

What's Up

Friday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: General discussion at noon. Call C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

TAMU COUNSELING AND ASSESSMENT CLINIC: Open registration for hypnosis clinic for smoking, weight and other habit-control problems in 701 Harrington Tower. Call 845-8021 for more information.

STAGECENTER COMMUNITY THEATRE: Live theater - "The Nerd" at 8 p.m. at 3715 E. 29th Street, Bryan. Call 846-0287 for more information.

PRE MED/PRE DENT SOCIETY: Tour and presentation of University of Texas Medical branch at Galveston, leave at 6:15 a.m. from Olsen Field. Lunch following. Call Dan at 823-6900 for more information.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Dates for the summer semester calendar are due at 5 p.m. in 208 Pavilion. Call Sabrina at 845-1133 for more information.

STUDENTS OVER TRADITIONAL AGE: Dinner club and Constitution meeting at 6 p.m. at the AnNam Teahouse. Call Donielle at 846-1471 for more information.

BETA ALPHA PSI: Officer applications are due by 5 p.m. in 501 Blocker.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES: Peanut Butter Fellowship from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of the Academic Building by Sul Ross. Weekly Bible study at 6 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church office. Call Stacy at 847-5300 for more information.

BRAZOS MUSIC ASSOCIATION'S MUSIC SHOWCASE: Five local talents will be showcased in this second presentation at 8 p.m. in Kay's Cabaret. 21 and over admitted, \$3 admission. Call Christy at 846-6981 for more information.

BRAZOS MUSIC ASSOCIATION: Benefit concert from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kay's Cabaret. Call Stacy at 764-1809 for more information.

HILLEL: Services at 8 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Students Center, 800 George Bush Drive. Call 696-7313 for more information.

HART HALL: Bike auction in front of Sbis. Call Will at 847-3997 for more information.

COLOMBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will have a wonderful party with lots of music and lots of fun at 8 p.m. at Wellborn Community Center. Donation of \$3 requested. Call Monica for more information.

Saturday

STAGECENTER COMMUNITY THEATRE: Live theater - "The Nerd" at 8 p.m. at 3715 E. 29th Street, Bryan. Call 846-0287 for more information.

DIE AGGIE KOMOEDIANTEN: A tragic comedy by Friedrich Duerrenmatt called "The Visit" at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Tickets can be bought at the door. Call Theresa at 847-8431 for more information.

TEXAS A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB: Practice Autocross, free, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Riverside Annex. Call Terry at 846-6099 for more information.

BRAZOS ANIMAL SHELTER: Fifth annual walk for the Animals and Pet Show (prizes available) from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. at Central Park in College Station. Call Michelle at 775-5755 for more information.

AUDUBON FIELD TRIP: Lick Creek Park. Call Bert at 764-3999 or 693-3214 for more information.

MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB: Picnic, officer elections at 1 p.m. in Bee Creek Park. Call Ben at 847-1105 or Amy at 847-2328 for more information.

TAIWANESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Invited lecture with Lou E.S. speaking at 1:30 p.m. at the Baptist Student Center.

EARTH FIRST! OUT THERE: Thinking Like A Mountain: A Council of All Beings facilitated by Mariah Wentworth of the Rainbow Hearth Sanctuary, Austin, all day, place to be announced. Call Dwight at 693-7383 for more information.

BRAZILIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Children's movie at 2 p.m. in 604 D Evans Library. Call Fabiana at 846-1331 for more information.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK JOURNALISTS: Elections at 6 p.m. in 214 RDMC. Call Pamela at 847-0529 for more information.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: International Radio Hour: Music from the Ivory Coast at 9 p.m. on KAMU-FM 90.9 FM.

Sunday

TEXAS A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB: Autocross No. 5, \$8 members, \$10 nonmembers, registration from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Riverside Annex. Call Terry at 846-6099 for more information.

LUTHERAN STUDENT FELLOWSHIP: Fellowship Supper at 6 p.m. at the Lutheran Student Center.

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES: Weekly Sunday study groups and dinner at 5:30 p.m. Disciples of Christ in 145 MSC and Presbyterians at A&M Presbyterian Church. Call Stacy at 847-5300 for more information.

METHODIST STUDENT CENTER: 5 p.m. choir, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. Vespers, 8 p.m. recreation. Call Max at 846-4701 for more information.

Monday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: General discussion at noon. Call C.D.P.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

STUDENTS AGAINST APARTHEID AND RACISM: Guest speaker and elections at 8:30 p.m. in Rudder. Call Syed at 693-6185 for more information.

