### Local

### Short haircuts, conservative dress are orders of the day

# Allen Academy reflects popularity of private schools

### **By LEIGH McLEROY**

Battalion Reporter What many Southwesterners know about private schools is li-mited to what they see on "The Facts of Life," a Wednesday night situation comedy. But these facts can be misleading. No longer an all-male, upper-

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the Southwest as a business whose product is a high-quality, indiidualized education.

Allen Academy, the oldest preparatory school in Texas, is a coducational, military-oriented pri- aloud.

vate school located in north Bryan.

Little about the school's physical appearance is commanding. Its facilities, like most private schools its size, include classrooms, dormitories, tennis courts, a dining hall, gymnasium, a recently com-pleted football field and a swimming pool.

Because males who board at the Academy are required to participate in the ROTC program, they can be seen on campus sporting short haircuts, green fatigues and combat boots. Female students

dress conservatively in skirts and slacks worn with topsiders and Bass loafers. In Lyra Pointer's English class,

pictures of Hemingway, Dickin-son, Twain and Fitzgerald line the classroom walls, along with a Zig-gy calendar and a poster titled "Twelve Things to Do Instead of Smoke Cigarettes.

Fifteen students listen as Pointer reads assignments for the next nine weeks. They groan collectively at the mention of grammar. (Six weeks out of the nine week course include grammar studies.) After the assignments are given, the class continues reading a play

Pointer makes frequent com-ments during the play. She is en-finance and spent a year on Wall thusiastic and appears to enjoy what she is doing.

Although she has a public has taught at the Academy two years, says she prefers Allen. "I don't like to teach in public

schools anymore," she says. "There are too many discipline problems and classes are too

Private school students are frequently stereotyped as a homogenous and sheltered group. The Academy has students from seven states and 11 countries. Headmaster Bill Creedin stres-

sed the importance of exposing students to outside influences. The students take field trips regularly and each week hear speakers from the local community and the University.

During a chapel period where attendance is mandatory but parti-cipation is not, representatives difference where from different religious groups present their views. These kids aren't in a glass

bubble," Creedin said.

Creedin, a newcomer to the Allen Academy and the Southwest, is a product of Philadelphia

Street before launching a career in school administration. This background is helpful be-

school background, Pointer, who cause private schools depend not

While money problems plague many private schools, Headmaster Bill Creedin says the Academy is in good shape financially. "We balanced our budget last year and are \$25,000 away from balancing again this year," he said.

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balancing again this year," he said. Alumni donations are responsi-

ble for some campus improve-ments. However, the restoration

of a turn-of-the-century house on the premises is being made possi-

is in good shape financially.

operating funds.

torical society. When restored, the home will house a faculty family and the Academy's nine seventh grade boarders.

School trustees are now developing a long range plan for improvements, and plans for several renovations and additions are already in the works.

Creedin chose Bryan and the Allen Academy from three job offers last year. "At the time my friends thought I was crazy," he said.

Now, however, he sees things differently.

'It's a challenge," he said. "I see the Southwest as a sort of frontier for the private school and looked at the job as an adventure.

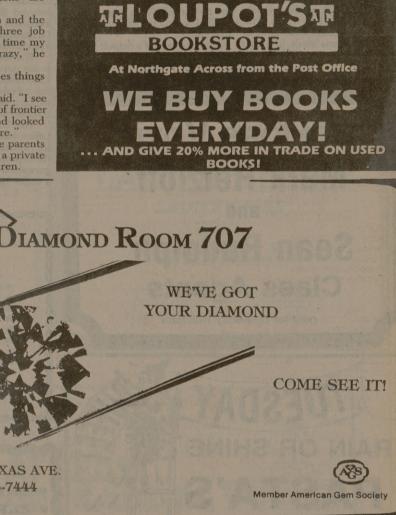
Today, more and more parents nationwide are choosing a private education for their children.

Assistant Headmaster Claude Lewis says most parents that he sees at the Academy are looking for one of two things: either their child is exceptionally gifted and they want him to have a more indi-

vidualized education, or their child has had trouble in the regu-

lar school environment and needs a more structured, disciplined atmosphere. "These two reasons are not as

opposite as they appear," Lewis said. "A lot of times you'll find that the typical problem student has a very high I.Q.



## First MSC spring auction to be held Wednesday

#### **By KAREN KALEY**

Battalion Reporter Calculators, clothes and books we just some of the items that will e auctioned off in Wednesday's ost and found auction sponsored by the Memorial Student Center

Council Projects Committee. The auction is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Viewing will begin at 9 a.m.

This is the first time a lost and found auction has been held in the spring. The committee decided to hold two auctions this year because the accumulation of articles was too much to handle in one auction, Merrie SoRelle, commitee chairman, said.

The majority of articles auctioned off are calculators, sport-ing equipment, clothes and books. "The auction allows the stu-

are stored for re-auction or given to the Twin City Mission in Bryan, SoRelle said

The auction consists of viewing tables, a bidding table, the auction and the cashier's table, SoRelle said

Prospective buyers are allowed to view the articles to be auctioned off. If they see an item they want to bid for, a person at the bidding table is informed and the item is then put into line to await the auctioneer, she said.

The auctioneer, Keyes Carson, is a former student of Texas A&M University and has handled every lost-and-found auction at Texas A&M.

Items used in the auction are found all over the campus, she The auction allows the stu-dents to buy items for a better-than-reasonable price," SoRelle in all the buildings and taking





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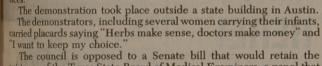
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AUSTIN — Members of the Health Freedom Council, an organization advocating self health care, demonstrated Monday against legislation that would increase penalties for violations of state medical prac-

Self care advocated

by health group

MSC ' VIDEO DEVO them to the MSC Main Desk. Items not sold in the auction TVs are in the MSC Lounges See Schedules posted there.



existence of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, a panel that the demonstrators said sometimes practices "nefarious operations." The Health Freedom Council contends that the board of medical examiners does not have the authority to determine what illegal medical practices are and the state should not penalize those who practice non-traditional but effective treatments of illnesses.

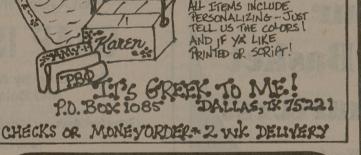
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will have a meeting WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15 AT 8:30 P.M. **RM. 504 RUDDER TOWER** Anyone interested should try to attend. For more information contact Mick: 845-3076 OR Mark 696-1158 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* OUNC **POSITIONS ARE OPEN** 

For President Literature Chairman Vice President Silver Taps Chairman Howdy Chairman Secretary/Treasurer History Chairman Pick up applications in Rm. 216 MSC Student Government Ôffice.

at Texas A&M.

Qualifications: Motivated Aggies enrolled \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



**Residence**.Hall Association Prsents

Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 8:00-12:30 A NIGHT OF GAMBLING, PRIZES, AND ENTERTAINMENT

Major prizes donated by **Diamond Brokers International** 

PLACE: MSC, 2nd floor and Lounge TICKETS: \$3.00 advance \$4.00 door

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