

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 coming in January of 1998 from the Royal Ontario Museum in Canada.

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

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

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

THE BATTALION

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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 Skeritt) 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.

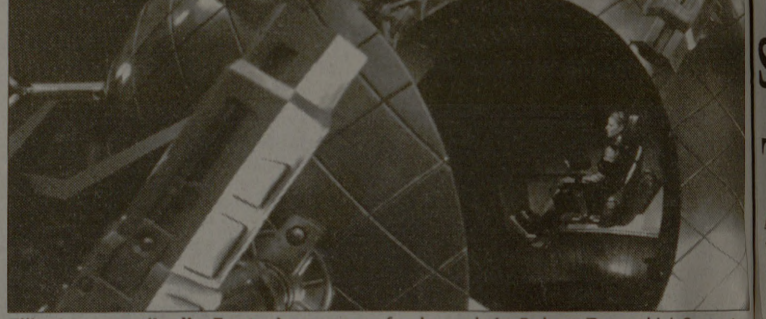
Contact is one of the few films being compared to great cinematic achievements such as Close Encounters of the Third Kind. But the hype about the film and its critical

praise are definitely warranted. The film covers the spectrum of everything that makes a movie awe-inspiring. From special effects, which are not overdone, to great acting performances and a brilliant storyline. Contact will please people who desire to see a film that will stir the mind and tenderly grip the heart.

The film was based on the 1965 novel "Contact" by Carl Sagan, who passed away in December of 1996. Known for his work as a humanist and scientist, Sagan was unable to see the final product of the film, but everyone working on the movie has said he would have been proud to see his vision come to life on the silver screen.

Contact, unlike any other movie of this decade, has come to the forefront of developing movies with a purpose. The reasoning behind the film is to allow audiences the chance to take a closer look into the life of a woman with a lifelong dream — a dream she waited for and took the opportunity and high risks to pursue.

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



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

WEEKEND PREVIEW

Thursday July 17, Saturday July 19, Friday July 18. Listings for local bands including Classie & Cedric Ballou, Chris Duarte, Eugene Eugene, Mountain featuring Leslie West, Chris Duarte, Karen Abrahams, Ruthie Foster, Mike Cancellare, Key West, Charles Stacey, Gail & Friends, and Eugene Eugene.

NEW HOME SALES TRAINEE. Immediate opportunity for entry level position. 65 yr. old company seeks recent graduate in Business or Construction Science. Competitive salary & benefits with excellent long term potential. Respond to Tilson Home Corporation, 6211 Ea. Hwy. 21, Bryan, Tx. 77808.

Yeast Infection. Women 16 years of age and older. If you are experiencing vaginal itching, burning, irritation or discharge you may be eligible to participate. As a participant you will receive \$150 for completion of study (3 visits). Physician visits and medication are FREE. No blood drawn!! Call for information: J & S Studies, Inc. 846-5933

Attention Women. Females, ages 18-34, who have been treated for a recent vaginal infection are being recruited to participate in a one year research study using one of two feminine hygiene products. History of douching is required. Eligible volunteers will be compensated. Call for information: J & S Studies, Inc. 846-5933 or 1-800-681-8204

HERPES STUDY. VIP Research is seeking individuals 18 years and older with recurrent genital herpes for a research study of an investigational oral medication. A current herpes outbreak is not necessary. Up to \$400 will be paid to qualified volunteers who enroll and complete this study. Call for information: VIP Research, Inc. 776-1417

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Athlete's Foot Study. Patients volunteers needed for Research Study of new investigational medicine. Free physical exam, treatments, study medications, and lab tests available for qualified participants. Patient stipend available for qualified participants ages 12 years and above. No topical (prescription or over the counter) treatment in the last 2 wks. Call for information: J & S Studies, Inc. 846-5933 or 1-800-681-8204

Chronic Pain Study. Subjects who have had chronic pain for at least three months, have been taking a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication daily and require additional pain relief are being recruited for an investigative research study with a marketed pain medication to determine the incidence of nausea and/or vomiting due to the medication. Eligible volunteers will be compensated. Call for information: J & S Studies, Inc. 846-5933 or 1-800-681-8204

MIGRAINE HEADACHE STUDY. Sciman Biomedical Research is seeking individuals to participate in a research study of an investigational migraine headache medication. To be considered for study participation you must be between 18 & 65 years of age with a history of migraine headaches. Up to \$100.00 will be paid to each qualified participant that enrolls and completes this study. You will receive medication attention as it relates to your migraine headaches at no cost to you. For more information, call: VIP Research, Inc. 776-1417

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Heartburn Study. Do you suffer from heartburn symptoms? Call for details. Call for information: J & S Studies, Inc. 846-5933 or 1-800-681-8204

FEVER BLISTER/ COLD SORE. VIP Research is seeking individuals 18 years and older with history of recurrent fever blister/cold sores for a research study with an investigational oral medication. Individuals that qualify and complete the study will receive up to \$400 for their participation. AN ACTIVE FEVER BLISTER IS NOT REQUIRED TO QUALIFY FOR THIS STUDY. PLEASE CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION. Call for information: VIP Research, Inc. 776-1417

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