

GARAGE

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"My family has owned the land that will be condemned for the garage for 30 years," he said. "Obviously I have a personal interest in the project. I also question the location of the garage. The University has acres behind Albertson's with signs not to park there. That area was not considered."

"The garage benefits what I call the hole-in-the-wall businesses in the area. There are some textbook stores there, but the bars there don't provide parking, so they expect the city to provide parking."

Don An, owner of Café Excel and Crooked Path Ale House, said a parking garage will enhance the Northgate area.

"We are hoping it will revitalize the Northgate area and attract more businesses," he said. "We think businesses will take a second look at Northgate if there is a parking garage."

An said the garage will attract people who do not normally frequent Northgate.

"Right now, people don't really take visitors to Northgate unless they want to go to the (Dixie) Chicken or are going to a football game," he said. "This (Northgate revitalization) is a visionary thing — It's not going to happen overnight. But if you put a garage in there, it will bring in more businesses. It can be something that people are proud of."

THE THRILL OF THE RIDE

Beetle mania sweeps U.S. car buyers

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (AP) — Not long after Wally Leach paid \$18,000 for a new Volkswagen Beetle, he was stopped in a parking lot by a man offering him \$27,000 for it. That came after someone else offered him \$23,000.

"When I told him 'No,' he said, 'Can I give you more?'" Leach recalled.

The popularity of the new car has led to Beetle scalping.

Demand is so great and the number of cars so small that some VW dealers are selling them for thousands of dollars above the sticker price. Also, non-VW dealerships and auto wholesalers are purchasing them and reselling them at a mark-up.

VW spokesman Tony Fouladpour said the company tries to discourage dealers from selling cars above sticker prices but can't stop them. "The dealerships are independent businessmen and some are much more independent than others," he said.

Fouladpour pointed out that customers who buy a new Beetle from a

non-VW dealer lose out on the 10-year, 100,000-mile warranty.

That doesn't bother some people. The allure of the Beetle is that strong.

Ronald Pogue of Berkeley, Calif., said his cherry red Beetle gets him attention everywhere he goes. "Can one purchase coolness? I think so," said Pogue, who bought his car at a VW dealer.

Leach, who lives in Gray, Tenn., bought his Bug for his nearly 16-year-old son. Leach's wife, Jennifer, said their son's classmates tell him he has "the baddest car around."

Volkswagen stopped making the old Beetle in 1979. The new version is sleeker but still looks pretty much like the bulbous old Beetle. The base model starts at \$15,200. A car with all options costs about \$18,000.

Mick Adams, a salesperson at Livonia VW in Livonia, Mich., said Beetlemania has struck his dealership. Livonia's policy of no waiting lists has created problems, he said.

"We did have some customers arguing" when a Beetle arrived on

A new bug

Since its introduction last month, Volkswagen's New Beetle has become so hot that dealers' waiting lists are in the hundreds. And in a throwback to the "Flower Power" days of the 1960s, the Beetle's dashboard even sports a bud vase.

Bug-eyed headlights

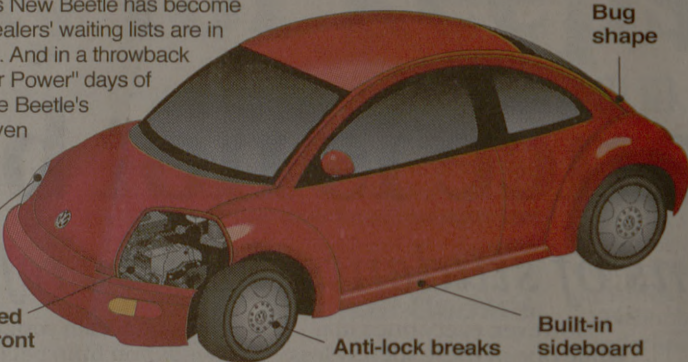
Water-cooled engine in front

THE NEW BEETLE

A look at some standard features of the New Beetle:

Bug shape

- Front-wheel drive
- Pollen and odor filter
- Six-speaker stereo with CD capability
- Beverage holders
- Anti-theft alarm system
- Halogen projector-beam headlights
- Four-wheel disc brakes and central locking system with remote
- Bud vase on dashboard
- Folding rear seat
- Front seat side airbags



