the planning program. It is embarking upon the first county-wide solid waste collection and disposal program, and it was the second county in the state to create a county-wide housing authority. Through the Polk County Planning Committee, pressure has been applied to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to obtain the first state park on Lake Livingston, and continual effort has resulted in the Trinity River Authority's park program on the lake and has lead to a plan for regional sanitary waste collection and treatment.

Another outstanding exception to the void in local land use control is occurring in the Austin Area, where a newly dedicated, private, non-profit Institute for Advanced Environmental Studies is attempting to bridge the breach between government and private enterprise in a systematic, team approach to local and regional environmental enhancement.

Lakeway has made a donation of a site for an environmental quality monitoring laboratory, to be operated by the Institute, but to serve as a prototype for the LCRA and other agencies. The Institute is currently reviewing the land use development plans for the remaining 5,000 acres at Lakeway, and will test various alternatives on the scales of environmental impact and dollar returns to the owners.

In the case of Lakeway, cooperation will involve the Austin City Planning Department; it will involve the Capitol Area Planning Council embracing the 10 counties around Austin; the Lower Colorado River Authority's sanitary ordinance, and all the regulatory and funding agencies of state and federal government. The Institute, which covers the same 10 counties as the CAPCO, will function in a catalytic role to bring all on a voluntarily cooperative basis, and men and women of good will can make it happen.

Faculty Research Accomplishments of 1971
By Dr. Richard Bury

This past year we have been involved in a wide variety of research projects. Dr. Leslie M. Reid has served on the Committee on Water Quality Criteria of the National Academy of Science, which is preparing a Panel Report on Recreation and Aesthetics. His specific contributions have involved the relationships between water quality and recreation.

Dr. Clare Gunn is coordinating a departmental research effort to examine Cultural Benefits from Metropolitan River Recreation. The study uses the San Antonio River Walk as a prototype for urban river recreation development principles. Dr. Gunn is also engaged in a Sea Grant research study, Environmental Evaluation of a Seacoast for Tourism-Recreation Development. This study is producing a regional approach to tourism design that is more closely related to both human behavior and resource characteristics than present methods.

Dr. Frank Suggitt has completed several studies for the Corps of Engineers, including a preimpoundment study of the proposed Tennessee Colony Reservoir on the Trinity River, and studies of the environmental and community impact of the Lake Livingston, Toledo Bend, and Lake Conroe projects. Dr. Suggitt was chairman of one of five task forces examining the environmental impact of the proposed Millican and Navasota no. 2 Reservoirs. This research was concerned with the land use and recreation impact of the two reservoirs and the associated channel improvements on the Navasota River.

In the spring I completed the Thesaurus of Outdoor Recreation Terms, a compilation of approximately 2200 terms useful for indexing, storage, and retrieval of recreation literature. The Thesaurus was published by the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. I was also involved in research on the application of attitude scaling to estimation of the attitudes of forest landowners toward provision of recreation and forestry practices.

Dr. Carlson Van Doren has completed a pilot study of recreation boating behavior in North Central Texas, and has also completed a series of 120 SYMAPS (a computerized mapping process) showing origins of visitors to Arkansas State Parks. An additional SYMAP project was concluded in conjunction with Dr. Lou Hodges' study, "An Analysis of Patterns of Visitation to Recreation Centers in the City of Dallas, Texas." This study provided data on the service radius of recreation centers in the city, and has been used to select the location of several new centers.

Other faculty members have research in progress and expect to have results to publish during 1972.
Report on the "Journal of Leisure Research"
By Dr. Carlton S. Van Doren

In October, 1971, I turned over editorship of "The Journal of Leisure Research" to Dr. Rabel Burdge, associate professor in the Department of Sociology, University of Kentucky. As Editor the past 18 months, my major efforts have been getting the Journal back on schedule, and this was accomplished in the spring of 1971.

The Journal is still suffering from a manuscript gap, but the situation seems to be improving. One hundred twenty manuscripts were handled by me for the seven issues I edited. The acceptance/rejection ratio has been 50/50. Of the manuscripts that I handled, 19% were from Sociology Departments, 13% from Recreation and Parks Departments, 11% from Forest Experiment Stations, 10% from Economics Departments, and 12% from other University centers of research.

I did undertake a survey of major departments offering graduate degrees during the summer of 1971. The purpose was to obtain names and titles of dissertations and theses completed during 1970-71 for listing in the Fall, 1971 issue of the Journal (Vol. III, No. 4). Inquiries were sent to 38 institutions with returns received from 20 departments. Follow-up letters were not attempted. It is anticipated that a similar request will be made each summer so that the fall issue of the Journal will continuously provide a current record of graduate research completions.

I have been pleased to see the increasing frequency of Journal articles citing previous JLR articles. This is a good measure of scholarly acceptance, and I feel the Journal is rapidly gaining recognition as a scholarly research outlet.
1971 Student Activities

By Dr. Louis Hodges

Recreation and parks students were highly active in national and state affairs during 1971, participating in numerous professional conferences and meetings. As a result of their involvement, considerable attention was focused on Texas A&M.

Mike Waddle was elected president of the National Student Recreation and Parks Society for 1971-72 and assumed office at the NRPA Congress in Houston in October. Susan Wittens continued in her second year as regional representative for NSRPS. At the Texas Recreation and Parks Society annual meeting, STRAPS, the student branch of the Society, elected Robert Starnes as president for 1971-72, and Danny Siebeneicher as secretary. The ambitious programs embarked upon by these students have gained state and national visibility.

