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AGGIELIFE

Less talk, More study

Students search for prime studying real estate

BY BRIAN FLEMING
The Battalion

For many students, campus libraries provide a sensible alternative to the television, loud roommates, and the all-too-tempting nap.

But for some, libraries are not the answer to students' study needs. These people must take their studies to other places.

Brandon Anderson, a junior education major, said for all the services they offer, libraries sometimes come up short.

"There are a number of places that seem to be less confining and a lot more fun," he said. "Places like Denny's and IHOP are good because you do not have to worry about being loud, and you can eat and drink."

Jeff Reva, a sophomore management information systems major, said he has found studying in open-access campus buildings such as the Blocker Building more convenient than studying in a library.

"Food and drinks are allowed, and it is open 24 hours," he said.

"Also, you can get together in groups without having to worry about reserving a room."

Reva said open-access buildings also are beneficial to students in other ways.

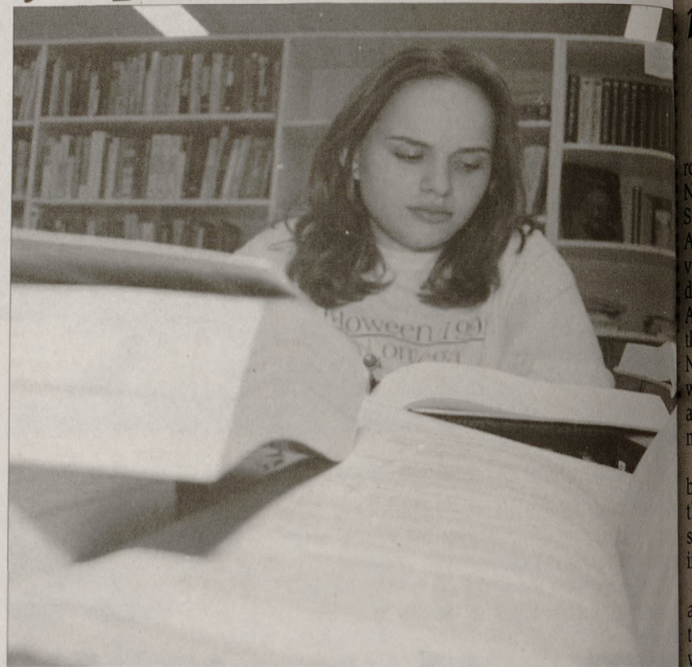
"Sometimes when you are at the library, it seems more like social hour," Reva said. "When you go to Blocker, there are tons of places to go. It is very quiet, and you can actually concentrate."

Anderson said quiet can be found outdoors as well.

"At Research Park it is usually easy to find a quiet place to lay down and study," he said. "For some reason, that seems more of a relaxing atmosphere with less distractions than people talking and shuffling papers."

Anderson said talking is one of his biggest pet peeves about studying at the library.

"Even when people are mumbling or whispering, they think they are being quiet but they are not," he



CODY WAGES/The Battalion

A familiar scene to Texas A&M students in the days leading up to

said. "It is just rude and annoying, and when I need to study seriously, I just cannot handle that."

In addition to the library, some individuals find area businesses beneficial.

Cale Harfoush, director of community relations for the College Station Barnes & Noble Booksellers, said the store offers a number of attractions for students.

"We offer a nice atmosphere and it is not as strict as the library," he said.

Mike Reimer, night manager of Denny's on Texas Avenue, said 50 or more students study at the restaurant per night.

He said many rules that apply at libraries do not apply at the restaurant.

"I think most enjoy the fact that they can smoke here," Reimer said. "Also, if they get hungry, they can order a wide variety of foods."

Reimer said he appreciates the business brought to the restaurant by students.

"We have a lot of people here," he said. "After a while, I think many feel at home because we do try to treat them like they are family."

Alternatives to the library environment do, however, with problems of their own. Harfoush said while the courage students to feel well, many need to realize the rules regarding studying.

"At our store, certain areas designated for students," Harfoush said. "These do not include aisles, under the tables and chair we have designated for customers. We do have to line somewhere."

Reimer said Denny's has a share of problems, as well.

"We do try to keep it quiet for everyone, but we do have problems during our busy times," Reimer said. "We try to explain this to students, but do get very upset."

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