

Ag Vets

Programs enable seniors to attain 'hands-on' work

University News Service
Senior veterinary students at Texas A&M this fall will be seeing more than just usual textbooks and classrooms.

Under three ongoing programs, groups of fourth-year veterinary students are on the move to gain valuable hands-on training by carrying out diagnosis, treatment and surgery in the Panhandle, in Austin and on a dozen farms run by the state's prison system.

Each Thursday in Austin, the students—usually five accompanied by an intern and a faculty member—perform a spay-and-neuter clinic for dogs and cats. The clinic is operated by the local Humane Society and supported by the Capital Area Veterinary Medical Association, which supplies the necessary equipment. Local veterinarians also volunteer to participate in the program.

A&M students usually neuter more than 1,000 animals a year in the Austin program, giving seniors valuable surgical experience while helping curb the urban health problems brought on by overpopulation of unowned or unrestrained dogs and cats.

"We feel this is an exceptional educational experience unparalleled at any other vet school," said A&M faculty member Dr. Elmo Greshaw. Greshaw supervises the weekly trips to Austin.

Students seem to like the program because of the first-hand experience gained from doing five or six operations a day, for the immediate results surgery provides and for the chance to break the class routine back at A&M.

Austin veterinarian Ron Stried, a 1967 A&M graduate who helped found the program, said he and his classmates only had the opportunity to do a few neuterings before graduation.

Marjorie Bird, an Austin Humane Society director, said: "We are very proud of our wonderful 'marriage' with Texas A&M."

Virtually the entire senior veterinary class each year performs herd health duties at 12 farms on which the state's prison system grows its own food.

Under terms of a contractual agreement with the Texas Department of Corrections, those duties include routine diagnosis and treat-

ment of livestock diseases or such preventive measures as inoculation, said A&M faculty member Dr. Charles Boyd, who coordinates the activities.

Although participation is optional, almost the entire graduating class (about 130 students) takes part because of the valuable experience it gives.

The TDC runs some 8,000 beef cattle, 6,000 dairy cattle, 600 bulls, 600 guard horses, 500 dogs and assorted poultry on the 92,500 acres worth of farms.

Boyd said the prison system's ability to grow its own food and the food for the animals it must maintain is seen as a boon for the state's taxpayers so keeping those animals healthy is important.

At least 40-50 students a year volunteer for a two-week stay in the Panhandle, where they learn the ins and outs of veterinary care of feedlots that house thousands of sheep and cattle.

After a briefing on how feedlots are managed, the students accompany area veterinarians on their rounds and carry out or assist on all situations that present themselves, including surgery and autopsies.

Dr. W.J. Hill III, a 1966 A&M graduate, oversees the Panhandle operations in Wheeler, Dimmitt, Spearman, Amarillo and other nearby towns. Students are usually housed at West Texas State University in Canyon.

"We try to make them familiar with herd health rather than concentrating on one animal," Hill said. "That will help them after graduation if they have clients who are in the feedlot business."

Students are briefed on current drugs and treatments appropriate for feedlot situations and perform other tasks that provide them with experience, such as taking blood samples for brucellosis testing.

"The students have the chance to see some diseases for the first time, or observe cattle coming from different geographic regions that have their own inherent health problems," Hill said.

Capsized boat kills 1, another still missing

United Press International

PORT ARANSAS — A couple from Littlefield managed to swim to the jetties after their boat capsized, but one of their companions drowned and another was missing, the Coast Guard reported Tuesday.

A helicopter search is under way for the missing person near where an unidentified woman's body was discovered in the surf Tuesday morning, said Coast Guard Lt. Philip Coletti.

A man and his wife were treated for exposure and shock at Coastal Bend Hospital in Aransas Pass. Release of their identities is pending notification of the relatives.

The survivors told the Coast Guard their 18-foot pleasure boat capsized after its engine stalled and all four people went to the stern about 5 p.m. Monday.

The couple said they spent several hours in the water until reaching the jetties late last night.

Around town

Who's Who applications due Friday at 5

Applications for **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges** are available at boxes located in the Commandant's Office, MSC, Student Activities Office, Zachry Engineering Center, Sterling C. Evans Library, Kleberg Center, the office of the dean of Veterinary Medicine, and the office of the vice president for Student Services. Completed applications must be returned by 5 p.m. Friday.

Students must meet requirements for grade points and completed credit hours. From the qualified applicants, 55 students will be selected to Who's Who by a committee composed of faculty, staff and students appointed by the vice president of Student Services and the student body president. Any questions should be directed to Chris Carter in 110 YMCA.

Science students must take exam

Any junior or senior in the College of Science who has not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to take the test Oct. 2 or Oct. 15 unless they have completed English 301 with a minimum grade of C. Students in the College of Science are required to pass either English 301 or the test in order to qualify as a degree candidate.

The English Proficiency Exam will be administered by the English Department. Students in the Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics Departments should register for the exam in 313 Biological Sciences Building prior to the exam.

