



NSF-STEP and the Science Club
present

**“From “D” for Diploma in High School to College Professor:
The Strange Path of a Wildlife Biologist”**

A lecture presentation by

Raymond S. Matlack, Ph.D.

Wednesday - September 10, 2008

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Room S-101

Eastfield College, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150

Raymond S. Matlack, Ph.D.

grew up in Central Florida and spent much of his childhood in pursuit of reptiles.

Raymond's interest in biology can be traced to his days in the swamps of Florida. After high school he joined the U.S. Army and served as an infantryman for 4 years.



Following his term in the army, Raymond enrolled at Kansas State University and received the B.S. in Wildlife Biology and my M.S. (thesis: The swift fox in rangeland and cropland in western Kansas: relative abundance, mortality, and body size) and Ph.D. (dissertation: Ecology of shrews in tall grass prairie) in Biology.

Since 2002, Dr. Matlack has worked at West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) and is currently Associate Professor of Biology. He has an active research program and teach courses in wildlife biology including wildlife conservation, wildlife management, wildlife management techniques, mammalogy and ornithology. Dr. Matlack also serves as the advisor to wildlife biology majors.

Most of his ongoing research occurs in the Panhandle of Texas. With the assistance of his graduate students and a cadre of undergraduate research assistants, Dr. Matlack is able to carryout a number of projects on the ecology of small mammals, carnivores, bats, and waterfowl.

His interest in mentoring undergraduates in research and improving science education keeps him busy as a Co-Principal Investigator on (WTAMU)'s NSF- STEP grant and the Principal Investigator on their NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) grant.