

OUT IN LEFT FIELD
Heather Hayden has finally found a home. **SPORTS, PAGE 7**

Nolen: Violence against two-percenters is the best way to keep the Aggie Spirit alive. **OPINION, PAGE 11**

A Family Legacy
Chris Torn is the third head yell leader in his family. **AGGIELIFE, PAGE 3**



THE BATTALION

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Redefining Reading Days

Officials clear up class schedules

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

As the end of the semester draws near, Texas A&M students might be relieved to remember that administrators have scheduled an extra reading day for students to prepare for their May 3-8 final exams. This is the second semester A&M students will have two reading days to prepare for finals instead of one. In addition, a dead day and a redefined day have also been scheduled.

Next week begins with dead day on April 29, followed by a redefined day on April 30 and reading days on May 1 and 2.

Don Carter, Admissions and Records registrar, defined dead days as regular class days during which no examinations are allowed except in labs and one-hour courses.

The redefined day has been scheduled to make up for Friday classes that were missed on Good Friday, April 5, which was scheduled into the academic calendar as a reading day to avoid last-minute decisions from A&M System administrators about whether to designate the day as a holiday.

No classes will be held during the May 1 and 2 reading days.

Establishment of an extra reading day was approved by Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president, in December 1994.

Toby Boenig, 1995-96 student body president, said that after researching peer institutions where students have a week to study for exams, Student Government recommended that Bowen approve the extra day of study.

"The more time students have to study and comprehend, the better they'll do," Boenig said. "But if they only have a day, they have to cram."

For students looking for a quiet place to study, the Sterling C. Evans Library will be open 24 hours from April 28 through May 7. On May 8, the library will close at 7 p.m.

Although the library will be open 24 hours, the circulation desk and services will close at midnight.

The West Campus Library will have extended hours of 7:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. April 28 through May 1 and May 3. On May 4, it will be open 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.

The West Campus Library will be open 24 hours May 2 and 5-7.

Julia Rholes, head of the Evans Library reference department, said that students typically take advantage of the extended library hours.

"We know there is an extraordinary demand during finals for people who study all night and need a secluded place," Rholes said. "You can definitely see an increase of students during finals."

Arkansas tornadoes kill four, ruin homes

At least 50 people were injured and more than 330 left homeless during Monday's storms

FORT SMITH, Ark. (AP) — Firefighters went from house to house demolishing Monday, searching for more victims of tornadoes that killed four people, including two children, and smashed hundreds of homes.

"I just started praying," said Leisa Didway, who rode out the storm Sunday night in her closet with a friend and the friend's 1-year-old son. "I held her and the baby. I was just praying to God because I didn't know what else to do."

The twisters ripped through Fort Smith's historic district and the suburb of Van Buren, sweeping some houses off their foundations, before roaring on to St. Paul, a rural community 50 miles away. At least 50 people were injured and more than 330 left homeless.

State troopers patrolled Fort



Smith to guard against looters after five people who police said were about to start looting were arrested and charged with prowling. The National Guard ordered 45 members to report for duty.

The Red Cross said 636 houses, 30 apartment units and

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Dave House, THE BATTALION

THROWING FOR PAR

Robert Prewitt, a fifth year senior bio-medical science major, "putts" for par at Research Park's new 18-hole par three Frisbee golf course. Frisbee golf is played the same as regular golf, only Frisbees are used instead of clubs.

New council promotes MSC bookstore's services

By Lisa Johnson
THE BATTALION

The newly formed Texas A&M Bookstore Advisory Council is promoting little-known services provided by the MSC Bookstore and working to improve the store's quality and accessibility.

Formed in January, the council is composed of students, administrators, faculty members and the bookstore general and regional managers. It operates through the Faculty Senate, meeting once a month.

Gary Spearow, an advisory council member and general manager of the MSC Bookstore, said few people are aware of some of the services provided by the bookstore, particularly the scholarships it funds.

The bookstore gives \$125,000, in the form of four full scholarships, each year. Approximately \$40,000 in additional scholarship money, obtained from a percentage of sales, is

given out in book scholarships to 20 students each fall and spring semester.

"There is a tremendous amount of money generated through the bookstore both by contract and percentage of sales," he said. "But nobody really knows much about how the money is given out."

MSC Bookstore Web Page
<http://Bookstore.tamu.edu/>

The amount of the scholarships is subject to change as the bookstore's revenue changes.

