

The Arts Committee presents  
**The Wild Child**

This film is based on the 1806 memoirs of a French physician, Dr. Itard. It begins in 1798, when a child is found living in the forest like an animal. Dr. Itard sets for himself the task of educating the wild child.

The film is meticulous and objective, exploring in great depth the themes of love, freedom, the nature of childhood and childhood's end.

Monday, February 7  
8 p.m., Rudder Theatre  
Admission \$1

# Change needed in classes

The struggle to teach may involve more than the battle for minds. Teachers may also have to fight the arrangement of the classroom inside because it may affect certain human behavior patterns.

For this reason, interest is growing in human behavior research as it relates to the physical environment, says Dr. David C. Armstrong, assistant professor of educational curriculum and instruction at Texas A&M University.

Armstrong says facts are needed to convince administrators to change the classrooms from traditional row arrangements.

Interest is developing to the stage that a few of Armstrong's graduate students have expressed interest in the field. He would like to cooper-

ate in some future research with local public schools.

Distance, size of the groups and eye contact seem to be important variables, according to research figures.

Tests reveal that 71 per cent of the people in a room try to organize conversation with only one other person. Only 21 per cent seek three persons for the group and less than 10 per cent feel comfortable enough to be involved with four or more persons.

Since the smallest group a teacher can usually divide the class into is five or six, research indicates that teachers must quickly appoint specific, individual responsibilities to pupils. Otherwise, those groups will subdivide into conversation groups of two or three persons.

"We are teaching the teachers to tell one student, 'You take notes.' Tell another, 'You're in charge of making sure everyone participates.' And others, 'You and you do this and come up with this.' There is a greater likelihood of active participation by all, using these methods," Armstrong said.

A test that divides the classroom into 12 evenly arranged sections facing the teacher, demonstrates the critical importance of eye contact.

All the students in the first three front sections actively participate at least half the time. So do the three sections located in the middle of the class on a perpendicular line with the front sections.

This forms a "T" with the crossbar on the front rows and the leg down the middle rows. Students who sit in the "T" have the most continuous eye contact, suggests Armstrong, and those pupils feel more inclined to participate.

Evidence indicates teachers who can move about freely or who can shuffle students without adverse effects, can increase participation by all class members.

"Frequently, it is the 'A' students who holler the loudest when you start moving pupils around. They know that by occupying those critical seats, there is a positive reinforcement flow between them and

the teacher. They have learned to work the system."

Other research has shown that a five-foot, head-to-toe distance is the maximum people will feel comfortable conversing. In our society, however, there is an unspoken minimum distance, so teachers may not succeed with cramming students close together.

People arranged in a circle, most comfortable about perching, Armstrong says, but the tables or other physical barriers that their ideas and their being are protected and not exposed.

## Two engineers get scholarships

Marathon Oil Foundation Scholarships go to Texas A&M University students Michael F. Cook of San Antonio and Dwight D. Johnston of Dallas, both seniors in ocean engineering.

The pair were the spring recipients of the \$350 awards given on the basis of high scholastic achievements in their program.

They were selected by an Ocean Engineering Scholarship Commit-

tee composed of Drs. Wayne A. Dunlap, Robert Randall and J. B. Herbiich.

Cook is a member of the Ocean Engineering Club and Johnston is the president of the organization.

The Marathon Oil Foundation, Inc. has sponsored scholarships since 1973 for the ocean engineering program which now enrolls about 200 students.

## Northgate Condominium to begin construction soon

By CATHY BREWER

The self-contained lifestyle is one of the most interesting and advantageous things about the Northgate Condominium, said Dixie N. Stanton, director of marketing for the project.

Four eight-story towers, 360 condominium apartments, a 66,000 square foot retail mall, and a regulation ice hockey arena will be included in the five-year project. Construction will begin this March.

It will be built one block north of the Texas A&M University campus on a nine acre site, now occupied by the Circle Drive-In Theatre.

Northgate is a joint venture of Boyett Investments, Ltd. of College Station and CBJV, Inc., a subsidiary of the Condel, Inc. of Dallas.

The price range for the one- and two-bedroom and studio apartments

is between \$29,000 and \$44,000.

The first phase, to be completed in late 1978, will consist of the mall, ice rink and 90 condominium apartments in an eight-story tower.

Each of the second, third and fourth phases will have 90 apartments in an eight-story tower also. Tennis and racquetball courts, a health club, swimming pool, meeting rooms and electronic security are among some of the benefits of phase one.

Stanton said that each apartment will have a security-guarded parking space, separate from the retail area parking.

One of the most attractive elements of the apartments is that each unit will be equipped with its own laundry facilities, said Stanton.

Other interesting features include storage units on each floor for

the resident's use and a balcony for each apartment, built at an angle to provide more privacy for the residents.

Appliances and carpeting provided in each apartment, prospective buyer has a choice of unfurnished or furnished units.

"Basic floor plans are being prepared for the one- and two-bedroom studio apartments, but special plans can be arranged," Stanton said.

A Dallas architectural firm, Swanson, Hiester, Wilk, Claycomb, is designing the condominium.

Stanton said several markets shown interest in Northgate.

"The strongest market is a teacher or professor concerned with a lifestyle that is an educational and cultural rather than moving the ball on Saturday," Stanton said.

Other markets include parents of students, football ticket holders, corporation business with the University, those who are concerned about investments.

The owner can handle leasing arrangements or management company handling.

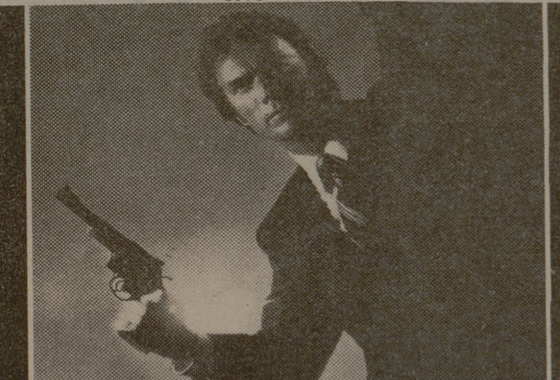
Stanton said that at this time they are confining full-time residents to the seventh and eighth floors. "The lower floors are the province of investors and others purchasing for their children," Stanton said.

Northgate has recruited students from campus to act as representatives for the condominium to help students who are interested in living there.

"We work with the parents, the representatives work with students to come together, sale," said Stanton. "It gives student a chance to work someone from the same group."

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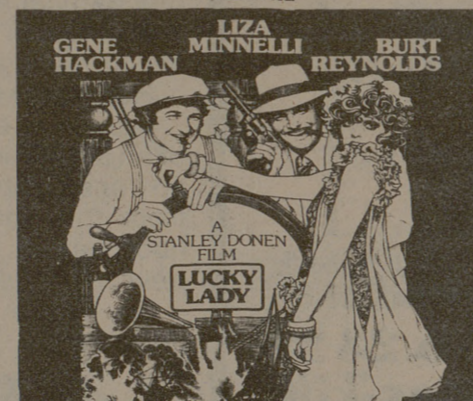
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