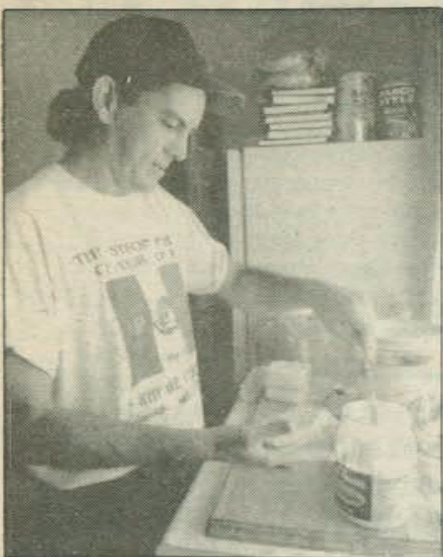




Lori Stiles photo

Grub chief

Michael E. Lennon, head chef at the UA Student Union Food Service, is in charge of meals for UA Astronomy Camps — and he has been for the last 19 sessions. Here he's making sandwiches for campers who slept in and missed breakfast. **See story and photos page 12.**

SAC review

At last Tuesday's meeting of the Staff Advisory Council, members heard from former UA administrator State Representative George Cunningham that while educational reform was not addressed during

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Lo Que Pasa

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PAIP data give map for future

by Dianne M. Bret Harte
LQP editor

The year-long, now-completed Program for the Assessment of Institutional Priorities (PAIP) was reviewed June 24 at one of a series of town halls sponsored by the UA Staff Advisory Council.

SAC President Janice Murphy, who opened the session before about 50 University employees, introduced presenters Allan Beigel, vice president for institutional planning; Robert Glennon, chair of the Academic Review Committee; Roger Caldwell, chair of the Support, Service and Administrative Review Committee (SSA); and Paul Sypherd, UA provost.

Beigel labelled PAIP the critical element in building the UA's strategic plan for the future. Although he said "what will come of it remains unclear," Glennon lauded the process as the

Sypherd said, "There's not another university in the world that has the data base we now have."

(*Lo Que Pasa* printed academic assessments on May 10, excerpts from summary reports of SSA and academic reviews on June 7, and all SSA summaries and conclusions on June 21.)

Asked whether the PAIP portfolios — each unit's own self portrait — might contain less-than-accurate data, Glennon said his committee approached every case with a critical eye as to the unit's potential for self interest and, when necessary, cross-checked information with the Office of Institutional Research.

He said benefits included not only an awareness of just what people on campus do, but a shared sense of responsibility and a yield of highly knowledgeable people.

Beigel said almost 200 members of the UA community — faculty, staff, students

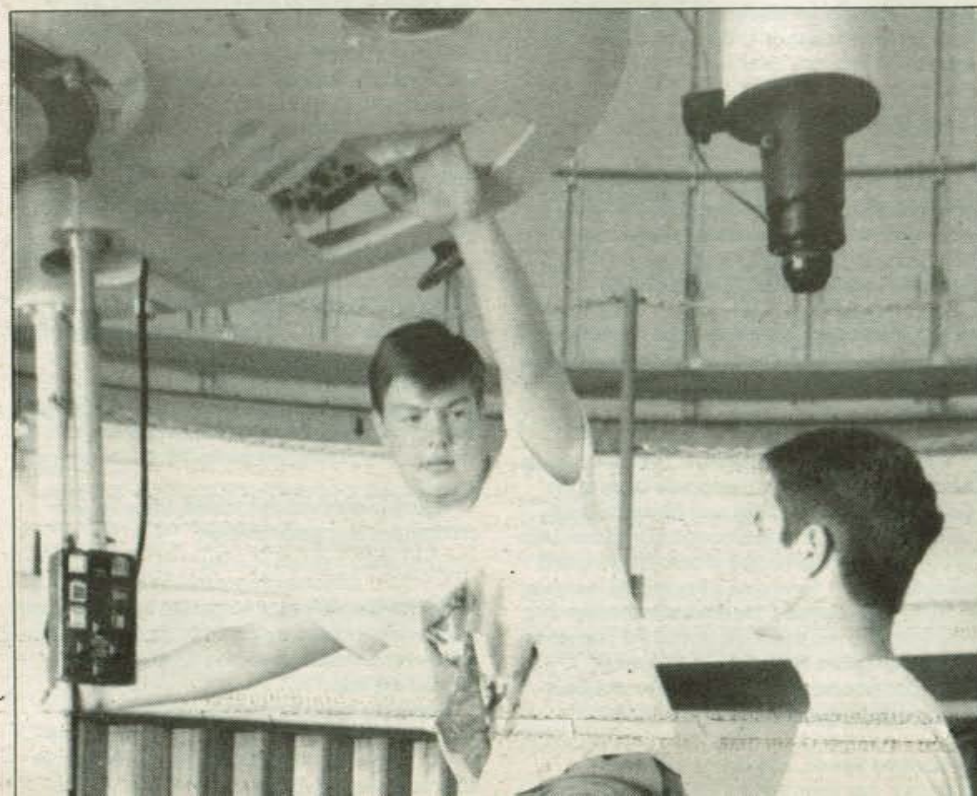
factors confronting the process were a severely restrictive time frame as well as the separation of academic from non-academic units, which lent some confusion to an already difficult process.

