Children's summer camp offers taste of Brazos Valley history

By JENNY VRNAK THE BATTALION

The Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History has the perfect solution for nature-loving children between the ages of three and 12 in need of something to do on those long summer days.

For almost 30 years, the museum has hosted a summer nature camp for children in the Brazos Valley. With four weeks left this summer, the camp has hosted over 322 kids so far. Richard Huey, spokesperson for the camp, said that this camp is a fun and interesting way to

help children learn about different countries.

"Each week we have a different topic. Right now it is 'Around the World in Eight Weeks," Huey said. "We pick a certain continent, and then we study all of its aspects — the culture, history, animals and people. Even the weather as well."

The camp incorporates exhibits in the museum and a nature trail to help with its daily lessons. Huey said the staff tries to use exhibits to enhance the children's understanding of the lessons.

The nature camp also has an arts and crafts period, where the children can create their own projects on the

country they are studying. During the week focused on Asia, the kids made paper dragons, Thai hanging owls and built their own volcanoes.

The camp opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 5:15 p.m. for parents who have to go to work.
The museum is located in downtown Bryan and tries

to focus many of its exhibits on Brazos Valley history.

"We have a permanent exhibit called the Ice Age Brazos Spring Mural," Huey said. "It shows what the Brazos Valley might have looked like during the Ice Age.'

The museum also features rotating exhibits from other museums around the world. A major exhibit

featuring seven complete dinosaur skeletons is ing in January of 1998 from the Royal Ontal Museum in Canada.

"We are very excited about this exhibit," said Ho 'It's so large that we are going to have to put the T-R skeleton outside our front door.'

The museum still has room for more campers to summer, and they also have mini-camps du Christmas and spring breaks.

Even though the camps are running now, vis are still welcome," Huey said. "The museum is alw open for anyone who wants to come.'

THE BATTALION

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STUDY. PLEASE CALL FOR MORE

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CONTACT

Continued from Page 3

Arroway's life dream is to find a reason to believe that other forms of intelligent life do exist outside Earth, so when she discovers this message,her main goal is to become the person selected to take the fantastic trip.

Throughout the film, Arroway is met with constant conflict from government officials (Rob Lowe and James Woods), her boss (Tom Skerrit) and even her love interest, a religious scholar and government advisor, Palmer Joss (Matthew McConaughey). On the other hand, Arroway is helped along her plight to attain one of the greatest adventures mankind has ever known by Angela Bassett, who portrays a presidential advisor named Rachel Constantine, and John Hurt, the quirky billionaire, S.R. Hadden.

Contact is one of the few films being compared to great cinematic achievements such as Close Encounters of the Third Kind. But the hype about the film and its critical

praise are definitely warranted. film covers the spectrum of e thing that makes a movie awe in ing. From special effects, which not overdone, to great acting pe mances and a brilliant story Contact will please people who do to see a film that will stir the mind

tenderly grip the heart. The film was based on the novel "Contact" by Carl Sagan, passed away in December of 1 Known for his work as a humanis scientist, Sagan was unable to see final product of the film, but ever working on the movie has said would have been proud to see vision come to life on the silver scre

Contact, unlike any other mov this decade, has come to the foref of developing movies with a purp The reasoning behind the film is allow audiences the chance to take closer look into the life of a wom with a lifelong dream - a dream waited for and took the opportuni and high risks to pursue.

From the stunning tutelage Director Robert Zemeckis, Contact sure to take its place in film history a production that embodied of man's vision and one character's terrific accomplishment.



Ellie Arroway (Jodie Foster) prepares for launch in Robert Zemeckis' Contact.

Thursday July 17

Classie & Cedric Ballou, a rock and Chris Duarte, a rock and roll per R&B band is playing at Chelsea Street former from Austin will be playing at Pub and Grill at 9 p.m.

Eugene Eugene, a R&B band from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

Friday July 18

Mountain featuring Leslie West, a classic rock band best known for their song "Mississippi Queen" will be performing at the Dixie Theatre

at 8 p.m.

Java at 9 p.m.

Classie & Cedric Ballou, a rock and R&B band is playing at Chelsea Street Pub and Grill at 9 p.m.

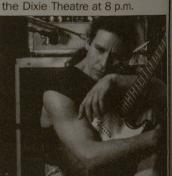
Key West, a Caribbean rock band from Nederland, is playing at Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

Charles Stacey, an Irish folk singer

from Houston, is playing at Crooked

Path Ale House at 9 p.m. Gail & Friends, a local folk band, will be at Sweet Eugene's House of

Saturday July 19



Chris Duarte Tish Hinojosa, an acoustic / fo musician from San Antonio will be a

the 3rd Floor Cantina at 8 p.m.

Austin, is playing at Crooked Path Al House at 9 p.m. Classie & Cedric Ballou, a rock a

R&B band is playing at Chelsea Street

Karen Abrahams, a blues singer from

Pub and Grill at 9 p.m. Ruthie Foster, a blues musician fro Bryan-College Station, is playing

Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

Mike Cancellare, an acoustic p former from Austin will be at Swe Eugene's House of Java at 9 p.m.

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