Dr. David A. Bessler, a professor of agricultural economics, said he was unaware of the scholarships given by the bookstore before he joined the advisory council. He said part of the council's purpose is to increase campus awareness of the bookstore's contri-

butions to students.

"It's important for the bookstore to tell its story to the campus," he said, "and part of its story is these scholarships."

Besides promoting awareness, the advisory council is devising a way for students to reserve books on the Internet, a service that, Spearow said, should be available soon.

The bookstore home page can be accessed at <http://Bookstore.tamu.edu/>.

Ed Marotta, chairman of the advisory council and a mechanical engineering graduate student, said he is developing other means for students to interact with the bookstore via computer.

"Hopefully, once the home page for the bookstore is completely operational, I would like to be able to have an interactive aspect where students could leave their questions or comments and have someone from the bookstore get back

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A&M students aid hospital expansion

By Eleanor Colvin
THE BATTALION

Nineteen Texas A&M architecture students will present innovative designs for the expansion of Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas today.

The students will show nine projects that maximize space, minimize cost and emphasize advances in day care and health to the Scottish Rite Board of Directors and officials of HKS Architects Inc.

Hospital administrators did not specify the type of building they wanted the students, members of George Mann's ARCH 306, Architectural Design III class, to design.

Instead, they asked the students to design a variety of expansion options for the Scottish Rite facilities. They were asked to maximize space for a day-care center, counseling center, doctors' offices, and research and development labs.

Mann said he tries to make the

eight-week project, which incorporates basic architectural and client-relation skills, real for the students by changing the project each semester.

The projects are realistic in that they are completed for an actual client.

"The key thing is training the way you fight — helping the students find out what architecture is all about," he said. "After being here for over 30 years, I have former students all over the world. So it's easy to find projects that do that."

This semester, the students worked with HKS, which is the fourth-largest architectural firm in the United States and the largest employer of A&M College of Architecture graduates.

HKS designed the original Scottish Rite complex and will design the new addition.

Alex Tacey, a senior environmental design major, said that working with HKS exposed him and his classmates to the world of architecture.

"One of the most important lessons

was learning how hard it is to actually work with firms and clients," he said. "Most of our classes deal with 'fantasy' projects, but working through HKS, we had real clients, a real site and it gave us a real good experience."

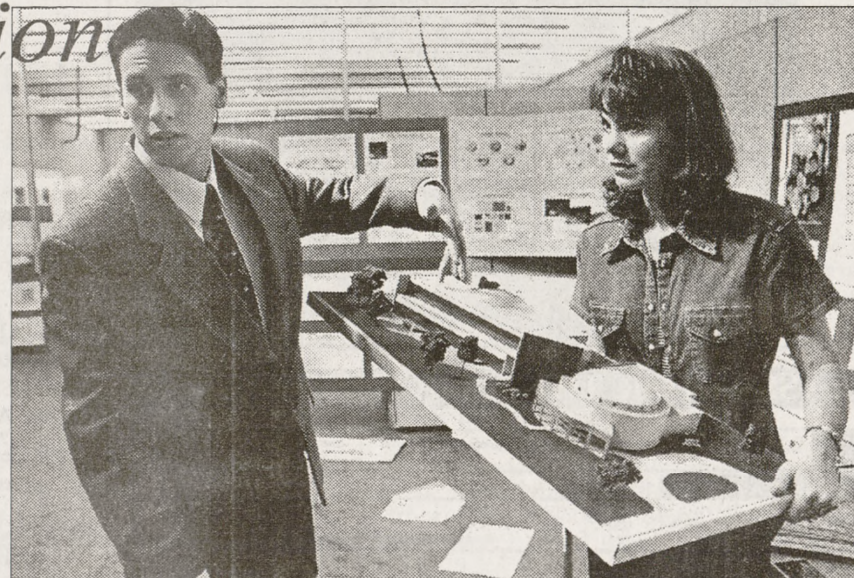
Daniel Turner, a senior environmental design major, agreed that working with HKS offered students invaluable experience.

"I really enjoyed the project, and I hope that it's indicative of the architecture profession," he said. "Interpreting clients' wants and needs and balancing them in a cost-efficient way was an important lesson to be learned."

The students prepared for the project by researching the designs of other health facilities, talking with hospital administrators and asking children what they would like to see in a children's facility.

Erin Miller, a fourth-grade student at College Hills Elementary School in

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Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Senior Daniel Turner and junior Kristy Walvoord, environmental design majors, explain the design of their model of an addition to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas for their Architecture 306 class Monday.