

Lions roars about engineers at speech

By Joel Simonelli
FOGHORN

According to Mike Lions, a chemical engineer with Celanese, engineering isn't easy, but it pays well.

Nader Yassin, associate professor of mathematics, has invited Lions to speak to engineering and mathematics students at DMC the last 12 semesters. Lions is a former student of Yassin. Lions' goal is to inspire students to follow math, science and engineering careers.

"One thing I always start with is shopping around for education," he said.

He mentioned that most students are not even aware of all the opportunities they have for job placement right here at Del Mar. He also said that Celanese has plenty of co-op programs in various universities for students who are seriously interested in engineering careers.

Lions' lecture was generally focused on engineering, but he made some helpful points on the importance of grades and finding a career in general. He said every student is building his or her resume while at school.

"You're going to print out one, (a resume,) and hand it to some body; you're going to say, 'You want to hire me because...,' and you're filling out the 'because' right now."

Lions talked about Celanese and said that, like many other companies, they hold a GPA threshold for hiring purposes, and that it does not fall below 3.5.

"The top employers are looking for the top people," he said.

He said chemical engineers start making \$50,000, right out of college with a bachelor's degree. Over time, Lions said, the pay is steadily increased and can range up to over \$100,000.

On the subject of chemical engineering, Lions said that it is "people and machines" that he deals with, and that he has to be able to get along with both of them.

After Lion's lecture, professor Yassin presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the students.

Yassin said that the relationship between Del Mar and Celanese has been quite upstanding. He also mentioned that he has a few other speakers come from various companies, including Flint Hills Resources.

SOUTH | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

inspiration to their wives, Ella Boulligny and Shirley "Sam" Durrill whose portraits will be unveiled near the entryway of the Board's new meeting room as a thank you and a gift to the generous contributors.

Many DMC departments have now made the old Albertson's building their home and can now provide better availability of services to the general public and business community. The College's Division of Workforce, Economic and Community Development and the University of the Incarnate Word will continue offering a range of programs to meet the community's diverse education needs while the Small Business Development Center, the Procurement Technical Assistance Center, and the Business Resource Center will provide counseling and assistance to small businesses.

A contemporary and somewhat corporate feel was the desired look for the \$4.8 million renovated building. A "welcoming" entrance and large glass openings for additional interior lighting contrasts with the hardwood ceilings and stained concrete floors.

An open house and tour of the facility at 3209 S. Staples is being held today at 5:30 p.m.

METEOROLOGY | CHRISTMAS SNOWSTORM



Wendy Gobin | FOGHORN

KRIS-TV meteorologist Dale Nelson explains the Christmas Eve snowstorm of 2004 to students in the Coles Building.

Another white Christmas?

By Patricia Reiss
FOGHORN

Are you wondering if it will snow this Christmas?

Dale Nelson, chief meteorologist for KRIS-TV, isn't sure. But like everyone else, he remembers the miracle snow of Christmas Eve 2004.

Nelson spoke about the event during a presentation at the Coles Building, Friday, Oct. 7. He wanted to explain the unusual conditions that made it happen.

"The Christmas snowstorm produced more snow in 24 hours than ever before in the history of our area," Nelson said.

He showed how the snowstorm came from the north to the south-east, and by forming a loop, it went into the Northwest part of the Gulf of Mexico.

This system drew the lower level moisture from the Gulf that combined with the cold air from Canada and caused the snowstorm.

He explained the temperature in the clouds must be below freezing. If the temperature is cold enough and the air is too dry, it will not snow.

Nelson explained the elements that must combine for it to snow.

It snows in the mountains because of the lift of moisture

He said the storm originated with ice pellets in Beeville during the early evening. The ice pellets turned into snow. The accumulation started in the late evening when the initial ice pellets cooled the ground where they had dropped a little below freezing and the snow didn't melt.

Late at night, the snow started falling about 1-inch per hour, which is considered heavy snow, he said.

Finally, right before dawn, the snow started to break up because the disturbance that caused the storm began to move into the gulf and the moisture started to leave.

The temperature of 39 degrees was the highest temperature for 24 hours for the entire winter.

"No one had less than 4.4 inches, except for the island, so we exceeded the 4.3 inch record," Nelson said.

Some of the highest records recorded in other counties showed 12 inches of snow, but toward the south of Texas, the inches were decreasing.

"When it started snowing the temperature was at 28 degrees," he said. "One inch of rain will make 12 inches of snow," Nelson said.

The airport is the centralized location to take rainfall measurements because, for more accurate readings and safety, it was moved from downtown in the 1940s. The effect of this snow on our water supply was not much. It may have added an inch of water. We were at 100 percent in capacity so we lost that. In the last 9 to 10 months we lost a 25 percent of our water supply because of the heat, Nelson said.

Although Nelson's primary discussion was about the snow storm, he also talked about other issues such as global warming and hurricanes. Nelson's main lecture was about the Christmas snow, but he also talked about the increased number of Hurricanes and other weather phenomena such as the recent South Texas heat. But he did have some bad news. He told the audience of more than 100 students and faculty members he didn't believe South Texans would see snow on Christmas again in their lifetime.

Folk medicine thrives in 21st century

By Kathryn Hastings
FOGHORN

Curanderos, faith healers, served an important role in the health and care system of many Mexican-American families in South Texas and other regions predominantly Hispanic, Hector Morales said in a lecture Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Morales, coordinator of training and support facilities services, spoke on "The Evolution of the Mexican-American Folk Medicine into the 21st Century," as part of the college Hispanic Heritage Month activities.

