



The smallest park

staff photo by Irene Mees

Craig Steinbring, left, a building construction major, and Lee Shaw, an environmental design major, put the final touches on a park they have

designed for churches in Bryan and Houston. Steinbring is a sophomore; Shaw is a freshman. Both are from Dallas.

Rudder hosts show of 'Golden Age' art

by Kordell Reid

The distinct outlines of painted characters and the bold shades of green, brown and gray seem to tell a story that goes back to the 16th and 17th centuries.

"The Golden Age of Painting" in the Rudder Exhibit Hall includes works by such masters as Sir Anthony Van Dyck, Aelbert Cuyp, Lucas Cranach and Sir Peter Paul Rubens.

The display, which runs through Nov. 10, was made possible by the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation in Houston. Their charter was designed to bring well-known art collections to universities and towns across the state, said Joe Arredondo Jr., coordinator of University Art Exhibits.

Arredondo said the exhibit has only been on display one week, but has been a great success.

"People are crazy about this exhibit. We are getting about 25 to 50 people an hour," he said. "This is amazing because the exhibit hall is sometimes a little out of the way and many people

don't know about it."

"The Golden Age of Painting" is one of three Blaffer collections traveling around the state.

"The American Abstract Expressionist" was on display in 1979 and "The Disasters of War," a series of etchings by

Francisco Goya, was displayed during the summer.

The Blaffer Foundation pays for most of the exhibit, including hiring professionals to move and install the works, he said.

University Art Exhibits pays only for promotion and some security, Arredondo said.

BETA BETA BETA

Mandatory Election Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 30

7:30 p.m.

Room #105 BSBE

Gas stations fight slump

by Lynn Falco

Battalion Reporter

The success of conservation campaigns has put oil companies back into the business of luring customers to their stations. In Bryan-College Station the battle is best seen at Exxon and Shell stations.

Exxon is offering discounts for the use of cash. Across the street, Shell is urging the use of credit cards — not only Shell cards, but any oil company credit card.

At both stations dealers report that business has improved, but not exactly the way they had expected.

Newsweek magazine reported that a recent decline in the demand for gasoline has prompted oil companies to take steps towards drawing people to their stations. It also said demand has dropped and cars are becoming more fuel-efficient, forcing oil companies to fight for customers.

Motorists tend to look for the gas station with the lowest prices when it's time to buy gasoline, said Edwin Pilger, manager of the Exxon station at Texas Avenue and Highway 30. Exxon offers a 4 cent rebate for cash sales to attract the attention of motorists.

"It's just a gimmick," Pilger said.

He views the discount on gasoline, which began Aug. 17, as just a promotional item to help boost sales and offset the 3 percent monthly charge for credit card use.

Pilger said that his gasoline is not any cheaper than that of his competitors and cash sales have not increased. In fact, credit card use has increased by about 2 percent at his station, despite the 4-cent rebate advertisements, he said.

Credit cards are costing stations too much money because the local dealers have to absorb credit card charges, Pilger said. Customers who pay cash are actually paying a little more than they should because they help indirectly absorb the cost of credit cards, he said.

While Exxon is discouraging the use of credit cards, Shell is trying to promote their use by honoring all cards while maintaining competitive prices. Anthony Drymalla, manager of the Shell station at Redmond and Texas, said his business has increased — but his increase has come from cash sales. He said that with each credit card purchase other than Shell, he hands

out a credit card application. Shell will continue the offer through Nov. 30.

Pilger predicted that all major

gas companies will be charging 3 percent on their credit cards soon to keep prices at the same competitive level.

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Family lecture set for tonight

Jan Sielken of Planned Parenthood, a national organization involved in pregnancy counseling and birth control education, will speak at 7:30 tonight in the A-1 Lounge, located between Fowler and Hughes halls.

The lecture is the second in a series of five sponsored by Keathley Hall. It will focus on questions students have about planned parenthood and will include information and discussion on the various types of contraceptives for both men and women.

Karen Crotty, Keathley's program director, said that although the lectures were primarily planned for women, the

A-1 lounge — the location of all the lectures — seats 100 people and men should feel free to attend since the issues pertain to them as well.

The third lecture, on women's and students' legal rights, is set for Tuesday at 7 p.m. Dan Usiak, Texas A&M's student legal adviser, will lecture on such topics as credit laws facing students, women's legal rights after marriage, sexual harassment and strip searches.

Two other lectures scheduled later in October include one on women's careers on Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. and one on birth education on Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

M.B.A. INFORMATION NIGHT FOR ALL MAJORS

Have your questions answered about the M.B.A. program

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4
7 p.m.
ROOM 114

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