

Christmas tree lit
to help the needy

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MADD arranges vigil
for Monday night

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Ags' Pettibone lands
NIU head coach job

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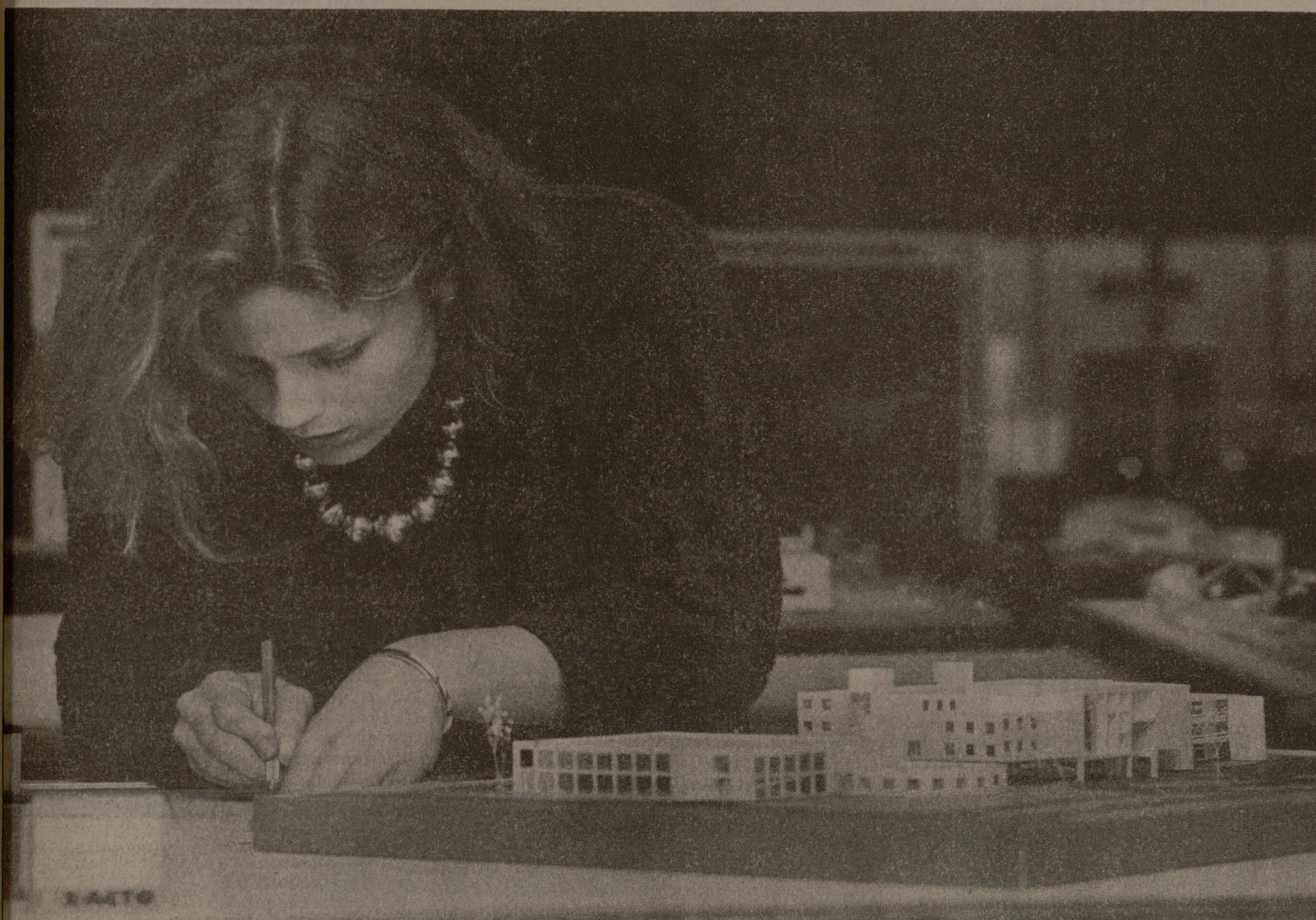
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Model Building

Photo by DEAN SAITO

Jennifer Thomas, senior environmental design major from Dallas, works on a model for one of her design classes Thursday afternoon in building C of the Langford Architecture Complex.

A&M students report Austin police abuse

By DAINAH BULLARD
Staff Writer

Several Texas A&M students have accused Austin police officers of acts of violence Saturday night after the A&M football team's victory over the University of Texas. Incidents reported by students range from being hit with a billy club to being sprayed with Mace.

