

# A Day At The Zoo

Billy Ormston\*

This year SCAVMA undertook a new community service project. On May 28th and 29th, we held a petting zoo on the Iowa State campus in conjunction with the state finals of the Special Olympics.

Our goal was to get as much hands on experience for the kids as possible. In the two days over 3,500 people came through the zoo, and most of them handled at least one animal. We had 84 different animals including puppies, kittens, ponies, calves, pigs, sheep, goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, hamsters and a ferret.

Everyone that came through had a tremendous

time as evidenced by their smiles. For many of them it was their first and maybe only chance to pet and hold a living creature.

It was a very rewarding experience for all the students, faculty and staff that volunteered their time to assist. Seeing these special people have such a good time made many realize how fortunate we are while showing us that life doesn't stop because of a handicap.

Thanks again to all who helped make this project a success.



Dr. Thomas L. Carson assists a Special Olympic participant who is holding a squirming piglet.

\*Mr. Ormston is a third year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.