

# Students design grade school park

A school full of Central Texas children will soon be playing in, around and through the creation of two TAMU students.

A playground designed by Frank Reedy of Dallas and John Taylor of Corpus Christi, senior environmental design students, was picked by the children and staff of the grade school in Marlin, Falls County, as the one they would most like to play in and supervise.

The playground is designed around several small knolls which turn into itself.

"Instead of a cyclone fence to cage them in, we decided to contain the children's activity with retaining walls and natural barriers," said Reedy. "We've made it a magnet to keep children on or near the playground and away from the street and railroad tracks which run nearby."

"It really stagnates the children's imagination when you fence them in," mused Taylor.

The children's imaginations appear in little jeopardy though. The playground is filled with ob-

scure devices that can be crawled through, climbed over and jumped from.

"We wanted to do more with less," Reedy pointed out. "We purposely made the whole design ambiguous (capable of various uses) to encourage interpretation. We tried to reach a higher level of play, where it becomes a learning experience and a child can use the playground in a different way everyday."

"The activity clusters are psychologically linked," noted Taylor, "to create a flow of movement and a special experience evolving back into a centralized implied space."

Apparently, the playground has excited more than the children though. Marlin businessmen, organizations and towns people have donated 230 railroad ties, 25 telephone poles and 660 cubic yards of gravel, sand and dirt to build up the area and provide drainage.

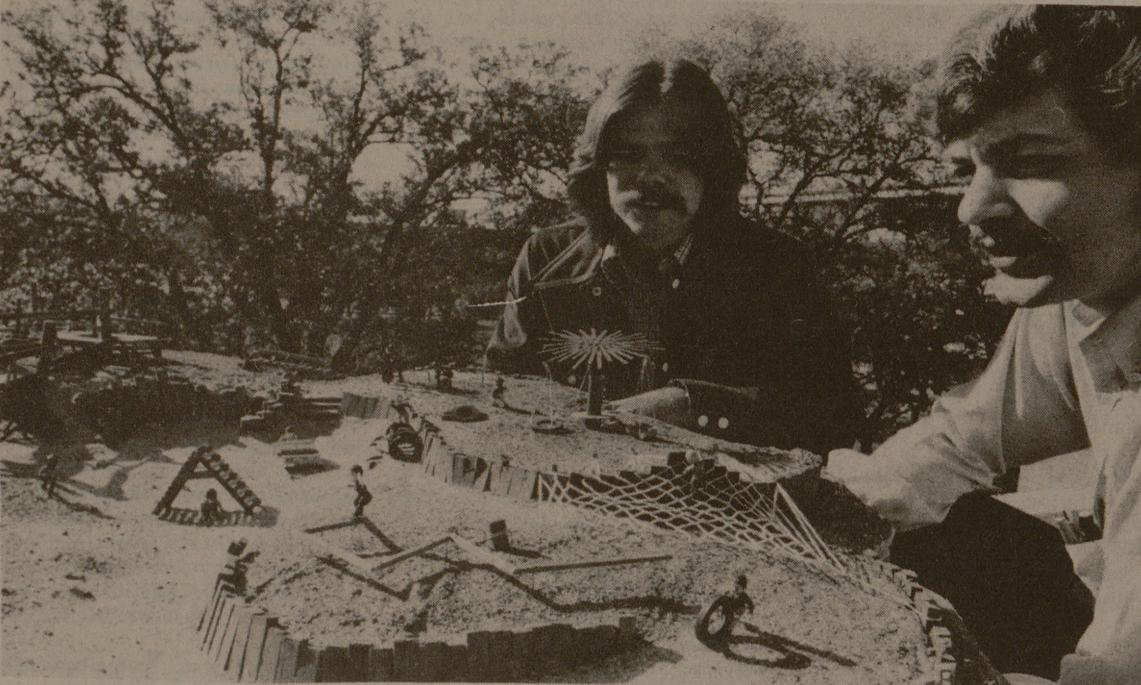
"The city and construction firms are providing bulldozers, tools and a backhoe," smiled

Reedy. "And the National Guard is going to help finish the project May 3 and 4."