Caldwell, remarking upon conclusions and recommendations of his committee, said although academic units are used to the self-study process, the assessment has been a first for the University's support staff. Acknowledging that PAIP has encountered confusion, stress and uncertainty at all levels, Caldwell said its beginning, while not perfect, was necessary. He, too, welcomed the addition of PAIP's large and important fund of information to future planning efforts.

Sypherd emphasized in "where do we go from here?" remarks that the University is "not going to get bailed out" either by the Arizona Legislature or by the federal government, but that "there's not enough money to do all we want to do." In short, he said it will take \$12 million



Astronomer Don McCarthy Jr., who directs the University's astronomy camps, reviews the previous night's observing runs with the advanced teen astronomy class.

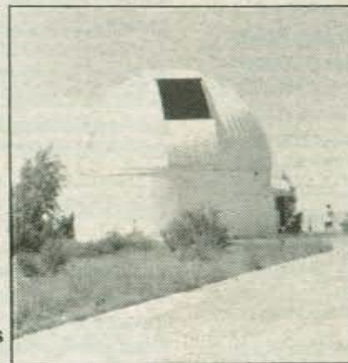


Cosmic camp

It's where kids meet the stars

Mount Lemmon, June 23 — Last night's sky was so great for viewing that young amateur astronomers were glued to Steward Observatory telescopes until dawn.

At 1:30 p.m., "breakfast" was winding down in the mess hall next to the gym. Most of the 28 teens in the 1993 Advanced Astronomy Camp had polished off plates of all-you-can-eat eggs and biscuits, cereal, fruit, milk, juice and the like. Many played volleyball or pool, or swapped notes on the astronomy they'd done the night before. A few went back to the dorms to rouse the last of the sleepers, who groggily straggled to the kitchen for food.

