

what's up

Wednesday

SVS: The Student Volunteer Services will hold their "2nd Annual Agency Volunteer Fair" at the Memorial Student Center Fountain from 9:00 to 4:00.

BRIDGE: Bridge will be played every Wednesday in room 212, Memorial Student Center at 7:15 p.m.

PARACHUTE CLUB: TAMU Parachute Club will have demonstrations and jumps on the main drill field from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. The club will also show a movie entitled "Wings" at 8 p.m. in room 601, Rudder.

GOLF: The women's golf team has a tournament in Oklahoma City.

MOVIE: Aggie Cinema presents "The Grapes of Wrath," the Academy Award-winning film based on John Steinbeck's novel about the despair and poverty of an Oklahoma family during the Depression at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

Thursday

WATER SKI CLUB: Will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. in room 301, Rudder Tower.

OASIS: Will hold a Noon Bible Study in the Basement Coffeehouse from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

MOSLIM STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION: New officials will be elected at the meeting in room 206, Memorial Student Center at 7:30 p.m.

CANCER SOCIETY: The Brazos County Chapter American Cancer Society will meet at noon at 3-C Barbeque at 810 So. Main, Bryan. All persons interested in serving on the board or on committees are invited to attend.

CEPHEID VARIABLE: "A Boy & His Dog," a tale of survival in the year 2024, which traces the adventures of Vic and his telepathic canine companion, Blood, in a post-Atomic War Wilderness, will be shown at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

VOLLEYBALL: The volleyball team will play UTA and Nebraska at Arlington at 7:30 p.m.

BAHA'I CLUB: Is sponsoring a public meeting and invites people to attend at the All Faiths Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT: All students who want to join a student government committee is asked to attend the meeting in room 308, Rudder Tower at 7 p.m.

DEADLINE: Anyone can enter the singles tournament of the TAMU Racquetball Club. Deadline for entries is today. The tournament will begin Friday, Sept 15, at 7 p.m.

Friday

CANCER SOCIETY: Memorials and donations to the American Cancer Society may be mailed to: The Memorial Program of the American Cancer Society, Brazos Unit, P.O. Box 9140, College Station, Tx. 77840.

CROSS COUNTRY: The men's cross country team has a meet at Austin at 7 p.m. The women's team has a meet at North Texas, Denton.

AGGIE CINEMA: Presents "MacArthur," a biographical drama about the commander of U.S. forces in Korea during the Korean War. The movie will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

MIDNIGHT MOVIE: "Kentucky Fried Movie," an hilarious spoof of television and the movies from the Kentucky Fried Theater in Los Angeles, starring Donald Sutherland and Bill Bixby will be shown in Rudder Theater.

VOLLEYBALL: There will be a women's tournament at North Texas State in Denton.

TENNIS: There will be a women's tennis tournament at Midland.

SOFTBALL: The women's softball team will host a tournament here.

Dolphin training more than a fish and headscratch, says Sea-Arama expert

By KEITH TAYLOR
Battalion Reporter

If you grew up watching Flipper and think the way to catch a dolphin is to throw him a fish and scratch his head, you are wrong.

Judy Zaun, assistant director of training at Sea-Arama Marineworld in Galveston, spoke to the Texas A&M Biomedical Science Association Tuesday night. Zaun explained the planning and care needed to capture a dolphin and bring it back alive from the ocean.

Sea-Arama is one of the few corporations permitted by the federal government to capture and sell dolphins. Sea-Arama is only allowed to capture 20 dolphins a year. The dolphins are caught near Rockport, about 200 miles south of Galveston. The dolphins are captured with two boats and a 1,000-foot net. The boats herd the dolphins into shallow

water, she said. When the boats reach shallow water, two intertwined nets are split in half and the dolphins are divided into two groups. To get the dolphins into the boat, they must be forced to entangle themselves in the net. The crew working the dolphins tries to let only one dolphin hit the net at a time, so the crew can prevent it from drowning.

The dolphins are lifted from the water with the net. Untangling the animal can take up to 30 minutes, the animal trainer said. After the dolphins are taken from the water, they are either kept in a sling or on foam rubber padding. Dolphins have very sensitive skin that must be protected from bruises. Their skin is also coated with zinc oxide to prevent sunburn. Shortly after capture, a veterinarian injects the animal with vitamins and occasionally a sedative.

Federal law only permits certain dolphins to be captured. A dolphin cannot be kept if it is less than 6 feet, 6 inches long or more than 7 feet, 6 inches. The measurement requirements prevent capture of an animal that is too old or too young. Also, pregnant or nursing dolphins are protected.

After capture, the dolphins are taken back to Sea-Arama and shut in holding tanks before shipment or training.

Zaun said that training a dolphin for a show usually takes about a year. The method of training is operant conditioning with positive reinforcement. In plain English, the trainer teaches the dolphin to respond to a whistle, she said. The dolphin then associates the sound of the whistle with food. When the dolphin makes a correct maneuver, it hears the whistle and receives a fish re-

ward. Later it learns to make the maneuver to the sound of the whistle and receives the fish reward later.

Zaun said dolphins usually start working in shows by age 8 and can continue working until the age of 20. A dolphin in captivity has a longer life expectancy than one living in the wild, she said. A dolphin in captivity can live up to 35 years.

bird show with 12 birds. She said the birds she works with are trained, but not tame. The birds, cockatoos and macaws, can take a handler's finger off in one bite.

Zaun warns that if anyone is "crazy" enough to want to get into the field of animal training, it is not easy. She said there are many more applicants than positions available.

Zaun also said that dolphins in the wild usually ignore humans. She said there is not much fact in stories about dolphins saving shipwrecked sailors. A dolphin must be trained to accept the touch of a human, but they may enjoy petting later.

Zaun has not spent all her time training dolphins, however. She has trained many types of animals from bears to skunks. Now she works in a

station during the oil shortage in 1973. The station closed, so she applied to Sea-Arama as a "mermaid."

A mermaid at Sea-Arama is a girl who swims in the main viewing tank and plays with the fish. She later had a chance to train a young sea lion and was eventually hired as a trainer. She made it sound very easy.



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