

**WEEKEND PREVIEW**

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

**Breedlove**, a rock band from Austin, is playing at the Dixie Theatre with opening act Tracy Conover. 9:30 p.m.



Breedlove

**Head West**, a rock band from Bryan-College Station, is playing with opening acts, Lewis and Peeping Tom, at The Tap. 10 p.m.

The Texas A&M theater department is presenting the **Madwoman of Chaillot** in The Forum at 8 p.m.

**Billy Pritchard**, a classic rock and country act from Liverpool, England, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill. 9 p.m.

**Bobby Shilling**, an acoustic rock band from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

**Sneaky Pete**, a sing-along and novelty tunes act from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Cow Hop. 9:30 p.m.

**Sunflower**, a rock band from Austin, is playing with opening band Peeping Tom at the 3rd Floor Cantina. 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

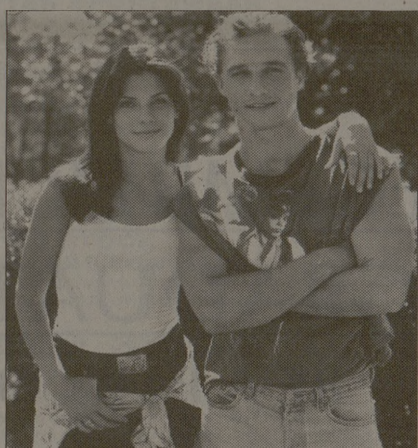
MSC Film Society is showing **A Time to Kill** at the Rudder Theater Complex at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The Dixie Theatre is hosting **Freudian Slip**, Texas A&M's improv acting troupe. 8 p.m.

**Michael McAllister**, a classical guitarist from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java. 9:00 p.m.

**Old Army with Roger Creager**, a country and rock band from Dallas, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

**Billy Pritchard**, a classic rock and country act from Liverpool, England, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill. 9 p.m.



Sandra Bullock and Matthew McConaughey star in *A Time to Kill*.

Rock bands **The Pelicans** and **Saturday Night Moses** are opening for **Screaming Bloody Maries**, a rock band from Los Angeles, at the Cow Hop.

**Beau Solei**, a Cajun Zydeco band, is playing at the 3rd Floor Cantina. 9:30 p.m.

**World Tribe**, a reggae band, is playing at The Tap. 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

MSC Film Society is showing **A Time to Kill** at Rudder Theatre at 9:30 p.m.

The 3rd Floor Cantina is hosting the **A&M Caribbean Club Party**, featuring reggae and dance music. Open to the public. 9:30 p.m.

The Dixie Theatre is hosting **Freudian Slip**, Texas A&M's improv acting troupe. 8 p.m.

**Jester**, a rock band, is opening for **Loud Plaid Jacket**, also a rock band, at Cow Hop.



Jester

**Billy Pritchard**, a classic rock and country act from Liverpool, England, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill. 9 p.m.

