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Speakers encourage A&M students to take part in conservation efforts

By Wade See

Of The Battalion Staff

Speakers from around the state stressed the opportunity and the need for students to get involved in conservation issues last night.

The program, titled "One Earth, One Chance," was organized by the Outdoor Recreation Club.

Dr. Douglas Slack, master of ceremonies and a professor in the Wildlife and Fisheries Science department, prefaced the evening by saying that there are so many pressing issues in conservation that it is easy to get overwhelmed and not know where to start.

All the speakers agreed that the key to overcoming that feeling was to act on smaller projects.

John Karger, director of a bird of prey rehabilitation project, said that the problems we face now, including acid rain, global warming and deforestation can be solved.

"Quality of life is economically feasible, and we can make it work if we want to," he said.

Speaking to about 100 people, Karger said that there should be 500 times that number here. He told the audience to take the conservation message to the rest of the people who could not come tonight.

"It's very important that you make a difference, and you do," he said.

It's important to maintain a common sense perspective in conservation, Karger said. For example, hunters and anti-hunters both need to consider each other's perspective and use common sense. He also said that in many cases, land developers can use common sense and do what they want with the land and still make room for wildlife as well.

Karger also pointed out that man often calls animals lower life forms, and in doing so makes it easier to ignore them when we destroy their habitat.

"We see a lot of children and adults and say 'Take a look at this



Falconer John Karger holds a great horned owl that he nursed back to health.

Photo by Kathy Hansen

bird, isn't it magnificent? It breathes air just like you and me," he said.

During his talk, Karger flew several of the birds of prey that he brought from his project in San Antonio, Last Chance Forever. At one point he sent a hawk flying just inches over the heads of the audience to, as he said, let them feel what it was like to be a mouse or a rabbit.

Other speakers included Bill Carroll, George Russell and Dan Rooney. Carroll and Russell are both from Huntsville and work in forestry.

Carroll, a private forestry consultant, also stressed the importance for people to get involved.

"There's numerous issues out there to become involved in and if you don't it's gonna be left up to the politicians, and they're not always the best informed," he said.

"If we're going to do something about our environment — to have something for our children and our grandchildren — we have to get involved."

He said it's important to check the government's work because many

times it doesn't always do what he found a major government policy interpreted much of the information used to justify the policy.

"Just because a document is official does not necessarily mean it's accurate," he said.

Finally, Dan Rooney, recreation committee chair for the Texas Environmental Action Coalition, told attendees how they could make a difference here.

"You can't clean the world, but you can't clean your backyard," he said.

Nursing home aide receives 20-40 years for helping lesbian lover smother patients

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP)—A former nursing home aide expressed remorse as she was sentenced to 20 to 40 years in prison Wednesday for helping smother patients in a pact with her lover.

"Without you, I'm sure this matter never would have been cleared up," Kent County Circuit Judge Robert Benson said in sentencing Catherine Wood. "I'm convinced that you truly show remorse. . . . I'm also convinced that you are in fact a follower and not a leader."

Wood, 27, admitted she sometimes served as a lookout or diverted supervisors' attention while another aide, Gwendolyn Graham of Tyler, suffocated five patients at Alpine Manor Nursing home in Walker.

Wood also testified against Graham, who was convicted last month of five counts of first-degree murder.

Wood said the killings were part of a pact the two hoped would bind their love. She also said Graham told her the killings helped her "relieve tension."

Wood originally was charged with two counts of first-degree murder. Those charges were dropped after she agreed to plead guilty to one count each of second-degree murder and conspiracy to commit second-degree murder.

Graham, 26, faces a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment with-

out parole. Wood also had faced a maximum of life.

Wood did not speak during sentencing, but her attorney read a statement she wrote.

"Saying 'I'm sorry' is not enough. Mere words cannot express the remorse and guilt I'll have to live with for the rest of my life," Wood wrote.

Benson ordered 20 to 40 years on

each count for Wood, but said the sentences would be served concurrently. She would become eligible for parole in 16 years, two months.

"To some extent I'm surprised" by the sentence, defense attorney Christine Yared said, adding that both she and her client were pleased with the trial and its outcome.

Jan Hunderman, daughter of 60-

year-old victim Marguerite Chambers, said she, too, was pleased.

"She should have come forward and told people this was happening," Hunderman said. "But that I know that this act did happen to Mom, it seems to settle everything. . . . Now she can rest in peace."

Marketing firm sponsors essay contest, offers \$3000 in scholarships to winners

By Julie Myers

Of The Battalion Staff

Vector Marketing Corporation, a \$40 million national marketing firm, will sponsor its Third Annual Essay Contest with scholarship money totaling \$3,000 for winning entries.

Students are asked to write a 500 word essay on "Beyond Your GPA: What Does It Take To Be Successful After College?"

Bob Haig, Vice President of Sales and Marketing said he plans to make the informal information available to his Vector National Management team, and to other companies offering career opportunities to undergraduates and graduates.

The winning essay contestant will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Two second prize winners will receive \$500 each, and four runners-up will be awarded \$250 each in cash prizes.

In addition, all essay contest participants will be offered the opportunity to interview for a position as a summer sales representative through one of the Vector Marketing Corporation offices nearest to the college community or home town.

Entries will be judged on the basis of overall writing style and content. Correct grammar, punctuation and composition are essential, Haig said.

Copy must be typed, double-spaced, on white, 8 1/2 X 11" paper and should not exceed 550 words. All entries should include a return address and phone number along with the student's class year and major.

The contest is open to both part-time and full-time undergraduates, enrolled at recognized colleges and universities across the country. Vector employees and their relatives are ineligible to participate.

All entries are due Dec. 1, 1989 and winners will be notified by mail no later than Dec. 15, 1989.

Entries should be addressed to: Essay Contest, Vector Marketing Corporation, 1260 East Woodland Avenue, Springfield, PA 19064.

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PAINFUL MUSCULAR INJURIES

Individual with recent lower back or neck pain, sprain, strains, muscle spasms, or painful muscular sport injury to participate in a one week research study. \$50 incentive for those chosen to participate.

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HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE STUDY

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FEVER STUDY

Short at home study to evaluate individuals 17 years and older who have a temperature over 100° f. \$50. incentive for those chosen to participate. Nights and weekends call 361-1500.

\$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50

Cold Study

Individual 18 years & older who suffer from recent onset of the common cold. \$50 incentive for those chosen to participate.

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