

Community Calendar

3 Spend Summer As "Roustabouts"

Saturday, September 26

- Throughout the fall season, the Nature Science Center in Winston-Salem will present a variety of films suitable for all members of the family. On Saturday at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 4 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. the center will show "Bear Country" and "Clay."
- There will be a Harvest Festival Supper and Bazaar at Pisgah United Methodist Church, Kernersville. Coffee hour begins at 8:30 a.m. thru 11 a.m., Bazaar opens at 9 a.m. and the supper begins at 5 p.m. thru 8 p.m. For further information call Bonnie Idol at 722-7373.
- North Carolina State University, Forsyth County 4-H, and the Vo. Ag. Departments of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools are sponsoring an open house for prospective students. Booths and exhibits will be on display in Reynolds Coliseum. Activities demonstrating campus life will take place during the day in addition to the preview of academic programs. High School Junior or Seniors wishing to go should contact Glenn Perryman, Vo-Ag teacher at Reynolds High School by Friday, September 18, or the Forsyth 4-H office.
- The YWCA and the Holistic Health Network will present a workshop entitled "Nutrition As Medicine" from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Glade Street YWCA. Dr. Elmer Cranton, M.D. will discuss nutrients as the body's natural, biological defense against illness. He will focus on food allergies and the body's natural ability to heal itself. Register now or at 9:30 a.m. on the morning of the seminar.

Monday, September 28

- The American Cancer Society will present a film entitled "From Both Ends of the Stethoscope" from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Forsyth County Public Library in the Headquarters Auditorium, 660 West Fifth Street. It will also be shown Thursday, October 1, at the same time. The 40 minutes film is directed toward health professionals and cancer patients and their families. The film deals with a doctor's personal fight against cancer and his continued work with cancer patients. There will be a question and answer session following the film. For further information, call the American Cancer Society, 761-1528.
- Don Smart, customer service representative for Southern Bell will speak at the regular weekly meeting of the Greater Winston Kiwanis Club at 12:30 p.m.
- The Forsyth County Public Library's Children's Outreach Program is sponsoring a series of film programs on Monday at Happy Hill Community Center at 3 p.m.; Tuesday at King Recreation Center at 3:30 p.m.; and Wednesday at Sprague Street Recreation Center at 3:30 p.m. This week's featured films are: "The Boy Who Like Deer" and "Clown."

Tuesday, September 29

- The East Winston Improvement Association will begin tutorial program after school. For further information contact James Cooper at 724-0109.
- Officer Bob Gordon of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department will speak on "Common Sense Self-Defense" at the YWCA's Clemmons Women's Series from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Clemmons Moravian Church. A small fee is charged at the door.
- A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, at 8:00 p.m. in the Planning Board conference room. Seven applications for local historic designation will be considered.

Wednesday, September 30

- The YWCA's Options for Living program for women and men over 50 will hear Nan Holbrook, assistant director of the Downtown Church Center speak on "How To Be Your Own Best Friend." The program is from 10:30-12:00 at the Y.W.C.A. There is no fee. The series is co-sponsored by the YWCA and the Downtown Church Center.

For college students Norman Spruill and Gregory Twyman the summer of '81 was expected to be filled with temporary employment in a routing office setting. For Valdez Chavis, it was supposed to be a summer of leisure.

Little did the three expect at the time that, at the close of their second semester at North Carolina A&T University, they would find themselves working 100 miles from shore in the Gulf of Mexico. They would fill the position of "roustabout" and would be assigned to work on a steel island known as an oil production platform.

Norman and Gregory, both electrical engineering majors, and Valdez, an architectural engineering major, were among more than 30 college students from across the nation who participated in a summer intern program sponsored by Aminoil USA, Inc., a subsidiary of RJ Reynolds Industries, Inc.

The program, which includes colleges and universities that do not specialize in petroleum studies is aimed at filling the critical need for technical professionals for Aminoil's growing petroleum exploration and production business.

The development plan is designed to expose students to basic oil and gas operations in their first year of the program and in succeeding summers provide special training in the technical disciplines.

For college roommates Norman and Gregory, who heard about the program just before their freshman year came to a close, the opportunity to work on an offshore platform led to the discovery of a new world.

"I didn't know anything about the oil business," Gregory said, following the conclusion of his three-month assignment as a general laborer working 10 days-on and 10 days-off the platform.

"My first day on the job," he continued, "someone told me: 'Go over to the christmas tree (a system of gas and oil valves) and set off the wing valve.' I said, 'What?'"

Norman recalls that his first assignment was to fetch a pail of grease and to lubricate a derrick cable. "As a roustabout, you do everything -- you're a mechanic, a technician, a crane operator," he explained.

"And that's a good way to learn about this business," Norman added.

"You don't learn just about equipment. You learn how that equipment applies to the process."

The students said there was no lack of answers for the many questions they had about the oil industry, and the electrical systems they were so eager to learn about.

"Everybody was helping us out," Norman said. "Roustabouts, the platform foreman, the operator,

They'd say, 'Let's talk about this process or that process.' And if one person didn't know the answers, he'd find somebody who did."