TAMU CANCER SOCIETY: Will have a meeting with elections and talk about the dunking booth at 7 p.m. in 230 MSC. Call Laura at 847-2141 for more information.

ASME TECH: Guest speaker: Dr. Tim Coppinger, "Internal Ballistics," at 6:30 p.m. in 121 Thompson. Membership dues and petition.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION: All students, faculty, staff and former students welcome in 507 Rudder. Call Beau at 846-6115 for more information.

ALPHA PHI OMEGA: Special Olympics Track and Field meet orientation meeting from 7 to 9 p.m. in 101 HEEP. Call Steve at 847-5439 for more information.

THE LEBANESE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: Elections for 1991-1992 officers at 8:30 p.m. in 508 Rudder. Call Nabil at 693-0424 for more information.

BETA ALPHA PSI: General meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 165 Blocker.

TEXAS STUDENT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: General meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder. Call Amy at 696-3368 for more information.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROGRAM: Guest lecture at 7:30 p.m. in 105 HECC. Call Dr. Steven Oberhelman at 845-0841 for more information.

SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM: Heraldry meeting, research and commenting on names and personal coats of arms at 8:30 p.m. in Roy Heath's House of Heraldry, 4108 Aspen. Call Ernesto at 847-0993 or Roy at 846-0880 for more information.

AGGIE BLOOD DRIVE: At the Commons, Sbis, Academic Plaza, Medical Science Lab. Call Dawn at 847-1808 for more information.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We publish the name and phone number of the contact only if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are run on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3316.

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Nelkin: Science needs press for public support

Continued from page 1

by warnings of potential threats. For example, Nelkin said early reports of the benefits of genetically created "bugs" to eat oil spills also questioned what would happen if the bugs got into petroleum storage units.

But Nelkin said now the press is more concerned with the application of biotechnology, not safety.

"Techniques of gene splicing once represented as extremely dangerous became in the press a 'mundane tool,' and headlines began to tell the potential applications of research," she said.

By the early 1980s, the press promoted developments in biotechnology, Nelkin said.

Nelkin said scientists were described in the press as pioneers unlocking nature, but claims of miracles were still reported side by side with fears of an apocalypse because of genetic engineering.

Nelkin said this ambivalence is reflected in the controversy over animal patenting.

"The genetic engineering of animals has been given exten-

sive and often very positive treatment in the press as a means to make medically useful chemicals, such as human blood proteins," Nelkin said.

Despite the value of these "living inventions," Nelkin said heavy debate over genetically altering animals has been "smoldering" since 1980, when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of patenting living organisms.

Nelkin said researchers are in favor of patent protection for animals as medical inventions that promise medical and agricultural benefits.

But Nelkin said small farmers, animal rights activists, religious leaders and environmentalists raise other concerns. These groups are strongly opposed to animal patenting.

Small farmers are concerned with the cost of raising, breeding and owning genetically altered livestock. The farmers say this is the most recent trend in wiping out small farmers.

Nelkin said other groups believe patenting animals violates their sense of the natural by defining living organisms as "money-making" machines.

Nelkin said these issues reached the public in 1987 during Congressional hearings that discussed legislation on animal patenting.

Both the press and the hearings raised questions of animal patenting in agriculture, research and moral obligations to preserve nature, Nelkin said.

Nelkin quoted one newspaper editor as saying, "The public we are trying to reach in the daily press is in a cultural stage when three-headed cows, Siamese twins and bearded ladies draw the crowd."

The relationship between the science world and the press suffered partly because scientists accused journalists of sensationalizing their work, Nelkin said. But then, she said, scientists saw they were dependent on the press to build public support for their work.

Nelkin said, during the 1980s, science needed money for their research while the press raised questions of money and morality. So today, scientists are trying to influence the press, she said.

"Scientists sometimes describe

their work in terms that might embarrass the National Enquirer," Nelkin said. Research is described as creating a "new era of youth," and promises to produce ideal medical care, she said.

Nelkin said scientists think the media is "dirty business," but that is only a misunderstanding. Scientists don't want the press to report problems with research but its benefits to society.

"But science, like any other product, thrives because of marketing," Nelkin said. "The press becomes a means of promotion."

Nelkin said pressure for journalists to find a story makes them more vulnerable to what scientists have to say.

"The fundamental ambivalence between the value of technology and its role in our society makes controversy inevitable. And sensitivity to this ambivalence must be considered in development, application and especially public communication about science," she said.

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