

Astronomy Summer Camp Helps Young Shoot for the Stars

Thirty-three students between the ages of 13 and 17 attended the Association's Astronomy Camp from June 10-17. The first three nights the students stayed in dormitories on the UA campus. They learned night sky orientation at the Flaudrau Planetarium and campus based telescopes. The students visited Kitt Peak, saw the sun through a solar telescope, and talked with researchers. The final four days of camp were spent on Mt. Lemmon, where Stewart Observatory operates several telescopes. The students lived in dormitories used by astronomers during the year, and they kept astronomers' hours. The "class" was divided into four groups. The students took photographs at each

station. Lectures on the solar system, stars and stellar evolution, galaxies, and cosmology were given in the evenings. Afternoons were filled with outdoor activities which introduced the students to geology and tree ring research. Optional activities such as building a telescope and a spectroscope were available. The last night the students observed through the 61" telescope on Mt. Bigelow. This telescope was built with NASA funds for planetary research, and the image through the eyepiece is very sharp. There was a long waiting list for admission to this year's camp, so next year the Association will offer two beginning camps and one advanced camp.

Advanced camp students will spend the entire week on Mt. Lemmon. The tentative dates for each week-long session are June 2, 9, and 16. Entrance criteria have been established, to ensure that each student admitted has a genuine interest in astronomy. First priority for admission will be given to children of UA alumni, until March 15, 1990. For more information, contact Joan Morrill at 1-800-BEAT-ASU outside Arizona, or 602-621-5233.

Two adult camps are planned, one in April and one in October of 1990. These will be weekend camps, entailing a two-night stay on Mt. Lemmon. To register, call Joan at 1-800-BEAT-ASU if you are out of state, or 621-5233 in state.