Big Event job requests accepted now

Job requests are now being accepted from the Bryan-College Station community for projects for the **Big Event**. Student organizations wishing to volunteer for this 4-hour service project are encouraged to pledge. Deadline for organization pledges is Nov. 1. Job requests will still be accepted after that date. Contact Mark Maniha at 696-5930, or Maritza Pena at 764-0770.

Immigration bill nears completion

United Press International

WASHINGTON — After eight days of haggling, congressional negotiators appeared to be near agreement Tuesday on a landmark immigration bill that would grant U.S. residence status to more than 1 million illegal aliens.

When the House-Senate conference committee met, only one potential stumbling block remained — a House-approved amendment by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., protecting legalized aliens against job discrimination.

The amendment, already accepted by the House, has been opposed by Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., on grounds it would require employers to hire aliens instead of citizens.

If negotiators settle the controversy, it seems likely a compromise version could be returned to the House and Senate for final action.

The bill would grant permanent residence to aliens who entered the United States illegally before 1977. Illegal aliens who arrived later, but before Jan. 1, 1981, would receive temporary resident status and the opportunity to apply for permanent status after two years. Those gaining permanent status could seek cit-

izenship after five years.

The bill also seeks to stem the flow of illegal aliens into the country by imposing civil and criminal penalties against employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

Even if the committees approve the bill, it still faces many uncertainties.

In the House, Rep. Kent Hance, D-Texas, and about 40 allies are trying to reverse the five-vote margin by which the bill passed the first time.

If it passes the House, the bill also faces the possibility of a filibuster in the Senate. Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, has vowed to do all in his power to defeat the bill. Simpson says he has the votes to cut off debate in such an event.

While President Reagan had threatened to veto the House version of the bill because of cost, Simpson won agreement to a \$6.4 billion limit on costs.

A House provision calling for the 100 percent reimbursement of states for costs of legalization was replaced with \$4 billion in grants to the states over four years.

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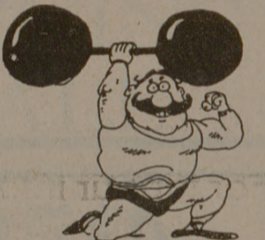
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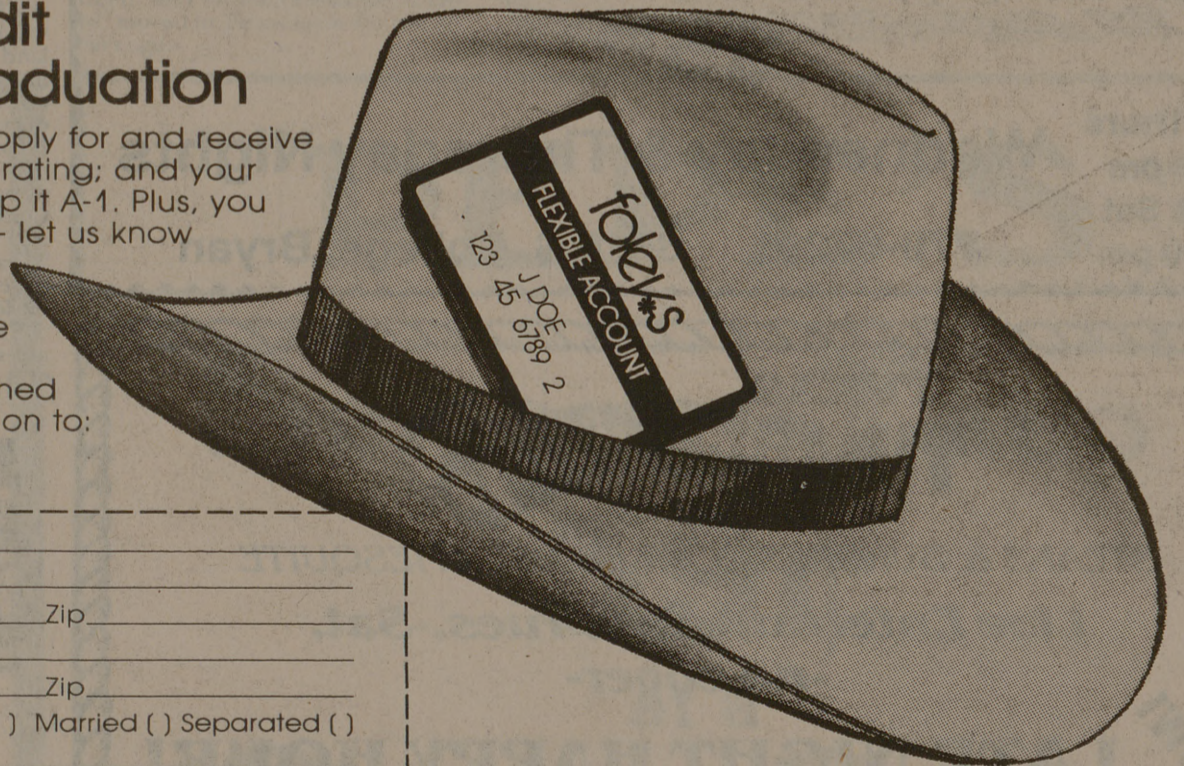
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