



NICOLE ROHRMAN/The Battalion

Ted Hastings, a geology senior from Houston and a student worker at the Browsing Library, plays a CD for one of the library patrons. "The library is

a great place to relax while you study," Hastings said. The library is located on the second floor of the MSC.

Browsing Library still unnoticed

Relocation to second floor of MSC causes visitor shortage

By MICHELE BRINKMANN

The Battalion

Even though the Texas A&M University Browsing Library was relocated to the second floor of the Memorial Student Center more than a year ago, many people still do not know about the library.

"There has been a shortage of people here, but I think this is because no one knows of the new location," said Gina Krnavek, supervisor of the library.

Senior Agricultural Engineering major Tina Robison, an employee of the library, said the new location of the library is an unlikely place for students to pass by, so many don't even know that the library exists.

"A lot of people that use the library don't tell others," Robison said. "It's a 'hush-hush' kind of place."

The library has a map room and a television/piano room. A language lab that will be used in

conjunction with foreign language classes is under construction and is expected to be finished next year. There are no research facilities in the library.

"The purpose of the library is to provide a studious, relaxing atmosphere for students, faculty, employees, and visitors."

—Gina Krnavek, library supervisor

"The purpose of the library is to provide a studious, relaxing atmosphere for students, faculty, employees, and visitors," Krnavek said. Study carrels with headsets to

listen to the radio and compact discs are available. Students can check out a room to use for group study.

The library has leisure books that can be checked out with a student I.D., and magazine and newspaper back files are also available.

"We can be used as an alternative for Sterling C. Evans Library," Krnavek said. "Sometimes we will have an article that a student has been looking for in Evans Library."

Everything in the library is free of charge except for xerox copies and transparencies.

The library also has old Aggie yearbooks and Former Student Directories.

The library was moved to Room 288 in the new addition of the MSC in March 1992, and it is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. In the fall semester the library will be open until 10 p.m.

Local blood centers follow guidelines

By CARRIE MIURA

The Battalion

Local blood centers are following strict guidelines proposed Thursday by the Food and Drug Administration to ensure the safety of all blood donors and blood recipients.

The American Red Cross, the FDA, and the American Association of Blood Banks served together on a working committee that established the criteria for all blood centers to follow.

According to the Associated Press, the new guidelines are requiring blood centers to establish quality assurance programs. The quality assurance unit is required to stop the production or the shipment of blood products when necessary because of contamination.

The Health Care Financing Administration also proposed a companion rule which would require hospitals to notify patients or their physicians if a donor tests positive for HIV.

Felix Perez, media relations specialist for the American Red Cross at national headquarters, said, "The Red Cross has been following these guidelines for many years."

Since 1986, the Red Cross has been conducting internal inspections every year, and the

FDA administers annual inspections to every blood center in the U.S.

Ninety-five percent of all blood banks already follow these proposed guidelines, Perez said.

"There is nothing in the guidelines that the Red Cross does not already follow," he said.

Some of the smaller blood centers that are not affiliated with the Red Cross may see the guidelines as a way to ensure more safety to the donor and the recipient, he said.

"Everyone in the blood bank community must have quality assurance," Perez said.

The blood donor is screened for his or her medical history and once the blood is drawn, seven tests are administered which includes testing for HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, syphilis and leukemia.

"The blood supply today is safer than it has ever been in the past," Perez said.

"There are no reported cases of illness or disease caused from donating blood."

Dr. O. C. Cooper, who works in the family practice department in the College of Medicine at Texas A&M, said, "The safety for donating blood is fine and there are no dangers for contracting infectious diseases."

Dr. Cooper, who has been practicing in the Bryan and College Station community since 1954, said, "Donating blood does not harm the individual."

Bill Thomas, manager of the Brazos County chapter of the American Red Cross said the usage of donated blood in Brazos County has increased throughout the years.

"There has never been a threat to a donor's health or safety," he said.

"The risk of contracting an illness or a disease from a transfusion is lower than the risk of not getting a transfusion at all," Perez said.

The American Red Cross has collected over 6 million units of blood from 4 million donors. The Red Cross also provides the public with over half of the nation's blood supply.

Over 3,000 units of blood a year are donated by Brazos Valley residents through donor programs and over 5,000 units of blood a year are needed in the Brazos Valley area, Thomas said.

"We need to increase the number of donors to meet our local needs and to not rely on donors out of Brazos County."

The next blood drive sponsored by the American Red Cross will be held at Saint Joseph Hospital and Health Center on July 22.