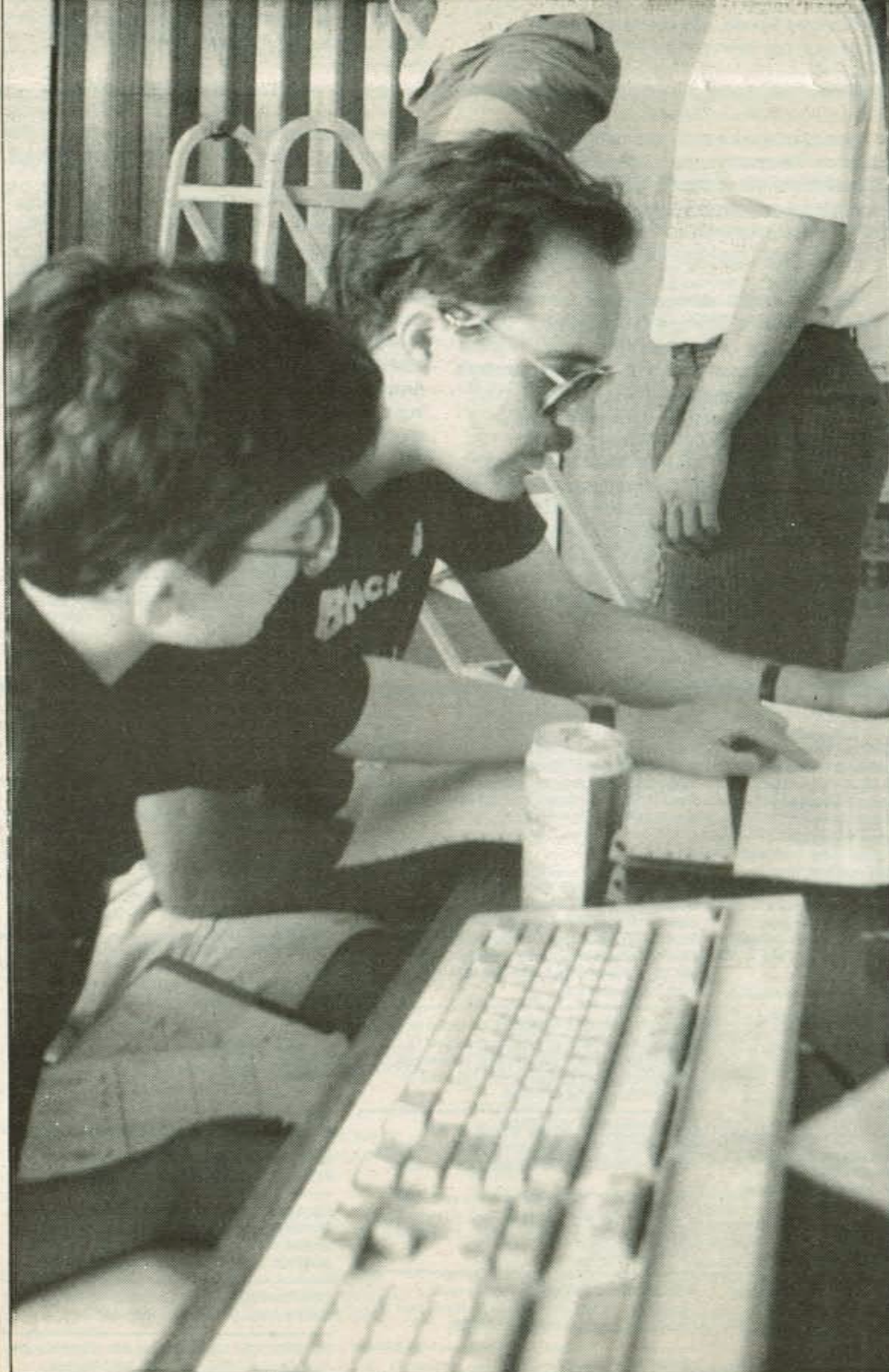


There's no more exciting way to learn or teach astronomy, says UA astronomer Donald W. McCarthy Jr. Five years ago, with assistance from the UA Alumni Association, he introduced week-long beginning and advanced astronomy camps for teens.

McCarthy now has added weekend versions of these camps for adults. People have

been attracted to the camps from as far as Japan, Istanbul and Indonesia.

The word is out: The best astronomy camps are at The University of Arizona! Further details are available from the Alumni Association, (602) 621-5233.



Will Bassett, of Baltimore, Md., (top in photo above) positions the telescope with Stephen Gay, of Sherman, Texas, (right) as UA astronomy graduate student Eric Hooper (center) helps Ben Oppenheimer, of Framingham, Mass., with some calculations.

rouse the last of the sleepers, who groggily straggled to the kitchen for food.

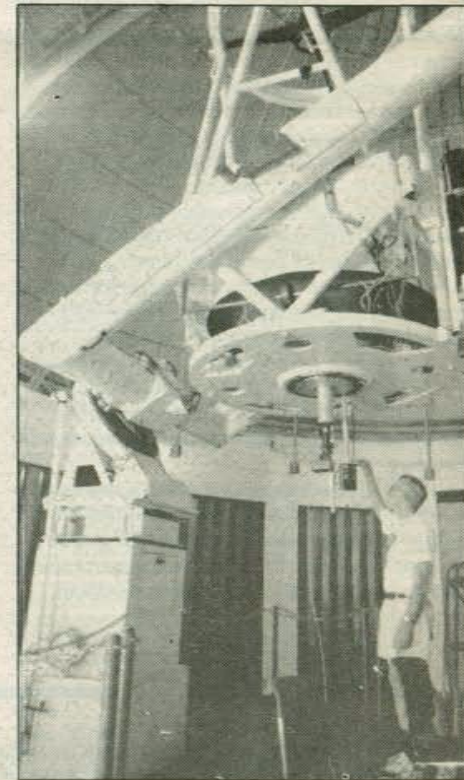
By 2:15 p.m., everyone was sprawled over the gym floor and focused on the slide lecture on galaxies.

These kids — from Tucson, Phoenix, Yuma, Florida, North Carolina, Kentucky, Texas, Colorado, California, Massachusetts and Missouri — are veteran UA astronomy campers. They fire off questions, they recruit counselors and computers to help in analyzing their data, and they command the Steward telescopes.

University astronomy/physics students serve as camp counselors. This year, there are Sarah O'Brien, who'll be a sophomore this fall, Leisa Glennie who'll be a junior, and graduate students Sally Oey, Eric Hooper and Jeff Regester.

Campers tour many of the country's finest astronomy facilities, which are located in and around Tucson. They hear experts talk about astronomy. Most of all, they use the telescopes. These include the 40-inch and 60-inch telescopes, plus the 16-inch Schmidt camera and the 61-inch telescope on Mount Bigelow. They do astro photography, spectroscopy, electronic photometry and CCD imaging.

their details are available from the Alumni Association, (602) 621-5233.



UA astronomer Don McCarthy Jr., (above) checks an instrument on the 60-inch Steward telescope on Mount Lemmon, where the annual summer astronomy camps are offered. Meanwhile, Gil Esquerdo (left in photo at left) and Michael Saford, both of Tucson, share the results of their last observing run.

Story and photos
by Lori Stiles