Anti-lock breaks

Built-in sideboard

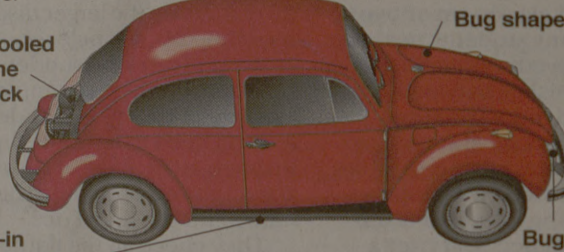
THE VINTAGE BEETLE

There have been 4,988,350 Beetles sold in the United States.

Air-cooled engine in back

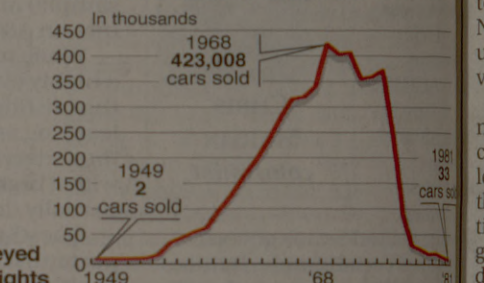
Built-in sideboard

Bug shape



Bug-eyed headlights

VW Beetle sales in U.S. from 1949-1981



Source: Volkswagen of America Inc.

AP/Justin Gilbert, Jane Axemathy, Susan Holt

the lot, he said. The manager had to ask one of the customers to leave.

"I've had some pretty nasty people come through the door," Adams said.

An Ohio woman bought a Beetle from Livonia after seeing a truck carrying the new cars. "She just followed it until it stopped," Adams said.

Prestige Motors in suburban

Detroit has sold 10 Beetles around \$22,500 each, according to salesperson James Fox. By law, cars must be classified as used because Prestige is not a VW dealer.

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- The Vice President for Student Affairs Office wants you to be aware of our open door policy.
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- <http://vpsa.tamu.edu>

FREUDIAN slip
improvisational comedy
presents
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This 'til show is Freudian Slip's way to personally thank all of its friends and fans for their support over the past five years.
Saturday, May 2, 1998
9 p.m. at Rudder Auditorium
Tickets are \$4 in advance (MSC Box Office) \$5 at the door

MSC Film Society
presents...

Jackie Brown
Friday, May 1
9:30 p.m.

L.A. Confidential
Saturday, May 2
7:00 & 10:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$3.00 at the door or \$2.50 in advance at the MSC Box Office (845-1234)
All films shown in Rudder Theatre Complex.
Questions? Call the Aggie Cinema Hotline - 847-8478.
Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three(3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our ability.
Website: <http://films.tamu.edu>

Film on Video
presents...
Annie Hall
Thursday, April 30
7:00 p.m.
Bullets Over Broadway
Sunday, May 3
2:00 p.m.
Free Admission
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Attention All On-Campus Residents

The deadline to cancel your housing contract for Fall 1998-Spring 1999 academic year and receive a 50% (\$100) deposit refund is:

MAY 1, 1998 @ 5:00 P.M.
in the Housing Assignment Office

Cancellation forms can be filled out in 101 YMCA

Letters of cancellation can be faxed to (409) 862-3122, or mailed to (must be received by 5/1/98 @ 5:00 p.m.):

Housing Assignments Office
101 YMCA Building
College Station, Texas 77843-1258
(409) 845-4744

Deadlines to receive a portion of your deposit:

May 2 - May 15	\$50 (25%)
After May 15	Entire deposit forfeited

12th Man Student Foundation presents our annual

Baseball Barbeque

Friday, May 1 @ 5:00 p.m. before the Baylor Game Next to the Olsen Pavilion

Members: FREE
Non-members: \$5

Win Autographed Stuff!

12th MAN STUDENT FOUNDATION

Texas A&M Dance Team Tryouts

When? Saturday, May 2
Where? G. Rollie White Coliseum
What Time? 9 a.m. - ?

- Current A&M Students should bring a transcript
- Incoming freshmen/transfer students should bring a letter of acceptance.
- Tryout attire is a black halftop/sportsbra and black bikers/jazz pants
- For questions please call Susie @ 696-2904