Scholastically, R&P majors were equally active, with 10 graduate and undergraduate students inducted into Gamma Sigma Delta (a national agricultural society) and one student into Alpha Zeta. Four majors were also recipients of scholarships -- Thomas Schluter was recipient of a College of Agriculture Scholarship; Michael Pattillo received a Gulf Oil Dealers Award; Robert Starnes and Thomas Halfmann received scholarships from the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. In addition, Callie Steber and Starnes have Opportunity Awards from the University.

Both winners of the Silver Chaparral Award -- Eva Zweifel (May) and Jim Ellis (December) -- scored initial success on launching their careers.

In other University activities, Denys Girard was elected as a SCONA, (Student Conference on National Affairs) delegate during 1971. Both Denys and Louis Barton are employed under the cooperative education program with the city of Denton, Texas. Two other students, David Culbreth and Charles Wood, are on similar programs with the city of Dallas.

Beverly Barnes, a freshman co-ed, was elected a student senator, representing her class.

Several of our majors hold positions in the Corps of Cadets at TAMU. Jim Ferguson is head yell leader, Corps Adjutant and 1st Sgt. of the Ross Volunteers. Senior Wayne Edwards is Commanding officer of Air Force Squadron 11. John Dye acts as drum major of the Aggie Band. These three majors and three others -- Bill Stuewe, Michael Pattillo and James Oslick -- are members of the elite Ross Volunteers.

Innovations in Teaching

By Ben D. Mahaffey

Additions and changes in the Recreation and Parks Department have developed an outstanding variety in personalities and approaches to teaching. The philosophy of offering the student a wide range of teaching techniques is a learning experience in itself and is proving to be significant in developing a mature social attitude toward the learning experience.

New equipment acquired this year by the Department has made possible interesting and innovative teaching methods by the faculty.

A portable transistorized video tape system has been the object of much activity in Ben D. Mahaffey’s classes in environmental interpretation. It has been used to tape interpretive demonstrations for analysis and critique. Since the system features a portable video camera which can be effectively operated by one man, it has been used to tape guest speakers and record significant happenings on various field trips in other classes.

A mobile classroom concept -- Dr. Frank Suggitt has purchased a large self-contained motor home which has been used extensively in his graduate classes to augment his “the world is our laboratory” philosophy. The vehicle can hold up to 15 students and has been used for many trips to points in Texas and on several national outings for various classes.

A field plotter and variograph have been acquired for Dr. Carlton S. Van Doren’s various classes. Dr. Van Doren has also been having great success in his teaching of synographic mapping. The University’s Computer Science Center provides close-support assistance in the functional operation of his computer mapping assignments.

Several new additions to the department’s audio-visual equipment pool have provided additional opportunities to both graduate and undergraduate students in photography, audio-taping and formulating multi-media productions. This new equipment is widely used for both courses in environmental interpretation. New cabinets for the storage of 12,000 slides have been acquired. The classification and storage of departmental slides is now in progress, and is already proving to be an outstanding resource for both students and the teaching faculty.
Extension Activities in Recreation and Parks
By B. Dan Kamp, Jack Jones and James Stribling

Public recreation has received increased support at all levels of government, but primary responsibility continues to rest with local agencies. The Texas Agricultural Extension Service recognizes the importance of community recreation and is providing educational assistance to local officials through a state-wide training effort. Approximately 500 such officials have received intensive training in 1971.

The broad category of public recreation embraces much more than conventional community recreation programs. Other important public recreation programs include therapeutic, military, student, and private-non-profit recreation. These special interest groups are receiving Extension's educational assistance through cooperative agreement with the Texas Recreation and Park Society.

Tourism in Texas has received expanded service from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Educational efforts have been channeled through cooperating agencies, organizations, and individuals. Councils of Government, Development Districts, Planning Regions, and other governmental agencies have been the subject of such educational efforts as well as professional and non-profit promotional groups.

Commercial recreation offers an economical alternative land-use not only on marginal and sub-marginal holdings but also for land currently occupied in forestry, production agriculture and other uses. Consumers, as well as producers are receiving educational assistance in understanding the recreation market, the importance of management, and the need for sound planning. The pattern of land ownership in Texas is dominated by private holdings which suggests increased emphasis on commercial recreation in the future.

Much of the tremendous change in land-use is concentrated around the many lakes and reservoirs to be found in the state. The growth and development of recreation subdivisions, campgrounds and marinas profoundly affects the economy reservoir region. Many of the problems associated with high-density urbanization, from which many Texans move to escape, are re-created in these reservoir regions.

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is working to provide assistance to commercial recreation operators, subdivision developers and local governments in anticipating the problems of rapid growth, loss of open space, need for community facilities and services and environmental quality control. Many of these problems are being resolved within the economic constraints of the commercial enterprises. Through conferences, workshops and seminars, Extension's educational programs have provided those in commercial recreation information on state and Federal water quality and waste treatment requirements, as well as informational assistance in enterprise feasibility analysis, site design, development, and operations and management. Extension's assistance in improving coordination between the objectives of public recreation agencies and private-commercial enterprises will enhance the opportunities of the tourist as well as the Texas Recreation public.
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Recreational development is a job not of building roads into lovely country, but of building receptivity into still unlovely human minds.

Aldo Leopold