

Dedicated Students Attend Florida's Space Age College

BY LEON DANIEL
Cape Canaveral — You won't find any halls of ivy at the nation's only space engineering college.

But you will find at Brevard Engineering College, about 20 miles down the coast, is a faculty made up of some of the nation's top scientists and engineers.

The part-time instructors lecture in classrooms filled with dedicated students whose average age is 30.

Most of the students and nearly all the faculty members are employed at missile and space technological centers at Cape Canaveral and Patrick Air Force Base.

Sparked by space-race industries which have grown up along the coast near the cape, Brevard is the first college in the United States to offer a master of science degree in space technology.

Write Own Textbooks

Vine-covered walls would seem out of place at Brevard, where theories chalked on a blackboard may be used the next day in dealing with a real missile-tracking situation. With the rapid advance in space science, some of the school's teachers must write their own textbooks.

While five-year-old Brevard may be too young to have traditions, it is sophisticated enough to offer such lofty courses as celestial mechanics, space medicine and a long list of subjects in higher mathematics.

The college was established in 1958 by Dr. Jerome Keuper, now its president, and a group of scientists who worked with Keuper for the Radio Corporation of America Service Company.

Keuper said they started the college because they saw the need for still higher education for the well-educated people in the space field.

"We learned that many scholars and other space experts hesitated to come to Cape Canaveral because they could not continue their studies here," Keuper said.

Of the school's 700 students, Keuper said about 165 are graduate engineers working for master degrees. The rest of the students are undergraduates, some of whom are taking a few special courses and others who are working toward a bachelor of science degree.

Keuper takes great pride in his ability to stretch his education dollars, which he spends a good part of his time soliciting from private sources.

"We built this building we are in now for \$7 a square foot," he said proudly, adding that other school buildings in the area have cost twice as much.

"What we need now is somebody who wants to have his name on a new library building," Keuper said. "I believe we could build it for \$60,000. We already have the books."

Watches Costs Closely

Keuper keeps a tight rein on operation costs. He, a single faculty member, a clerk and a janitor are the only full-time employees at the col-

lege. Keuper said the school, so far, has received no local, state or federal aid, but he gave the impression he would not turn it down if it were offered.

Keuper said all of the major companies near here working on government missile contracts approve of the college as a way for their employees

to progress in their fields. Many of these companies make donations to the school as well as pay the tuition of

their employees, he said. Keuper, a 42-year-old native of Newport, Ky., who holds a bachelor of science degree in

physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a masters degree in physics from Stanford University, said he is in the education field to stay. "I intend to devote the rest of my life to building the best space-science college in the world right here," he said.

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Canby Couple Killed in Crash

By United Press International
A two-car collision south of Oregon City Wednesday night took the lives of a Canby couple and injured two of their grandchildren.

The victims were William E. Schaeffer, 58, and his wife, Florence, 36.

Injured in the crash were Lynette L. Hage, 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hage, Portland, and Billy Schaeffer, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Schaeffer, Canby. The girl was reported in serious condition at a Portland hospital.

State police said the Schaeffer car collided with one driven by Frederick E. Mittelstadt of Oregon City. Mittelstadt was unhurt. The crash occurred on U.S. Highway 99E north of New Era.

Oregon traffic accidents also took a third life Wednesday when Air Force Sgt. Lucien Robert Rouleau, 28, of Monmouth died in a Portland hospital. He was injured Tuesday when his car collided with one driven by Mrs. Avis VanDolah, 45, of Silverton near Salem.

Rouleau was stationed at Adair Air Force base near Corvallis.

HAS SOLID EXCUSE

Canterbury, England — Bertram Widney, 31, answering charges of driving the wrong way on a one-way street, told the court Wednesday, "I was carrying two back-seat drivers, my mother and my aunt, and my attention was distracted." The court gave him an absolute discharge.

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