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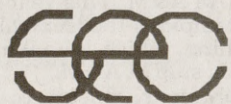
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Guide to local pool

Calling the shots

Part two of two

Newest hall takes shot to gain students' business

By Amy Protas
THE BATTALION

The 18 "Aggie Maroon" pool tables at The Penthouse Billiards and Bar usually grab visitors' attention. If that doesn't do it, the size of the pool hall probably will.

The Penthouse Billiards and Bar, which opened in January, is the newest pool hall to come to the Bryan-College Station area.

Rick Parker, a junior finance major, said the main appeal of The Penthouse is that it's aimed toward students.

"I enjoy playing pool here because I feel like there is more of a college atmosphere," Parker said. "For instance, the hall has Student Appreciation Night. I don't feel like I can get something like that in Houston."

If pool is not what patrons are after, however, there are other activities that can be en-



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

joyed in the expansive hall.

Dan Greenwood, a senior construction science major and Penthouse employee, said playing darts is a popular option.

The bar sponsors dart teams and holds some tournaments during the summer.

"Since so many people go home during this time, we hold most of the dart and pool tournaments during the fall," Greenwood said.

In addition to darts and

pool, The Penthouse has video games, foosball, a board, a big-screen television and a jukebox that plays and contemporary rock and occasional mix of country.

Greenwood said The Penthouse also offers a sports atmosphere.

"We show games on the television," Greenwood said. "In the future, we are going to be showing the games."

See PENTHOUSE, Page 4

Sidepockets offers relaxed, casual atmosphere

By Rachel Barry
THE BATTALION

What started as a class project has turned into an 11,000-square-foot pool hall known as Sidepockets.

Owner Arthur Arranaga was working on a project for a business/financial planning class at Blinn when he decided to open the pool hall.

"We had to go through the whole process of getting the lease and opening the place, and it turned into this," Arranaga said.

Sidepockets offers an atmosphere that attracts families, college students and even players as young as 4-years old.

"As long as they can reach the



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Sidepockets' atmosphere attracts a family and business crowd.

"The pool tables and their parents are with them, we don't care if they play," Arranaga said.

Senior animal science major Jerry Johnson said the atmosphere is what attracts him to Sidepockets.

"It's somewhere you can kick back," Johnson said. "You don't have to dress up because it's casual."

All of Sidepockets' pool tables are arranged to accommodate parties or groups of players, but the pool tables are set apart from each other by a rail and platform.

"Usually the people who are really good play on the pool tables," Arranaga said. "People who are not good watch them."

Not all of Sidepockets' customers are playing pool.

Sophomore Genetics and chemistry major Stephen Gen said, "You don't have to be good to play, you just have to be there."

See SIDEPOCKETS, Page 4

Yesterday's preserves past with antique atmosphere

By Amy Uptmor
THE BATTALION

As its name implies, Yesterday's is a billiards hall dedicated to preserving the past. Its antique pool tables and personal atmosphere help keep the hall filled with regular customers.

Nelda Miles and her husband, Jerry, opened the establishment in 1979.

"Our atmosphere is a lot like 'Cheers,' a comfortable place where it feels like everybody really does know your name," Miles said.

Miles said the comfortable atmosphere can be attributed to their personal and business philosophy.

"We've always made sure to have a nice place for nice peo-

ple," she said. "The pool business is a people business, so that helps us accomplish such a philosophy."

Yesterday's personal touch is exemplified by the antique mailboxes that dominate the center of the room. The mailboxes can be rented by patrons to store their pool cues, darts and even coffee cups.

"The really regulars store their coffee cups in them," Miles said.

Yesterday's offers 15 pool tables, several of which date back to the early 1900s. Miles said she and her husband are constantly looking for antique pool tables to refurbish and use.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Yesterday's historic atmosphere attracts a regular crowd.

"The old tables are more built and sturdy," she said. "It makes a difference."

Jeff Rogers, a senior electrical engineering major and

See YESTERDAY'S, Page 4



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