**Sneaky Pete**, a sing-along and novelty tunes act from Bryan-College Station is playing at Cow Hop. 9:30 p.m.

**Michele Solberg**, a rock act from Austin, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java. 9 p.m.

# Climbing in the house

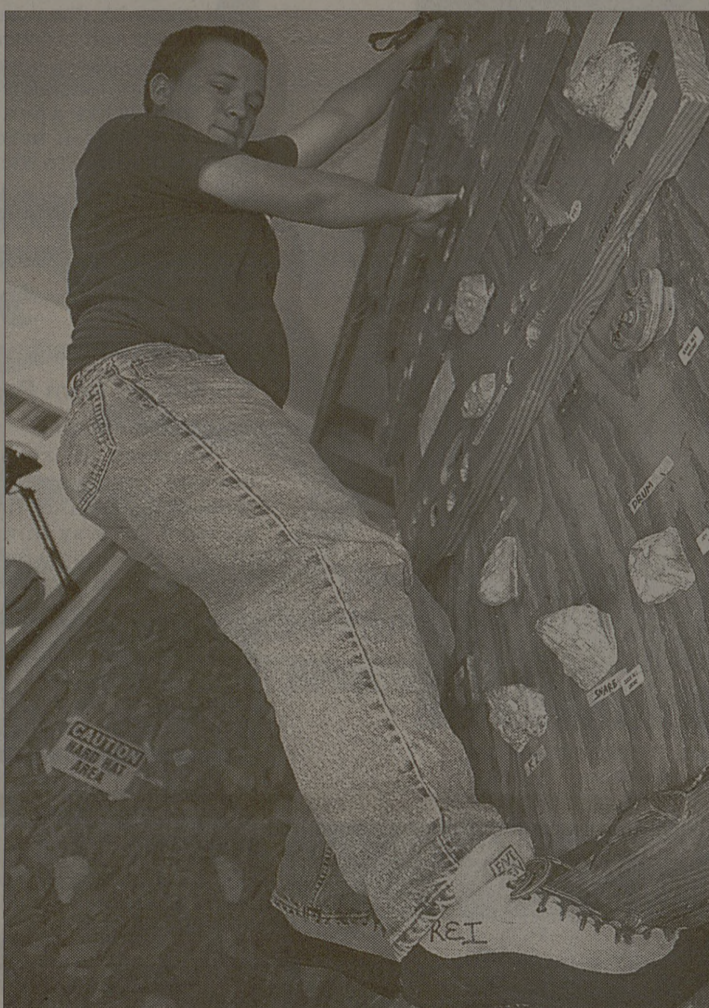
Aside from basic living room furniture, junior anthropology major Geoff Jennings has a climbing wall next to his couch.

By AARON MEIER  
 THE BATTALION

Visitors to Texas A&M walk into the Student Recreation Center and stand in awe of the climbing tower that dominates the entrance. But Geoff Jennings, a junior anthropology major, enjoys all the benefits of the climbing wall without leaving his small duplex home.

As opposed to the usual television most students have in front of their couch, Jennings' couch faces a 6-by-10 climbing wall. The wall, a wooden structure, has hand grips attached to it. The grips vary from rocks to wooden boxes.

"The wall is always a challenge," Jennings said. "I get a thing in my head that I have to climb it."



Pat James, THE BATTALION

Geoff Jennings climbs the special wall he has in his living room.

Jennings did not build the wall. He inherited it from the duplex's owner, Tom Grundy, who built the wall while he was a student living in the one-bedroom duplex. When he graduated, Jennings moved in and kept the wall.

Jennings said when he graduates in May, he will turn the wall over to another climber.

The wall had meager origins. It started as a 3-foot piece of particle board with a few grips used to play around on between

climbs. The project grew to dominate the living room, and Jennings hopes to add to Grundy's creation.

Last week, Jennings decided to add components to make climbing on the manmade wall more like climbing on rock.

Jennings inherited another wall, which he has considered putting into the already close quarters.

"I have an 8-by-13 climbing wall now in storage that someone gave me," Jennings said. "I've thought about putting it in, but it would block my refrigerator."

The wall has inspirational quotes from various mountain climbing magazines taped all over it. One quote reads, "Every dollar I don't spend on food is a dollar that I could spend on gas to go climbing."

Jennings agrees with this philosophy. He said the expense of climbing is a strain to students' budgets.

He has two pairs of tattered and taped climbing shoes nailed to the wall, next to the Ansel Adams mountainscape portraits.

Jennings said the shoes cost about \$135 a pair, and he is on his third pair.

Tape covers the front third of an old pair of shoes that fell apart while he was climbing in Colorado.

"I had already resoled them once," Jennings said. "Then, while I was doing a long climb up in Colorado, I looked down at my shoes, and my toe was sticking out the side. Finishing the climb was hard."

Jennings prefers climbing outdoors to indoor gyms.

He has climbed most of the major rocks in Texas, such as Enchanted Rock, the Green Belts of Austin and Rhymer's Ranch. Over the Thanksgiving break, Jennings said he plans to visit one of the most famous climbing sites in Texas, Hueco Tanks, for the first time. People travel from all over the world to climb there.

Jennings said his weekends of climbing occupy much of his free time.

