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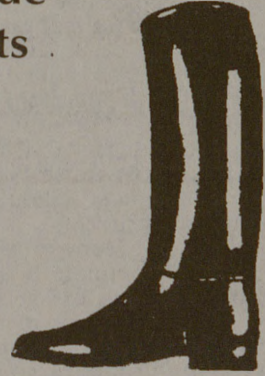
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AGGIELIFE

Mom, Dad — Send Money

High book prices give students crash course in economy

BY HEATHER BRONDY
The Battalion

The hectic days of move-in week are here and if students are not driving dangerously over-packed trucks down Texas Avenue, then they are standing in text book lines struggling with the problems of having no-dough.

No one feels the blow of a \$650 book purchase quite like the bright and shiny new freshmen, who had no idea that the need to hit mom and dad up for a loan was going to happen so fast.

Nick Summerville, a book manager at the Rother's Bookstore and a senior construction science major, knows book-buying is often a bad way to start the year.

"It's a big hassle, and everyone goes through it," Summerville said.

"There are a lot of factors that can hurt the bookstore and make us look bad, such as professors who turn in late book requests."

But the hassle does not just end with finding non-existent books. Finding a way to pay for the books can also be troublesome.

Philip Beard, general manager of the Village Center University Bookstore, said many people have to be accounted for when purchasing text books. "Books are priced so high because everyone involved has to make a little money off it," Beard said.

"That includes the publisher, the authors, the editors and the bookstores."

Beard said the publisher sets the prices, ac-

counting for all who should profit. Bookstores usually make about 20 percent on the books they sell.

The mechanics of textbook sales are understood as well, for the student trying to make sense of the high-priced Beard said textbooks do not sell for large books. Their limited production leads to an increase in price for both bookstores and students.

"Textbooks are very different from a book written about Texas Wildlife," Beard said.

"Ten thousand copies of a book will be printed, but only 1,000 textbooks are [printed]."

"When there's a limited number, there are no printing discounts."

Summerville said most bookstores sell their used books first. This practice is beneficial for bookstores and their patrons.

"If we had it our way, we'd sell used books," Summerville said.

"Not only are they cheaper for students to buy, but the stores make money off of them."

"We only make one or two dollars on new books, but with used books we have more freedom."

Used books are most often sold using a guide, which sets prices at 75 percent of what the new book would have cost.

Jason Schleiter, a University bookstore employee, said it is best to buy from the bookstores early.



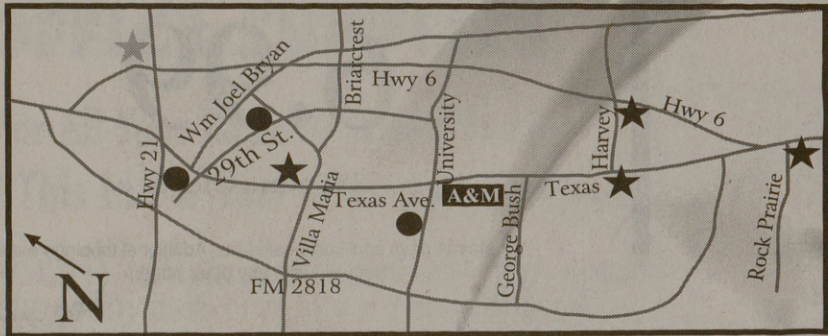
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Librarian fight for bathroom

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A battle is taking shape over whether a school librarian was once named David or called Debra can use the restroom.

Debra Davis, who had been employed in Minneapolis schools for almost 28 years, David Nielson, has been as a woman since last year at Southwest High.

She is considered transgender, which usually describes people who live and dress as the opposite sex but have not necessarily undergone a sex change.

Davis has not said whether she has had surgery.

A teacher, Carla Cruzan, complained with the state auditor about having to share a bathroom with Davis.

"I have a right to privacy and modesty which the school must respect," Cruzan said.

Davis said she is using the proper bathroom and has no intention to change.

"It's too bad people are not accepting and intolerant," Davis said.

Minnesota is the only state that affords protection by law to people who identify themselves as transgender.

Principal Robert McCann said, "To our best knowledge are operating within the law."

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DEEP BLUE SEA PG 12:30 2:50 5:20 8:10 10:40	MYSTERY MEN 12:35 3:50 7:05
BROKEDOWN PALACE PG-13 11:45 2:15 4:55 7:55 10:35	BOWLING 11:40 2:10 4:40
TEACHING MRS. TINGLE PG-13 12:10 2:30 5:00 7:40 10:15	THE SIXTH SENSE 11:45 2:35 5:15
INSPECTOR GADGET PG 12:20 2:35 5:00 7:35 9:35	THE UNIVERSAL SOLDIER 12:00 2:35 4:30
MICKEY BLUE EYES PG-13 11:45 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:30	RUNAWAY BRAES 1:10 4:25 7:15
THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT PG 12:00 2:00 4:10 6:10 8:15 10:30	THOMAS CRUICKSHANK 12:30 3:15 6:00
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