SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



Brazos shelter aiding pets

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and a decision is made within about 24 hours.

Ricker says the committee likes to have applicants wait a day before they adopt an animal. She says this wait helps prevent impulse buying and also gives the applicants time to prepare themselves for a new mem-ber of the family.

The animal will be placed in the home only when the committee is convinced that the animal will receive permanent and responsible

Applicants who are accepted are charged \$40 for a cat and \$45 for a dog. This cost covers a portion of the expense of the animal's shots and neutering. Ricker says every animal that leaves the shelter must be neutered. She says the staff does not

want to see adopted animals causing the problems they're trying to solve.

If the application is denied, a request for review can be submitted in writing. This gives the applicant a chance to tell his side of the story, Ricker says, and it helps the staff explain its decision. Applications may be denied if the applicant is unable to get a pet agreement from his landlord or if there's not a fenced place outside for a large dog to exercise, she says.

The committee tries to work with an applicant who has been denied to try and solve any problems, Ricker

Ricker says the ideal pet parent would be someone who is loving and

who has a good pet history.

They should also realize the problems involved with owning a pet and be willing to accept the animal for

If adopting an animal sounds too permanent, the shelter also has a volunteer program. Volunteers are needed to care for the animals in the shelter, to work at the front desk or to do things the staff is unable to do, says Misty Hehne, a shelter em-

Ricker says volunteers must be willing to commit to one day a week and a certain number of hours. The shelter staff has 10 or 11 volunteers now, she says, but would like to have

Hehne says the staff could take care of the animals, but this would interfere with other duties.

Hehne says the shelter gets volun-teers from Texas A&M and other surrounding areas.

Job odds for Aggies improving

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salaries among many A&M grad-

uates is simple. 'A&M graduates are very popular

among employers and they get paid accordingly," Childs said. But in contrast to computer science and business, there has been a

considerable amount of debate over

the job future in agriculture.

A study by the Occupational Outlook Division of the Department of Labor said the the job market in agriculture. riculture would grow at a rate below the national average.

Dr. Dwayne Suter, assistant dean of the College of Agriculture, says he does not agree with the Department of Labor statistics

"Department of Labor statistics are meaningless" Suter said, " because the sample includes jobs found ranching. A great deal of our grad-uates are finding jobs in agricultural support industries.

But statistics also show that A&M agriculture majors who reported to the University's placement center, reported salaries below last year's

But Suter points out that few agri-

culture majors are recruited through college placement offices. College Placement Council statis-tics are based only on responses from students recruited through the placement councils of its members.

Suter said the National Associa-tion of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges has done its own sur-

This study, Suter says, indicates that average salaries for agriculture

predominantly in farming and ranching. A great deal of our graduates are finding jobs in agricultural majors is \$500 higher per year than salaries reported by the College Placement Council or the Department of Labor.

Suter said placement of graduates from the A&M College of Agricul-ture has been considerably higher than national averages.

And Suter pointed out that bi-

otechnology research is a very promising field for the future.

The reputation of this school will always allow our graduates to place higher than the national averages,' Suter said.

According to the Recruiters Survey by Michigan State University, Texas students will be recruited very heavily by the nation's businesses.

According to the survey, 40 per-cent of the businesses surveyed said they expect job availability to be extremely high in Texas.

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