

State and Local

Student's model provides place for AIDS victims to die in peace

By Tracy Staton
Reporter

Designing a hospital for AIDS patients presented an atypical challenge to Texas A&M student David Liao.

"Most hospitals are places to get well, but an AIDS hospital is a place to die," Liao said.

"Since curing is impossible, I had to emphasize the caring."

Liao's concern for the unique problems of people with acquired immune deficiency syndrome spurred him to design a facility solely for patients with the disease.

This project is Liao's final study for a master's degree in architecture.

"No hospital has been built especially for AIDS patients," Liao said. "Existing facilities have been remodeled to accommodate them, but those facilities cannot completely satisfy their needs."

He approached the project with the intention of creating a home-like atmosphere in the hospital. Each patient's room also has space for one family member, so relatives can spend active, productive time with the patient. Liao said that this opportunity helps alleviate the feeling of isolation patients usually experience.

"I wanted to put the facility on a human scale," he said. "I broke the hospital into several different buildings, all with easy access to nature."

Nature played an important

role in Liao's design. He chose a heavily wooded site overlooking Lake Austin, and the hospital was integrated with the environment.

Interior gardens and natural lighting also contribute to the design.

"I wanted to avoid a feeling of confinement or abandonment for the patient," Liao said. "My design lightens the 'institutional image' to create a pleasant atmosphere."

Liao, whose specialization is in

"Most hospitals are places to get well, but an AIDS hospital is a place to die. . . I had to emphasize the caring."

— David Liao, graduate student and AIDS hospital designer

health facilities, has experience working with institutions.

The semester-long project involved intense research. Liao traveled to New York in December to meet with Dr. Gerald H. Friedland, his medical consultant for the design. Friedland is the leader of an AIDS care team at Montefiore Medical Center in New York City and was featured on the cover of Newsweek in July.

In the Newsweek interview, Friedland said that renovating hospitals is a more feasible option than constructing an entirely new facility for AIDS patients. He cited maintenance expenses and escalating salaries as reasons that no institute would want to build a new hospital.

Through his research, Liao found that isolating AIDS patients can reduce in-patient costs by streamlining care. He also dis-



Photo by Tracy Staton

David Liao, a Texas A&M graduate student in architecture, sets up a model of the hospital he designed to serve AIDS patients.

covered certain difficulties inherent in dealing with these patients, such as some of the staff experiencing emotional problems.

He addressed these problems in his design by creating retreat areas so the staff can escape from depressing situations.

He also noted that in some hospitals, AIDS patients are accepted only if they meet the hospital's research needs. In Liao's design, the patients spend their terminal days comfortably, instead of being treated like an experiment.

Speaker says AIDS far more serious than it's portrayed

By Robert Morris
Staff Writer

Contrary to popular belief, a Texas A&M biochemistry professor said Wednesday, AIDS is far more serious than the media portrays it.

Dr. Jim Wild, in a lecture sponsored by the Wesley Foundation, also said the disease is more serious than AIDS-education organizations are willing to tell the public.

He said there are some facts the public has not yet acknowledged about the disease because of a lack of accurate information.

"Basically, we have several health-care communities in the United States and they are not letting us know the totality of the problem as it is beginning to appear," he said.

He said the main parts of that misunderstanding center on the incubation and transmission of the disease.

"There is a 10- to 15-year incubation period from the time a person becomes infected and the time symptoms begin to show up," Wild said. "If you have had a blood trans-

fusion within the last eight years, you need to go get checked for AIDS."

"In the U.S. it is estimated that 1.5 million people are AIDS carriers. The worst-case scenario would assume that all those people will eventually have AIDS."

The number of people who actually have the disease is estimated to be around 43,000, and that number is growing every month, Wild said.

"The really frightening thing is that over half of those people have died already and no one who has AIDS has ever been cured," he said.

Transmission of AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome often is misunderstood by the general public.

"The first thing that we heard was that it could only be transmitted by the movement of seminal fluids between people, basically males in homosexual types of relationships," Wild said. "Now we're finding out that in some cases it can be transmitted in heterosexual relationships."

Houston woman gets life for helping murder parents

HOUSTON (AP) — A woman convicted of helping her former boyfriend kill her sleeping parents was sentenced Wednesday to two concurrent life prison terms.

Cynthia Campbell Ray, 30, was convicted Tuesday of two counts of murder for convincing David Duval West to kill her parents in their Houston home on June 19, 1982.

