

STATE AND LOCAL

Master of architecture program

Students' designs win awards

By DONNA DAVIS  
Reporter

Award-winning students are making a name for the master of architecture program at Texas A&M. These students, placing a study emphasis on interior architecture, have been competing in national competitions since 1979. And in the last three years, A&M students have won 8 of the 13 awards in the Central region given by the Institute of Business Designers (IBD), which sponsors the national competition. A design problem is given to the students competing each year, and this year students were required to design a "club" restaurant. Ward Wells, coordinator of the interior architecture emphasis at A&M, said this is the only competi-

tion he enters his students in because it is extremely comprehensive, more so than a normal project or assignment. Wells said the competition and the interior architecture program deal with more than color and fabric. He said the environment, in which people live and work, must be supported by an interior design. The judges use this as a guideline in choosing the regional winners. The Central region second place winner, "Diversions," was designed by Lyn Thomas of A&M. Thomas qualified to proceed to the national competition where the top two winners from the East, Central and West divisions will compete. Wells said the competition helps the students in terms of personal development and gives them the opportunity to use what they've learned. Entries from 70 students were received in the 17-state region, so Thomas said it was important for contestants to learn to sell their ideas. Her design used a visual effect to sell the idea. This effect draws your eyes through the project to each consecutive layout. "Sometimes you have to take a chance to make your design look different from everyone else's," Thomas said, "especially when they are all doing the same project." Thomas wasn't the only student from A&M to be recognized in the competition. Ben Adam of Boerne won second honorable mention for his "Eat and Run" design.

Adam, who has earned his masters degree in architecture, received a gold medal from the American Institute of Architecture for graduating as the top student in the master's program. Wells said that if it were possible, the students would have given 110% of their effort to their projects. Wells has been coordinator of the program at A&M since 1977. Since then he has made some program revisions to strongly integrate the course continuity. He says the program's success is due to not only these revisions but also the talent of the students. Wells said the national recognition his students have received will bring them better job opportunities throughout the nation.

Lawyer says PUC aligning with AT&T

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A lawyer representing 300 Texas cities said Monday at the start of a rate hearing that the Public Utility Commission staff already has sided with American Telephone & Telegraph Co. AT&T, the state's largest long-distance company, has asked the PUC for a \$139 million rate increase. A staff accountant has recommended hikes in basic rates and service charges of \$81 million. The company already would net nearly \$31 million more in gross receipts taxes that it no longer has to pay since that tax on telephone companies has been eliminated by the Legislature. Lawyer Grace Casstevens' misgivings about the PUC staff arose when she asked PUC Administrative Law Judge Phillip Holder for permission to cross-examine the staff, which is charged with representing the public in rate cases. The cities have recommended an \$18 million rate increase for AT&T, and Casstevens said the group would drop that recommendation Monday to about \$12 million. She said the PUC staff is "basically in line with AT&T on most major issues in this case." Holder responded that if he detected instances of friendly cross-examination by the staff on the AT&T rate proposal, he would then consider the cities' request. Eddie Pope of the PUC's office of general counsel said: "The staff does represent the public interest."

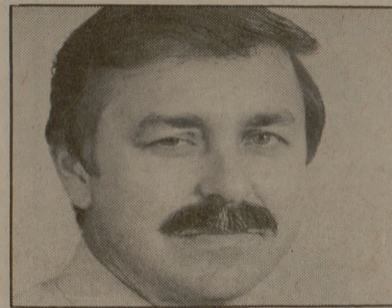
Casstevens also complained that AT&T's data doesn't answer questions, it just raises questions. But AT&T lawyer Joyce Beasley said AT&T had not received any requests from the cities' consultants "for clarifications — certainly no major requests for clarifications." Tom Jones, AT&T vice president for Texas, said during a break in the hearing that AT&T had withheld "highly sensitive" information such as "marketing strategies, where we are expending money and that sort of thing." Holder declined to rule at once on motions by the cities and MCI, another long-distance company, to dismiss AT&T's rate request. Comments by Holder and lawyers for other parties in the case indicated the hearing might run into July.

Baylor medical school names Eller to Board of Trustees

David G. Eller, chairman of the Texas A&M Board of Regents, has been appointed to the Baylor College of Medicine Board of Trustees. Eller, 47, will join the 44-member Baylor board immediately, said Chairman Gibson Gayle, Jr., in announcing the appointment. "David Eller has contributed much to the Houston community through his professional efforts," Gayle said. "But he is also well-recognized for his role as a civic leader. He will be a most welcome addition to Baylor's board."

Eller is chief executive officer and chairman of the board of the American National Petroleum Co. and the Granada Corporation. He also is a director of Allied Bank of Texas, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and a member of numerous business and civic organizations. "I look forward to working with this outstanding institution, which is internationally recognized for its teaching and research," Eller said. "Baylor College of Medicine is providing the leadership to help the

state build a new industry based on biomedical technology. I hope that I can contribute to this leadership." Eller founded Granada Corporation, the world's largest agricultural technical service contractor, in 1972. In 1979, he founded American National Petroleum Company, a publicly held, independent oil and gas exploration and development company. He is a graduate of Texas A&M with a degree in engineering and business, as well as the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.



David G. Eller

Correction

An article on campus construction in Wednesday's Battalion contained information which is no longer correct. The article quoted Gen. Wesley Peel, vice chancellor of facilities planning and construction, as saying the new Medical Sciences Library would be fully occupied by July. However, that date has been changed to September. Until then, the Medical Sciences Library will continue all services in its present location in the Veterinary Administration Building.

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.45 cts.	995	535
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.38 cts.	495	285
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.35 cts.	465	265
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.44 cts.	735	335
.44 cts.	735	335
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.38 cts.	495	285
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