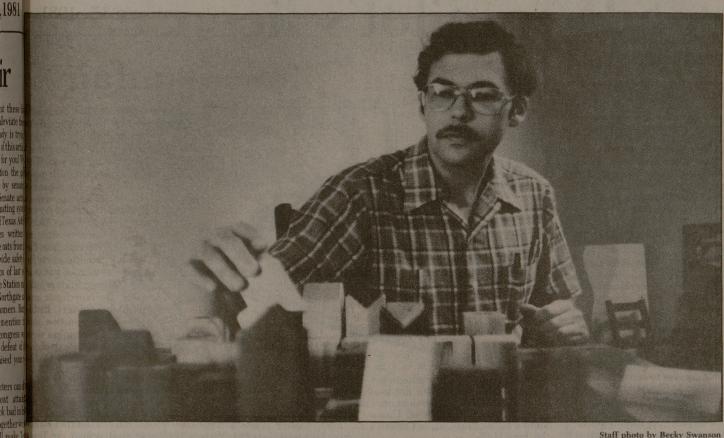
## Local

## Local craftsman sells custom-made furniture



ack Abbott moves a bishop on the hardwood chess table he esigned and constructed. He makes furniture from

sketches customers bring in and from his imagination. Several of his pieces are in the Memorial Student Center

**By TINA LINCH** 

Battalion Reporter Jack Abbott began making furniture five years ago in an 11-by-16 barn about 10 miles outside of Bryan. Today, Abbott owns and operates an expanding custom furniture business.

Abbott said his popularity is due to the quality furniture he makes from real wood. "Disposable furniture days are

drawing to a close," he said. American domestic hardwoods

are used in his furniture and Abbott said the hardwood supply is good, even though some people think there may be a shortage of hardwood.

One of Abbott's local customers, Jan Hunter, had been unable to locate good hardwood furniture in the Houston area when she and her husband visited Abbott's store. Abbott and the couple drew a sketch and chose wood for the "reasonably priced" bed which Hunter describes as a "conversa-

tion piece." Like Hunter, most customers have a vision of a certain type of furniture. Popular pieces include stereo centers, desks, dinette tables and chests of drawers.

Few of Abbott's pieces are ori-ginal designs, but he modifies basic designs to the customer's needs and personality. Abbott

said he enjoys the "challenge of getting to know his customers,

which enables him to create furni- to open" to his current business, ture specifically for them.

Abbott describes his furniture as useful and practical but main-tains that useful can be beautiful. He graduated from Texas A&M

University in 1977 with a degree in building construction and subsequently worked several years for a building contractor. At that point, Abbott felt a spiritual need to change his work and "doors began

Abbott attributes his success in business and personal life to his relationship with Jesus Christ and said he hopes to do something use-ful for his fellow man through his work.

Abbott's shop, Jack Abbott Handcrafted Furniture, is located at 3605 A South College Ave.



Competition under way for 516 Fulbright Grants

By CATHY CAPPS

Battalion Reporter Competition is under way for Ibright Grants in graduate and rming arts study abroad for 1982-83 academic year.

Approximately 516 grants to 50 untries will be awarded for graate study or research in acade-ic fields and professional trainin the creative and performing to students across the coun-Mona Rizk-Finne, Study oad Coordinator at Texas M University said.

Ronald Kresta, a 1981 Texas &M graduate in modern lans, won the Fulbright Grant 1981-82 and is now studying in

rmany, Rizk-Finne said. Five types of Fulbright Grants offered with varying benefits. Fulbright Full Grant includes nd-trip transportation, lange courses, tuition, books, inrance and expenses for one per-n for one academic year. Other nts offered are in conjunction th foreign governments and ersities, or provide partial ed-sum payment or travel ex-

the grants were established the Mutual Educational Cultural Exchange Act of 61. The program is supported

ter of Social Work degree and at application. least two years of professional ex-Further information and perience. A candidate in medicine brochures are available in the

must be an M.D. at the time of Study Abroad Office.

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te of International Education. To be eligible for the Fulbright ant, applicants must be U.S. izens and must generally hold a chelor's degree or its equivalent fore the beginning date of the ant. Those inelligible include didates holding a Ph.D at the ne of application, except for cerve been doing graduate work in country for six months or more aring 1981-82.

dual s ern for al uate degree, but must have four nere to % years of professional study or equivalent experience. Social work applicants must have a Masout there dbeing

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