

**Now Taking Orders**

Scholastic Recognition  
Announcements,  
Caps & Gowns  
**ROTHER'S**  
BOOKSTORES  
340 G. BUSH DR. • 907 HARVEY ROAD  
303 S. COLLEGE AVE.

**AT Tutoring** 260-2660  
725B University Drive

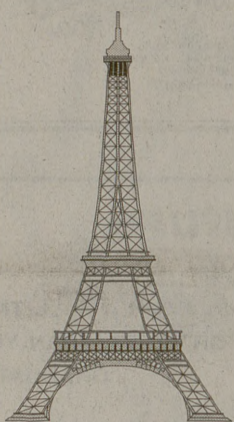
TICKETS GO ON SALE MONDAY 5PM  
www.aggiecentral.com

		MON Mar 22	TUES Mar 23	WED Mar 24	THUR Mar 25
<b>MATH</b> 151	8-11 PM	Part I	Part II	Part III	
<b>CHEM</b> 102 <small>Dr. Sorlage</small>	6-8 PM	Ch. 18	Ch. 19	Ch. 20	Prac. Test
<b>PHYS</b> 202	8-10 PM	Ch. 24	Ch. 25	Ch. 26A	Ch. 26 B

Find a thousand or so pages a trifle daunting?

MSC OPAS and MSC Literary Arts  
present

**LES MISÉRABLES:**  
THE CLIFF'S NOTES® EDITION



Before you see the  
musical, learn about the  
novel that started it all!

Dr. Cynthia Bouton,  
professor of history, will set the  
stage of Victor Hugo's literary  
masterpiece.

The power of the musical will  
move you, but the power of the  
novel will change you!

Admission is FREE

Tuesday, March 23

5:30 p.m. Rudder 301

For ticket information on Les Miserables, call 845-1234

**Farmers  
must wait  
for aid**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farmers counting on \$2 billion in congressionally approved disaster aid will have to wait until June to get it, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman says.

In a letter sent Tuesday to Senate Agriculture Chairman Richard Lugar and House Agriculture Chairman Larry Combest of Texas, Glickman said administering the aid is "far more complex than past natural disaster assistance programs."

He said the agency is inundated with aid disbursements during this tumultuous farm year, including assistance packages of \$50 million for hog farmers and \$200 million for dairy farmers.

"Getting these payments out as expeditiously and as fairly as possible is a top personal priority for me," Glickman wrote.

Combest, R-Lubbock, fired back that the delay was "unacceptable."

"There are now billions of dollars that should already be in the hands of farmers and ranchers," Combest said, noting that farmers need the money as they go into the planting season.

Many in Congress have complained the USDA is moving too slowly in administering aid to farmers. Congress approved the money as part of a \$6 billion emergency package late last year amid free-falling commodity prices. Prices have done little to rebound since then — making some members of Congress angry at the slow dispersal process.

**Counties could benefit from research, development tax breaks**

AUSTIN (AP) — Economically disadvantaged counties, from East Texas to the border region, would benefit from tax incentives under legislation that also would provide tax breaks for research-and-development work.

While the research tax break would apply statewide, job creation and investment tax credits would be granted only in the disadvantaged areas, and the research tax break would be doubled there.

Currently, 92 counties would meet the bill's definition — unemployment higher than the state average and per capita income below the state average.

"Our economy has moved away from agriculture and oil to services and high-tech. Unfortunately, not all areas of the state are benefiting from this new economy," Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco, said Wednesday.

"By directing development toward the eco-

nomically distressed areas of the state, the state as a whole will become stronger," he said.

According to the senator's staff, the bill currently would apply to an arc of counties stretching from the Texas-Louisiana border down the Gulf Coast and up the Rio Grande. Some others scattered throughout the state also would qualify.

The tax breaks would cost the state about \$100 million in the 2000-2001 budget years, rising to about \$725 million by the 2006-2007 budget period, Sibley said.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, is sponsoring the bill in the House.

"I think it benefits the whole state," he said. "I think we are foolish if we don't think it benefits the whole state."

All three proposed incentives would expire in 2007 unless renewed by the Legislature. The proposals:

— Research and development tax credit

Corporations that launch new spending on qualified research work would get a 5 percent credit on their state franchise tax. Tax credits would double in the counties designated as "strategic investment areas." The credit would be equal to 50 percent of the company's franchise tax liability.

— Job creation tax credit

This credit would be based on the number of jobs created and their wages. A corporation would have to create at least 10 permanent-time jobs in the strategic investment areas. The jobs would have to pay 110 percent of the county's average wage and include paid health benefits. Jobs transferred from another part of the state wouldn't qualify.

The credit would be equal to 25 percent of total wages and salaries paid for the new jobs, taken in five-year installments.

**Press pass**



TERRY ROBERSON/The Battalion  
Joe Brown (left), City of Bryan, Theresa Woodward, KBTX, Kelly Robic, College Station ISD, and Sherylon Carroll, University Relations, discuss the relations between public relations and media during a Society of Professional Journalists panel discussion in Reed McDonald Wednesday.

**Judge sets trial date for third man  
accused in Jasper dragging death**

HOUSTON (AP) — The second of three capital murder suspects accused of dragging a black man to death in East Texas will be tried in May, a Jasper judge ruled Wednesday.

Jury selection in the trial of Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, accused in the June 7 kidnapping and dragging death of James Byrd Jr., is set to begin May 3.

John William King, one of Brewer's two co-defendants, was con-

victed in Byrd's death and sentenced to death Feb. 25. A third defendant, 24-year-old Shawn Allen Berry, has yet to be tried.

Brewer's trial location is still uncertain.

Jasper County District Attorney Guy James Gray wants to have Brewer and Berry tried in Jasper. However, Brewer defense attorney Doug Barlow has filed a request to move his client's trial, arguing that pre-trial publicity and Jasper County's small jury pool will work against his case.

Jasper County, located 140 miles northeast of Houston, has 34,000 residents. The county's Jasper is about 8,000 strong.

The crime's horrific nature lured reporters from around the world to Jasper. Byrd, who was taken to a wooded area where he was beaten and chained to the back of the vehicle.

**HILARIOUS  
HYPNOSIS**

Encore  
Performance!



You have to  
see it, to  
believe it!

DON'T MISS THIS SHOW

**DR. DOWD  
HYPNOTIST**

See people you know get hypnotized, see hypnotized volunteers sing like their favorite star. See your friends act like their favorite comedian. Girls, see guys from the audience turn into sexy male exotic dancers. Better yet... Volunteer to get hypnotized, "It's a Blast." Women will be treated as ladies. Guys, you'll be on your own.

Thursday, March 11th

2 shows: 9:00 & 11:00 p.m.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS & STAFF!

**The Department of Student Health Services  
A. P. Beutel Health Center  
and  
Dial-A-Nurse**



will be closed from

11 p.m., Tuesday, March 16

to

8 a.m., Monday, March 22

(Dial-A-Nurse will resume service at 11 p.m. on Sunday, March 21)

Ambulance Service/EMS will remain in service during the holiday. Call 9-911 for assistance.

**FIGHTERS WANTED**

KΣ presents the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual

**FIGHT NIGHT**

Benefitting Parkinson's Foundation

Wed., April 7 at Rodeo 2000

Anyone interested in boxing, contact:

Jess Succop at 268-7799 or

Zac Restad at 693-5086