Jurors in State District Judge A.D. Azios' court reconvened Wednesday in the trial's punishment phase and deliberated three hours before rec-

ommending the two concurrent life terms, a sentence Azios then instituted.

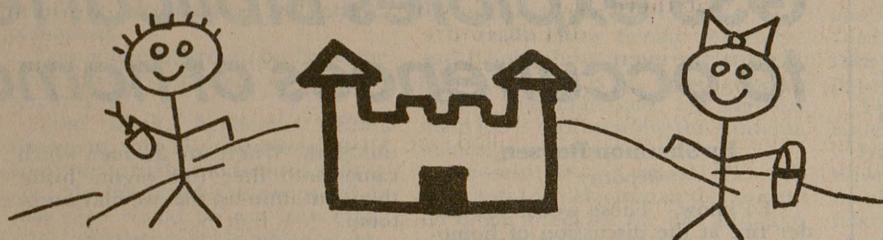
The trial was Ray's second. The first one ended in a mistrial when a jury could not reach a verdict after several days of deliberations.

West, who got a life sentence in exchange for his testimony, told a jury how Ray opened the door and he shot her sleeping parents.

Defense lawyers rested their case Monday without putting Ray on the witness stand.

MSC Recreation SAND CASTLE BUILDING CONTEST

Wednesday



April 22

Fountains by Chemistry Bldg.

PRIZES awarded for:

- Most Creative
- Best Detail
- Best Overall

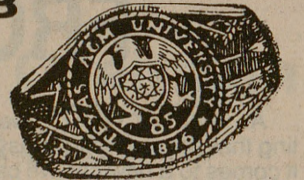
Max of 5 people per team
Entry fee: \$4 per team
Sign up in the MSC.

Building begins at 11 a.m. - judging at 2 p.m.

For more information: 845-1515

Add Fire To Your Aggie Ring

with a quality diamond from Service Merchandise.



Mens 20 pt. diamond \$195⁰⁰
includes labor & setting
Ladies 5 pt. diamond \$49⁰⁰
includes labor & setting

While You Wait

Friday, May 8
10 am-8 pm

764-0022 Post Oak Mall



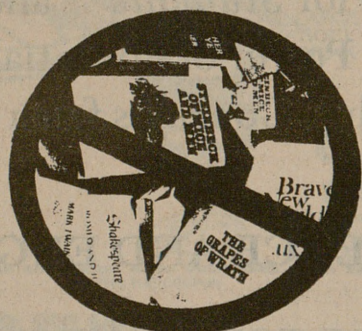
We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover

MSC POLITICAL FORUM

MSC Political Forum

presents **THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT**
featuring **JOHN H. BUCHANAN, JR.**
Chairman of People for the American Way

Censorship



Politics

Thursday
April 16, 1987
601 Rudder, 8:00 pm

ADMISSION IS FREE

MSC CAFETERIA MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER-TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEEKDAY SPECIALS \$3¹⁸ PLUS TAX

- MONDAY EVENING SALISBURY STEAK
Mushroom Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Choice of Vegetable, Roll or Cornbread, Butter
- TUESDAY EVENING MEXICAN FIESTA
Two Cheese Enchiladas with Chili, Rice, Beans, Tostados
- WEDNESDAY EVENING CHICKEN FRIED STEAK
Served with Cream Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Choice of Vegetable, Roll or Cornbread, Butter
- THURSDAY EVENING ITALIAN DINNER
Spaghetti, Meatballs, Sauce, Parmesan Cheese, tossed Salad, Hot Garlic Bread
- FRIDAY EVENING FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY
Tartar Sauce, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies, Choice of Vegetable

WEEKEND SPECIAL \$2⁸⁹ PLUS TAX

- SATURDAY NOON & EVENING FRIED CHICKEN
Mashed Potatoes with Country Gravy, Choice of Vegetable, Roll or Cornbread, Butter
- SUNDAY NOON & EVENING ROAST TURKEY DINNER
Served with Cornbread Dressing, Cranberry Sauce, Giblet Gravy, Choice of Vegetable, Roll or Cornbread, Butter

TEA OR COFFEE INCLUDED AT NO EXTRA CHARGE ON SPECIALS
EVENING SPECIALS AVAILABLE 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM DAILY
MSC CAFETERIA OPEN 11:00 AM-1:30 PM AND 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM DAILY

"Quality First"