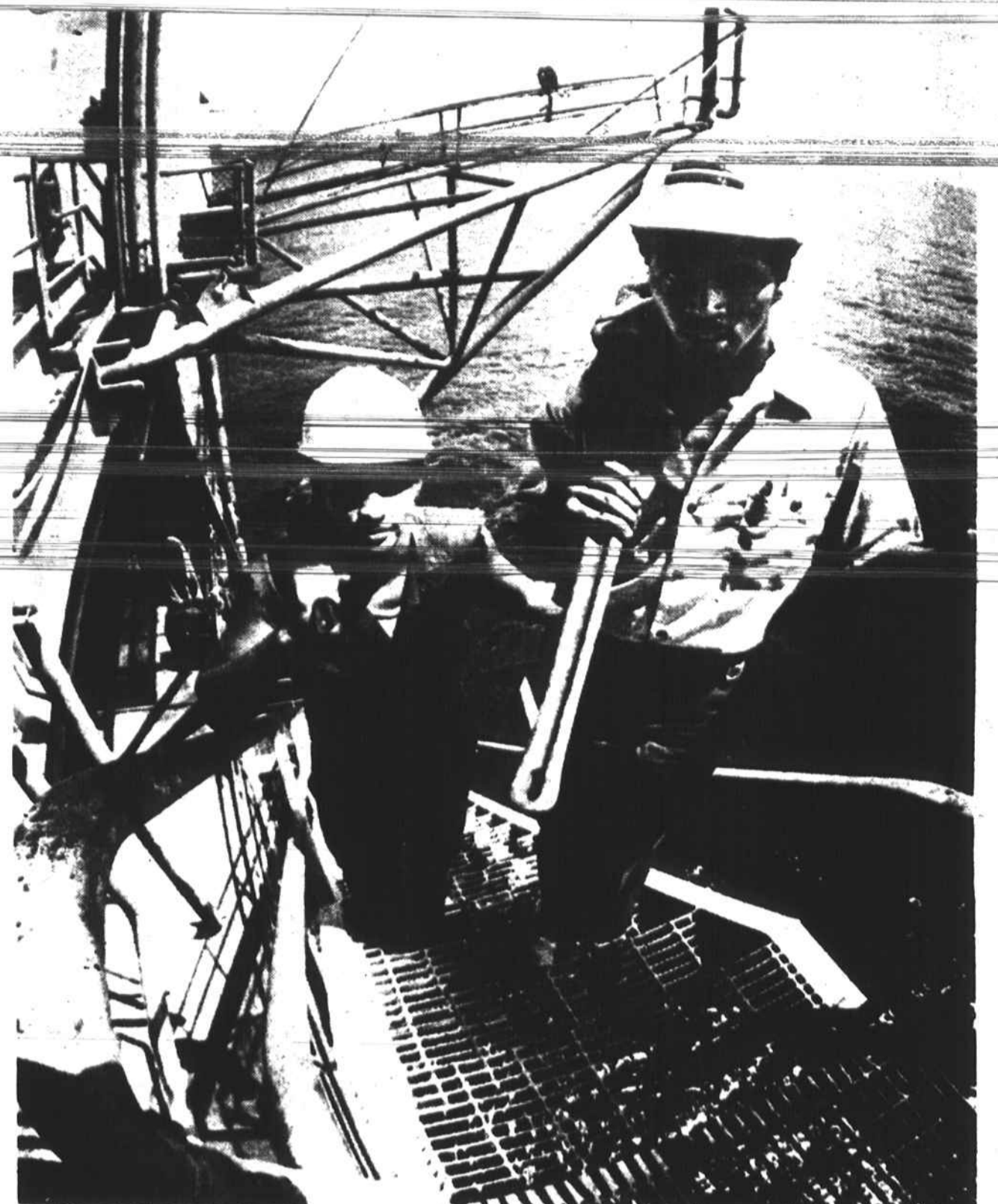
Valdez related similar experiences.

"At first I was nervous," he explained. "I took until about my second hitch on the platform before I understood what was happening. 'Now I have an idea of how it is to be offshore. Before, the only time I had seen an offshore platform was on TV.'"

Under the Aminoil summer intern program, individuals have the opportunity to work at onshore, as well as offshore, sites. Students pursuing engineering studies become engineering aides the summer between junior and senior years.

At a meeting earlier this year with North Carolina A&T University officials, George E. Trimble, Aminoil's chairman, president and chief executive officer said, the petroleum industry is overlooking a valuable source of potential administrative and technical professionals when it recruits solely from those traditional institutions that focus on petroleum studies.

Although petroleum engineering is not among that university's areas of specialization, Aminoil's individual development program would enable non-petroleum technical degree graduates to "convert" to petroleum engineers.



College students Norman Spruill and Gregory Twyman traded in textbooks for pipe wrenches to learn more about the petroleum industry during summer training at an Aminoil offshore oil production platform.

Aminoil is the nation's third largest independent petroleum exploration and production company. In addition to exploration and production in the United States and other countries, Aminoil produces, processes and sells natural gas; geothermal steam; and develops and supplies natural gas and petroleum products.

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