Their university mentor, Professor Rodney Hill, said the pair's creation is, "teaching them more about themselves than anything

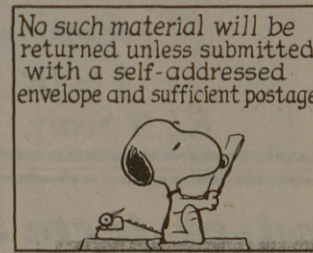
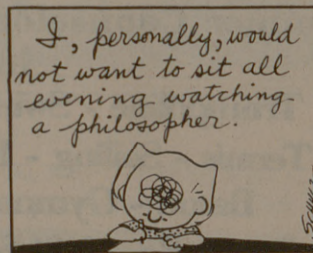
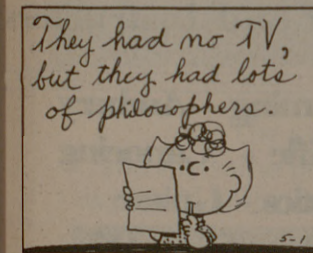
else. In this environmental design program, we start trying to develop the student as a whole person," Hill continued. "They go through unusual experiences and exercises to help them get rid of inhibitions. We encourage them

to develop the creative part of their mind to allow them to recognize what they can do. The task is trying to get them not to design from past mental recordings but through their own adult decision making process."



JOHN TAYLOR OF Corpus Christi, left, and Frank Reedy of Dallas eye a model of the playground they are constructing for a Marlin, Texas grade school.

## PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz

## Campus Briefs

### Koldus interview

Questions on the Student Rights await John Koldus, vice president for student services, tonight.

The Student Government radio will host a program with Koldus available to answer questions not only from the interviewers, but also from the audience.

"We will talk about anything that

the audience asks about, but I think that students are interested in the Rights Bill right now," said Jim James, host of the show.

The program will be aired at 9 on the SG station for those who are on the Midwest cable. This program is one of many that have been presented this year, James said.

### 65 foot telegram

The Memorial Student Center Radio Committee sent a 65-foot telegram to the Aggie baseball team in Austin last weekend.

Signed by a large cross-section of students, the telegram took eight members of the committee four hours to send.

### AMTRACK show

A team of Architecture and Planning graduate students will present "All Aboard on AMTRACK" Friday. The presentation will show the student designs for an AMTRACK Transportation Center for the Bryan-College Station community which would be on the Dallas-Houston-Dallas train route.

The collaborative team under the direction of Profs. Joseph J. McGraw and Edward J. Romieniec will display the project at 1:30 Friday in Room 309 of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design for all interested persons.

### Initiation banquet

Dr. John P. Abbott, professor emeritus of English, will present the initiation address at the TAMU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi annual banquet May 7.

Phi Kappa Phi is the honor society open to students in all academic fields at undergraduate and graduate levels.

Members represent the top 10 percent of their class, and initiation ceremonies.

The initiation, which will begin at 6:45 p.m. in the Krueger-Dunn Commons area, will formally induct more than 285 initiates into the honor society.

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## bulletin board

**THURSDAY**  
PRE-VET SOCIETY will meet in the main lecture room of the Zachry Engineering Center at 7:30 p.m.  
MIDLAND AREA HOMETOWN CLUB will meet at Sparky's from 6-8 p.m. for Pizza Party for all people from Midland, Odessa and Andrews.  
FREE UNIVERSITY will present a mini-course in home haircutting in Room 250 of the MSC at 8 p.m.  
FORT BEND COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB will meet in Room 504 of the Rudder Tower at 8 p.m. for officer elections.  
PANHANDLE HOMETOWN CLUB will meet in Room 601 of the Tower at 8 p.m.  
FENCING CLUB will meet in the attics of G. Rollie White Coliseum from 7-9 p.m.  
TRAVEL COMMITTEE will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room N of the Student Programs Office.  
FLYING CLUB will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 225 of the Chemistry Building.  
CEPHEID VARIABLE will meet in Room 401 of the Rudder Tower at 7:30 p.m.  
MSC TRAVEL COMMITTEE will meet at 7:30 in Room N of the Student Programs Office.



