

## Pets reveal much about human's life

By DONNA SCHLABACH  
A person's reaction towards pets reveal a lot about the way he acts in human relationships, Dr. Donald Woods told the Brazos Valley Humane Society Tuesday night. Woods, an assistant professor of psychology at Texas A&M University, spoke about the psychological interactions of humans, pets and veterinarians.



Battalion photo by Ken Herrera

Scruffy mongrel or lovable mutt? Your reaction to animals could tell Dr. Donald Woods a lot about your personality. "Foxy" here, belongs to Don Quillen.

Attitudes towards pets are usually functions of a person's lifestyle," Woods said. "They are not an isolated function."  
Woods explained that pets provide an outlet for human needs being close and interacting socially. Pets fulfill needs to be loved, accepted and comforted, he said. "Most of us prefer humans (to be close to) because of the way we were brought up," Woods said. "But some people, because of unhappy human relationships or an inability to relate to humans, choose to be close to pets."

Woods said pets serve a protective function for many people who withdraw from human interaction. These people, he said, see pets as objects for expressing emotions they can't express to others. Pet relationships also can serve to help people fill voids in other areas of their lives. Woods used the example of the childless couple that goes on pets to fulfill a longing for children.

Woods also said pets can serve as aids to help people adjust to stress. A person with low self-esteem, he said, can find the love

and affection he needs in a pet relationship. "Children learn a lot from pets, he said. "They learn to accept responsibility by caring for the pet. They learn about many things they will find later in life, like birth and death. They learn that sex and defecation are not dirty. Pets also serve

as models of self-discipline for kids because they recognize good from bad in pet behavior."

Woods said veterinarians are becoming more concerned with the psychological aspects of human-pet relationships.

"It's really important for the veterinarian to take the owner-pet relationship into consideration when treating pet disorders," he said, noting that chronic obesity, unwanted defecation and ulcers are examples of pet reactions to unsatisfactory relationships with their owners.

## Enrollment to end LA classes offered

Last registration periods are this weekend for eight liberal arts courses being offered this fall by Texas A&M University. The program, called Learner's Marketplace, enrolls for the last time 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in room 302 of Rudder Tower on campus. Interested persons may also sign up by mail, through the Texas A&M College of Liberal Arts. Participants need not be officially enrolled in the university to take the evening classes which include ar-

cheology, Texas and cultural history, writing, literature and social problems. Fee for the courses is \$30 except for a \$35 class on teaching children to write better. The American literature course is also available on an \$8 per-author basis.

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## Grant received for fish study

Economists, biologists and seafood technologists at Texas A&M University will pursue a program to improve and better understand Gulf fishery resources as part of a \$3.5 million grant to the university's Sea Grant College Program.

In related work, economists will study the present structure of markets for fish and will evaluate the impact of alternative management strategies for the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery.

The grant, which comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), was announced Wednesday by Commerce Secretary Juanita M. Kreps. It will be augmented by more than \$1.1 million from the State of Texas and other non-federal sources. The fisheries research projects include population studies, eco-

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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p>		
<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> "Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style" Tossed Salad Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b> ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

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