The Texas Association for Chicanos in Higher Education (TACHE) sponsored the presentation.

Morales, a student and practitioner of Mexican-American folk medicine for more than 40 years, explained the function of a *curandero*, a healer who practices *curanderismo*, or Mexican-American folk medicine.



Morales

Kingsville.

"I hope to impress upon you an appreciation for the contributions that curanderismo has had in providing the Mexican-American people with medicinal health to relieve the misery of people who are suffering and to console those who are in distress," Morales said of his goals for teaching the class.

From both cultural and historical perspectives, a *curandero* serves an important role in the health care system for many Mexican-Americans in this

country.

Curanderismo has evolved into a more "integral" system of medicine, and curanderos have become "more sophisticated and better educated" over the years, according to Morales.

Medical doctors, nurses and others in the conventional medical profession have attended Morales' classes over the years, he said.

There are several differences between *curanderismo* and "conventional" medicine, he said.

A *curandero*, according to Morales, "feels a moral obligation to help those in need" and takes the time to get to the root of medical problems.

In addition, *curanderismo* connects illnesses with mind, emotions, and spirit as well as external causes.

The structure of *curanderismo* is based more on religion and prayer, combining medicinal herbs, religious beliefs, symbols and objects in its healing arts and practices, he said.

The DMC Blotter

(Note: All reports are taken from the Del Mar College security incident log Sep.29 through Oct. 5.)

Item of the Week Laptops, projectors stolen

Since early September, numerous laptops and projectors have been missing from several campus offices. The numbers of stolen items continue to climb as four laptops were reported stolen and two projectors are suspiciously missing during the last reporting period. One report states that a laptop and projector were taken from a locked room, but there were no details as to if the lock was broken, or if the perpetrator had a key. No reports indicate exactly what time these thefts occurred. Del Mar College security personnel have

declined to disclose information because of the ongoing investigation. Corpus Christi Police Department has also been involved in the detective work. There is no indication if the laptops were stolen at night or during school hours. Students and teachers should be cautious of the electronics they possess, for a thief (or thieves) is still amongst us.

HIT & RUN (9/29/05) - When a student returned to his car after class in the Fine Arts Center parking lot, he noticed his car's bumper was hanging down. The suspect who committed the hit-and-run left no insurance or information. Luckily, there was a witness who reportedly saw a female

driver hit the student's car.
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES (10/3/05) - Security received a call from a female who identified herself as a mother of a student. The "mother" reported that her son had been robbed on campus. Since the report, an investigation is being conducted.

STALKING (10/4/05) - An employee reported a male student, sent by the Texas Workforce, had been stalking her around campus. After being followed too long, the employee "had enough" and called security. The student has been banned from coming back to campus.

Compiled by Marissa Edwards

Clubs ready for Carnival fun, Oct. 28

By Monica Garcia
FOGHORN

Fall Carnival booths and activities are going fast.

Approximately 20 clubs are participating in the Fall Carnival, set for Oct. 28 in the Harvin Center-East Campus.

The Student Development Office sponsored a meeting Oct. 11 to decide who got what booths for the event.

Clubs submitted their paperwork before the meeting to request specific activities and booths. If there were duplications, a drawing was held to decide which club got their request.

Some members of various clubs did not like this method and hope to change it for next year.

"I really don't like the method of choosing who gets a certain activity, I think they can come up with something much better than that," said Wendy Gobin, Press Club president.

Some clubs had four activities while other had two booths and some only one, Gobin said.

"Because of space in the Harvin Center, clubs are limited to two booths, but up to six activities," said Richard Molina, assistant director of Student Activities.

Clubs can request any activity they want, as long as it abides by Del Mar College rules and isn't a duplicate, Molina said.

"There may be five clubs that want the same thing, but only one can get it," Molina said.

"It is still not too late to participate in the Fall Carnival," Molina said.

Clubs must submit a request of activity to Molina, in Room 109 of the Harvin Center.

"Submit a request, and if (the activity or booth) is not taken, you can have it," Molina said.

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DMC Gets Grant

Del Mar College was awarded a grant totaling \$396,208 by the U.S. Department of Education Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS) for the 2005-2009 fiscal years. DMC will be allotted \$99,052 a year for the subsequent four year grant cycle. These funds will be used to aid low-income students with children enrolled at the Center for Early learning on the East Campus. For more information, call 361-698-1083.

West Campus

SGA

Movies, popcorn sales and musicals are only part of the programs that the members discussed at the Oct 13 meeting. Among ongoing issues concerning students the SGA is working on are a bookstore, smoking, ATM, and copy machine removal.

DMC West SGA will Host the 2005 Regional Conference at Port Royal busy making plans and finishing details. State Representative Able Herrero will be a guest speaker. Six colleges have already registered and about 200 students from throughout south Texas will attend, one of the largest in recent years.

Physical Therapy Assistants

PTA was awarded the "Club Project of the Year" by Del Mar College for their work on repairing and donating wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches to members of the community that could not afford to buy and do not have insurance.

Student Texas Restaurant Association

Another chance to enjoy one of those Gourmet Caramel Apples is coming during the Fall Festival in the Harvin Center, Oct 28.