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## First Honors Math Camp due June 4-29

A summer math camp at Ohio State University changed Dr. Max Warshauer's life, and he hopes the new Southwest Texas State University Honor Math Camp will do the same for some of Texas' brightest young minds.

Warshauer, who has been a member of the SWT mathematics faculty for 10 years, said the eight-week summer math camp at Ohio State got him interested in doing serious mathematics. The SWT camp will cover four weeks, June 4-19.

"It wasn't just developing an interest. It provided a foundation for all the mathematics that I later did, when I went to the University of Chicago and majored in math and got my doctorate in math at Louisiana State University," he explained.

"This program excited me at a very high level doing mathematics," Warshauer continued. "That basic idea of the program is to begin with number theory. Number theory is a course that requires hardly any background, and yet, it itself is the background for much of what people do in mathematics. You learn how to think mathematically, to give clear, precise arguments, to give proofs, you learn to question, to explore. This excitement of doing math and thinking carefully is the central focus of the program.

Warshauer will teach the number theory course modeled after the one that turned him on at Ohio State; Dr. Don Hazlewood, also of the mathematics faculty, will teach a course in logic: induction and recursion; and Dr. Ron Brown, director of the SWT Honors Program, will conduct an honors seminar on what college life is all about and provide the high school students a forum for

discussing experiences, setting goals and mapping their futures.

The students will learn to use computers as a tool in doing mathematics -- getting a computer to check a proof and to do algebraic manipulations in Hazlewood's course.

A special feature of the camp will be weekly colloquia conducted by people from industry and other universities to show that mathematics is a foundation of science, to show how mathematics is used in science and industry, he said.

Even though Warshauer said the camp will be non-competitive and rigorous, the participants will have some fun. Excursions are planned to Enchanted Rock and the LBJ Ranch in the Hill Country, to the San Antonio River Walk, canoe the San Marcos River, play volleyball, go on picnics and attend one of the Central Texas Children's Festival productions.

"At the end of the camp, they will be at a level so that they will be independent about learning new math. Hopefully, this will enable them to be at the top in what they do mathematically," Warshauer said.

Warshauer said students will be able to come to the math camp several times during their high school careers because the curriculum will be expanded each year.

As for the future of the camp, Warshauer, who also serves as chairman of the SWT Honors Committee, said it may someday be extended to six weeks. While he wants to keep it small, he also foresees growth to a maximum of 35 students. "It's intended to be a quality camp for top students in the state," he explained.