As a member of the Outdoor Recreation Club, Jennings said climbing means more to him than a sport, but it also offers a social outlet for him and his friends. Every Thursday night, Jennings' home is invaded by 10 to 15 friends who test their skills on the wall.

"We have made a game out of the wall," Jennings said. "It's kind of like leapfrog. Someone will make two moves on the wall, then the next person has to do those two moves and add two moves of his own. It goes on, actually getting quite difficult, and it's hard to remember the order."

To make the moves easier to remember, the grips on the wall have acquired different names. The names range from "American Tourister," which is shaped like a luggage handle, to "Pull My Finger."

Some grips share a theme. There are five grips named after the different body parts of the cartoon character, Gummy.

The more commonly traveled routes on the wall have also been named by the stickers placed on various grips to guide the climber.

One route marked "99 cents" has bright-orange stickers from day-old doughnuts at the grocery store. A route labeled "Save All Urine" is marked with stickers from a hospital.

"Some of the routes are [difficult]," Jennings said. "I can only do a couple of moves of 'Save All Urine,' but I keep on trying. That is what makes it addictive, the mental as well as physical challenge."

"The wall is always a challenge. I get a thing in my head that I have to climb it."

Geoff Jennings climbing wall owner

# Insanity the norm in Madwoman

By JOSEPH NOVAK  
 THE BATTALION

In a world corrupted by greedy businessmen and ravaged by industry needs, there is one heroine who can save the world. And her name is Countess Aurelia, the *Madwoman of Chaillot*.

She is the centerpiece of the latest production by the Texas A&M theater arts program, *The Madwoman of Chaillot*.

The play, written by Jean Giraudoux more than a half a century ago, was originally set in post-World War II Paris. However, Director Roger Schultz, associate professor of theater arts, has brought the original play into a modern setting.

"It's a wonderful play from a period some 50 years ago that was terribly contemporary and poignant at that time," Schultz said. "And 50 years later, I hear the lines of the ragpicker, I hear the lines of the corrupt businessman and see that things have not changed a whole lot. We're still in need of someone to come up with a plan to bring the beauty and serving and charitable qualities back to life."

The current production is set in the spring of 1997 and is located at the "International City" because it is the converging point for people with diverse ethnic backgrounds.

"As you can see from the production, we have characters who are representative of Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas," Schultz said.

Amidst this harmony, the evils of the world have also converged.

The play opens in the setting of the Cafe Cafe. A corporate president and a baron have created a "false company," but they need to give it an appropriate name. They encounter a greedy prospector who provides them with a company name and his plan to find oil, which involves destroying the city.



Dave House, THE BATTALION

*The Madwoman of Chaillot*, a play, opens tonight at 8 p.m. in the Rudder Forum.

When Countess Aurelia, the *Madwoman of Chaillot*, enters the play, she is ignorant of evils in the world that slowly destroy society. When she learns of these evils, she develops a plan to permanently rid the world of evil people.

Melissa McNalley, the actress portraying Countess Aurelia, said that at the beginning, her character thinks life is perfect, but when she finds out it is not, she decides to do something about it.

"When she does find out the world isn't just beautiful and happy as she thought it was, she's indignant that nobody had told her this before," McNalley said. "And rather than getting mad, she gets even."

The cast includes a group of vagabonds who have never bothered to fight the wealthy tyrants of the world. Ragpicker, the main vagabond played by Ben Cunning-

ham, is a poor man who has learned about the wealthy people's wasteful habits by sorting through their garbage, and he knows their habits will one day destroy the world.

"The Ragpicker is pretty much the foil of all that [the greedy businessmen] stand for," Cunningham said. "He's poor and yet kind and caring and selfless."

In the second act, Countess Aurelia begins her plan to destroy the evils of the world. To help her make the decision on how to exterminate the evil doers of the world, she invites three of her insane friends, Madame Constance (Kelly Hartline), Mademoiselle Gabrielle (Manisha Parekh) and Madame Josephine (Leslie Speikes) to come to her cellar.

Speikes said the madwomen are in-

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