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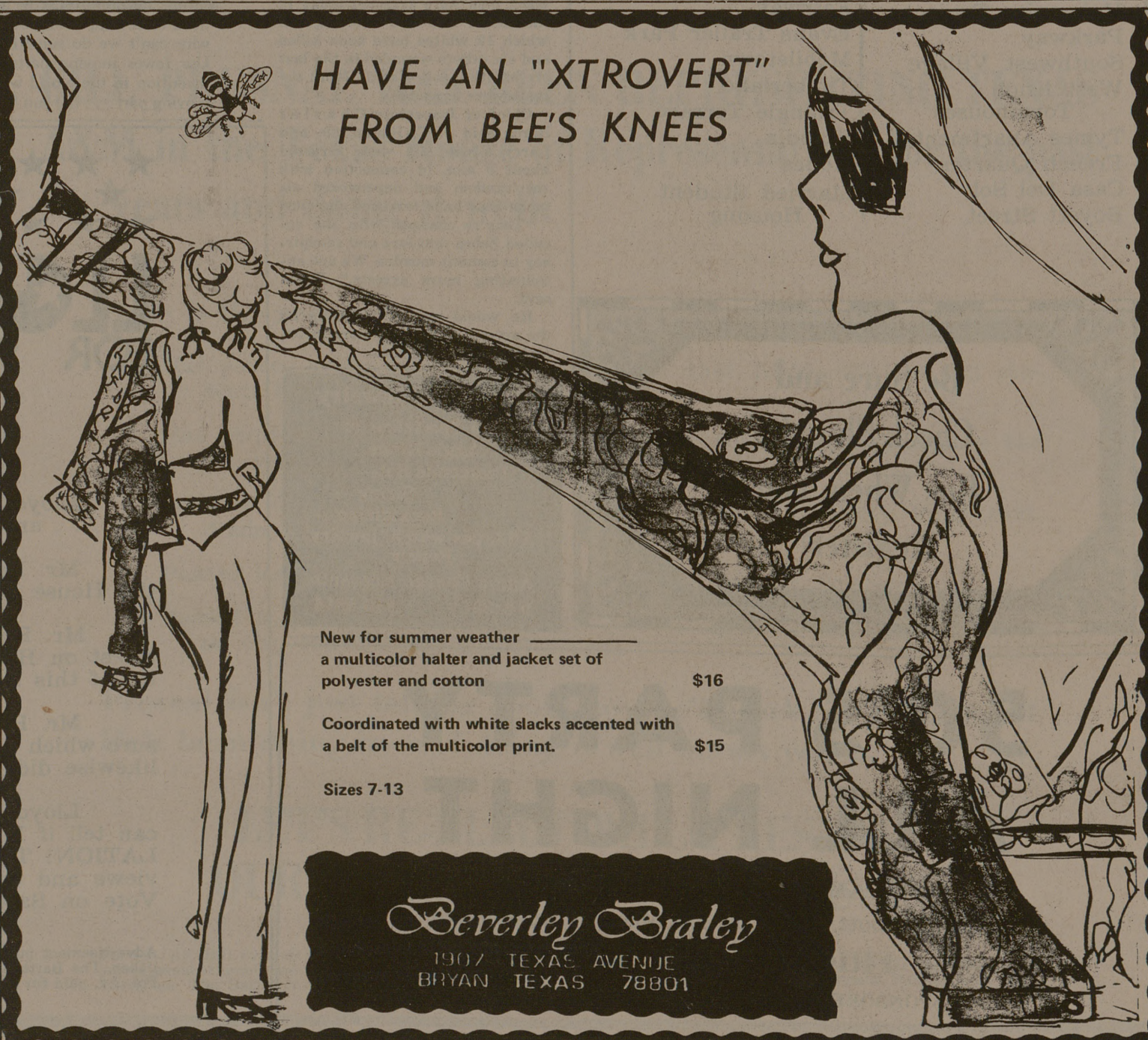
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