U&I CAN prepares to vaccinate Brazos area

Clinic needs community volunteers

By GENEEN PIPHER

The Battalion

Unified & Involved Community Action Network (U & I CAN), in cooperation with the Brazos County Division of the Texas Department of Health, is sponsoring free immunization clinics for Texas A&M University students and members of the community with children.

Kay Claybourn, funding and resources facilitator for U & I CAN said the organization is looking for volunteers to work at the immunization clinics.

"We need non-medical personnel to work at the clinic," Claybourn said. "Any students or student groups could get involved, particularly those who are interested in health and children."

Re'Donna Christian, immunization outreach worker for the Brazos County Division of the Texas Department of Health, said U & I CAN aims to make immunizations more accessible to the community.

"There is not just going to be one clinic from eight to five, but many clinics set for after five hours and weekends," Christian said. "This will accommodate those who couldn't make the clinics that are held in the daytime."

Claybourn said, "What we're doing is complementary to the Brazos Valley Health Department clinics that are scheduled during the day. We complement their programs by holding ours in the evenings and on weekends."

Claybourn said many parents do not realize or forget the importance of immunizations.

"In a lot of families, both parents work and getting their child immunized is not as high on their priority list as it is to see to their day to day needs," she said. "We're trying to give a big push to let parents know about how important it is to immunize."

Christian said, "Young parents are kind of slacking up on getting their children immunized. The younger generation hasn't seen many cases of these diseases because they have been immunized, so they don't think the diseases still exist."

Claybourn said only 30 percent of children age zero to two in Texas start their immunization series on time.

"Thirty percent is a very low rate," Claybourn said. "In the Brazos Valley, the number is probably about 50 percent. Our goal is to bring that number to 100 percent."

Claybourn said the diseases the organization is immunizing against are very preventable.

"There is no reason that these kids should have to suffer through these diseases," she said.

Christian said the key to prevention is getting the children immunized and doing it on schedule.

"Get the children immunized as soon as possible," she said. "Start at two months old and keep up with the program."

People interested in immunizations or volunteering can call the Brazos Valley Division of the Texas Department of Health.

Jurors end day 4 of deliberations

Jury of 'gangsta rap' trial struggles for verdict

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Jurors ended a fourth day of deliberations Monday without issuing a sentence in the trial of a Houston man who claims that hard-driving rap music swayed him to gun down a state trooper.

The eight-man, four-woman jury quit after eight hours. They are scheduled to resume their deliberations Tuesday.

On Sunday, State District Judge Whyland Kilgore said that the jury was deadlocked 10-2 in favor of sentencing Ronald Ray Howard, 19, to death in the slaying of Department of Public Safety Trooper Bill Davidson.

All jurors must agree for

Howard to receive the death penalty.

When the panel ended its meeting Monday, Davidson's widow, Linda, cried as she walked out of the courtroom.

"No gangsta rap music in the world is going to get Ronald Ray Howard to violate his moral conscience."

—Bobby Bell, district attorney

Defense attorney Allen Tanner made four motions for a mistrial between Friday and Sunday. Tanner said forcing the panel to continue deliberating would put undue pressure on the two dissenting jurors to change their minds.

Kilgore has turned down the motions.

If the judge were to declare a mistrial, Howard automatically would be sentenced to life in prison.

The same jury took just 40 minutes last month in finding Howard guilty of killing Davidson.

The trooper was shot near Victoria in April 1992.

Howard's attorney said that a childhood of violence in Hous-

ton's inner-city, including brushes with gangs and hours of listening to angry "gangsta rap" music, taught him to hate police.

In his closing argument, Tanner had told jurors: "This music builds up in a young kid's head... We're not saying it's the only cause, but it's a contributing cause along with everything else."

Jackson County District Attorney Bobby Bell has said listening to anti-cop rap music is not a defense for killing a law enforcement officer.

"No gangsta rap music in the world is going to get Ronald Ray Howard to violate his moral conscience," Bell said. "There is no way listening to that music reduces his (responsibility)."



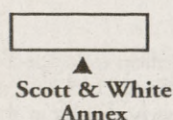
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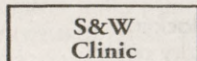
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Scott & White Clinic, College Station, is now offering weekend clinic hours for urgent care by appointment only! The Weekend Clinic is conducted from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Clinic Annex building located across the street (Glenhaven Dr.) from the main clinic.

By Appointment Only
(409) 268-3663



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The Battalion (USPS 045-360) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods), at Texas A&M University. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77840.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone number is 845-3313. Fax: 845-2647.

Advertising: For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-5408.

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