Steve Sledge, a senior electrical engineering major from Dallas, said he was struck several times with a billy club by an Austin police officer. Sledge said he was struck while attempting to cross a street to avoid the scene of an ongoing fight.

"The police were telling the crowd to move," Sledge said. "One of the police came up to me and gave me the command to move, and simultaneously gave me a whack on the shoulder."

Sledge said the police officer then struck him on the knee and across the back with a billy club, then locked him in a police van. Another police officer took Sledge out of the van and transported him to in a squad car to Brackinridge Hospital's emergency room, where he was given two stitches in the head, Sledge said.

When he was leaving the emergency room, he was informed that the police were bringing charges against him, Sledge said. The charges against him are failure to

obey a lawful command and assaulting a police officer, Sledge said.

"I didn't make any gestures," Sledge said. "I'm a Christian person. I wouldn't make a move toward any police officer."

Other students reported incidents of a less violent nature involving Austin police officers.

Dudley Myer, a sophomore building construction major from San Antonio, said he and Rich Meisels, a freshman animal science major from Dallas, were sprayed with Mace while in the vicinity of a fight.

Myer said he and Meisels were walking down 6th Street when a fight broke out. Police officers attempting to reach the fight hit the people in the crowds with their billy clubs, then sprayed Mace on the crowd, Myer said.

"There was a short girl standing next to me — she was real cute, a big threat to society — and she got Maced, too," Myer said. "It was really shocking. I think the cops just panicked."

Lt. Roger Napier, a spokesman from the internal affairs division of the Austin Police Department, said it was very probable that people in the area of fights were sprayed with Mace Saturday night. However, Napier said he knew of only one person

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American citizen reportedly killed in Kuwaiti hijack

United Press International

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Five Arab gunmen threatened to kill every U.S. citizen aboard a hijacked Kuwaiti airliner at Tehran airport Thursday and then shot to death two more hostages, including the second American reported killed. It was the worst case ever of cold-blooded hijack executions.

The killings brought to at least three the number of hostages slain in the three-day showdown at Mehrabad Airport.

At least 56 hostages were roped to their seats aboard the Kuwaiti Airways A-300 Airbus as the hijackers pressed their demand that Kuwait free 21 people imprisoned for the bombings of U.S. and French facilities last December.

In Washington, the State Department said one of the two passengers killed Thursday apparently was an American, the second U.S. citizen slain since the plane was commandeered Tuesday. His body was riddled with six bullets.

"... It appears that two Agency for International Development employees have been murdered at Tehran airport," the department said, basing its statement on information from the Swiss government, which acts as the agent for U.S. interests in Iran.

The State Department earlier said six Americans were on board the plane, but two — an American woman and her daughter — had been released.

When the plane was hijacked Tuesday, the passengers included three AID employees en route to their post in Karachi, Pakistan.

"Pending the receipt of additional information, we cannot absolutely confirm that the murders took place, nor can we absolutely confirm the identities of these individuals and officially release their names," the department said.

The official Islamic Republic News agency said an Iranian Foreign Ministry official "condemned the shooting of an American diplomat by the hijackers of the Kuwaiti airliner and expressed the hope the hijacking will end peacefully."

A spokesman at the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal called the hijacking the worst case ever of cold-blooded execution of hostages by hijackers.

"We have no records of such cold-blooded killings of passengers," ICAO spokesman Eugene Sochor said. "The only case we know of a cold-blooded killing was that of Lufthansa pilot Jurgen Schumann who was killed by hijackers in October, 1977."

After the shootings, the gunmen freed 30 hostages, including a crew-member released for medical attention with the warning that if he did not return the pilot would be killed, IRNA said. On Tuesday and Wednesday 70 passengers — mostly women and children — were freed.

The gunmen threatened to kill every American aboard unless Kuwait met their demands, IRNA said.

The news agency said the hijackers brought two passengers to the staircase of the aircraft in the afternoon, "and started counting down, threatening to kill them."

"One of the passengers requested a loudspeaker and after it was given to him, in a pleading voice, he introduced himself as the U.S. consul in Karachi and pleaded with Kuwaiti officials to meet the demands of the hijackers," IRNA said.

Dorm check-out made simple

By CATHIE ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Procrastination and parking problems traditionally make the residence hall check-out process more difficult, says Glenn Ferris, housing operations supervisor.

All students must check out of dormitories at Texas A&M by 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. The dormitories will re-open Monday, Jan. 7, at 2 p.m.

Ferris said that students tend to procrastinate, making check-out more complicated for the residence hall staff.

"The students know that they should be out of the halls at 6 p.m., but most of the time they wait until 5:59 just to start packing," he said.

Parking creates a second problem,

Ferris said. Residence halls in the center of campus are not easily accessible, so the students must find a place to park their cars before they can move out of the halls.

Despite the problem, no vehicles will be allowed in the no parking zones or on the grassy areas surrounding the residence halls.

Ferris said students who want to move into their new assignments before the semester ends should arrange a time convenient with the people currently living there.

Before they leave, all students who are returning to the residence halls must:

- disconnect electrical appliances.
- defrost refrigerators and remove all food.
- lock all doors and windows.

- turn in key(s).
- remove all Christmas decorations.

"We tell the students to remove all their Christmas decorations, especially the trees, because they are a fire hazard," Ferris said.

Students who are changing or permanently leaving the halls must make an appointment with their resident adviser or commanding officer to check their rooms before they leave.

Ferris also said that students who own bicycles should bring them inside their rooms before they leave.

"Unfortunately this is the time of the year that people go shopping for bicycles," he said, "but they don't want to pay anything."

Ferris said that he once stood at the window of a dormitory and saw a

young boy clipping the chain of a bicycle. Before Ferris could stop the boy, he rode away on the bicycle.

Not only should students bring their bikes inside but they should also cancel their long distance service with General Telephone Electric, Ferris said.

"If you have something really valuable (in your room), take it home with you," Ferris advised.

Interim housing can be arranged at the housing office in the YMCA Building through Wednesday. Students will be lodged in Schuhmacher Hall.

Several dormitories will receive maintenance over the break, Ferris said. The work will range from re-carpeting halls to installing smoke and heat detectors in rooms.

Students susceptible to stress

Editor's note: This is the third article in a three part series on stress.

By RENEE HARRELL
Reporter

Even though some people may wish for the "carefree" days of college life again, the pressures placed on students can be just as bad as, if not worse than, the pressures that come from a job. Some students have to cope with the pressures of a job, too, if they are working while attending college.

If a college student is experiencing a lot of stress and is unable to learn to cope with it while in school, chances are that coping with stress after graduation won't be any easier. Dr. James Hyden, a local psychologist, said he thinks all students are susceptible to stress.

"The student who is extremely perfectionistic, always expects to do well at all times, expects to make straight A's and attend all classes is going to be more susceptible to stress," Hyden said. "Obviously, a person is not going to be able to live up to all of these expectations."

"Instead of looking at the situa-

tion, they have a tendency to try harder and harder. The people who are most susceptible are those who think they aren't. Everybody has limits. It's an old cliché, but there are only 24 hours in a day."

People need to learn to budget their time, Hyden said.

"Establish priorities and make a list of the things you need to do," he said.

Hyden said once you get in the habit of doing this you can do it mentally and it helps you develop an attitude.

"In my own work and practice, I've found that the ones that need it are the first to say 'I don't have time to do that,'" Hyden said. "If you take time, you are really more efficient. It's a difficult situation and it requires a lot of discipline to force yourself to do what ultimately is best for you."

A few of the most obvious symptoms of stress are headaches, irritability, crankiness, change in appetite and stomach problems. But, too much stress on a student could lead to something more serious than the usual symptoms of stress.

"Too much pressure or stress that is ignored and not dealt with in some cases can lead to such a sense of hopelessness that can lead to suicide," Hyden said. "Unfortunately, their problem-solving rationale has become too narrow in these cases."

Another serious problem that stress can lead to is drugs. Hyden gives his opinion on students using drugs to cope with stress.

"If students have to use chemicals that aren't medically prescribed to wake them up or to put them to sleep, then they are taking on too much or their priorities are wrong," Hyden said.

"It's popular to use recreational drugs," he said, "but when some people use this to help them meet some life demands, it's a sign that something is wrong. They are developing a problem solving approach that could be developing a bigger problem than the one they're trying to solve. Some would disagree, but in my opinion there's no reason people can't get through college without having to alter their body's functioning with chemicals, unless they're medically ill. The pressures

that one faces in college aren't going to go away once they get out. You shouldn't depend on chemicals."

A College Station Psychologist, Barbara Clark, agrees that students who turn to drugs to help alleviate stress need help.

"Some students turn to drugs and alcohol to help relieve the stress of being in school," Clark said. "Friends should encourage them to get help at a counseling center or a local psychologist."

She said the freshman year has the most different kinds of stress. Any change can lead to stress. Some of Clark's examples of stress-causing situations for freshman include moving to a new location, new responsibilities of living on their own, having to study in a new way without anyone to set the structure for them, new financial pressures and being separated from the family. Clark said that for the first time psychological problems surface.

"These problems don't surface until they get away at college and

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