

### TASKS

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productive if you do this; otherwise, you'll fall into the trap of sleeping all your free time away."

A good way to organize is to buy a daily planner and write in it everything that needs to be done in a given week. This can keep students on track rather than having a vague idea of knowing there are several things to do at some time or another.

Besides the usual administrative tasks students have, there are several other important services that are not always apparent.

Vanessa Diaz Clark, assistant director for Student Life Orientation, said, "Students are advised to make sure they know about their insurance situation, about a doctor in town and have an understanding of how they are going to be banking."

Diaz Clark recommends that students discuss these things with parents or guardians early so that they will be taken care of if a problem arises later in the semester.

Clark said she advises students to "try to find people who are also going to be here and try to have a contact and a base so you don't feel like you are by yourself."

With Texas A&M's large population, students may feel isolated. But there are many ways students can become involved early in the year.

Some students rely on the Memorial Student Center Open House to find an activity to be involved in, but Clark said that Open House can be overwhelming and even intimidating.

"Don't rely on Open House to get involved in a student organization," Clark said. "Instead, go by student activities, Web pages, *The Battalion* and such. Take advantage of the special weeks that we have when there may be a particular cultural event going on."

For students looking to get involved before the semester begins, Gig 'Em Week, beginning today and lasting until Aug. 31, is full of events allowing students to get to know the campus, other Aggies and college life.

Today and Thursday, there will be no green fee at the A&M golf course for freshmen with a parent.

Tomorrow, there will be free pizza from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Academic Plaza and a presentation at 7 p.m. by the Traditions Council in Rudder Theater.

Friday afternoon there will be a gathering in front of the Academic Building, with salsa dancing later that night.

More information about Gig 'Em Week and a complete schedule can be received from the program's representatives on these days.

No matter how students choose to become involved, it is always important to manage their time and activities wisely.

Since the first couple of weeks of class can be overwhelming for even the experienced student, it is helpful to get many of these tasks done as soon as possible, whether it be purchasing Aggie Bucks, buying books or meeting advisers.

### MOVING

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"It is important to always talk and be honest with one another," Ramirez said.

Common conflicts involve cleaning issues and late-night TV watching while the other roommate is trying to study or sleep.

"We try to have them (roommates) compro-

mise and tell them to go to a TV lounge or study carrel," Ramirez said. "They only have one room, but there are other options (for watching TV and studying)."

#### There's no place like home

To personalize a dorm room, Ramirez suggests students bring a favorite item from home and pictures of family and friends. Walls can be painted a pastel shade with approval from

their hall director. Ramirez said many residents buy fish to make their room seem more like home.

Ramirez also encourages students to get involved with their hall to combat homesickness.

"If everyone gets involved it helps to build a great community within the hall and really make it (the hall) a family away from home," Ramirez said.



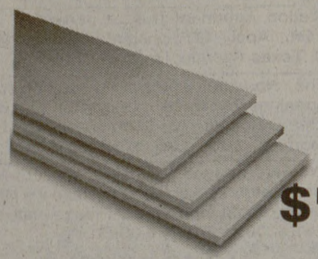
**1.8 Cu. Ft. Haier Compact Refrigerator**  
• Freezer with ice cube tray  
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• 1 full-width refrigerator shelf #114043  
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**5 Shelf Unfinished Wood Shelving Unit**  
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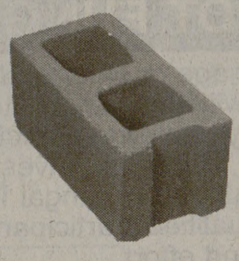


**\$7.38**

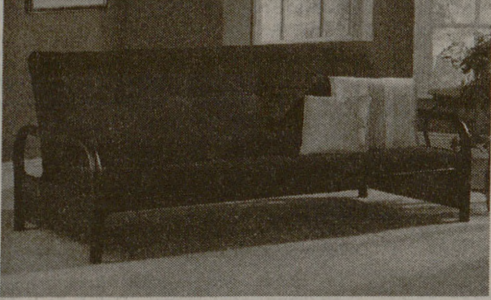
**1" x 12" x 8' All-Purpose Whitewood Board**  
• #3 grade board • 4 smooth sides • Ideal for shelving #01368



### for Your Dorm Room or Apartment



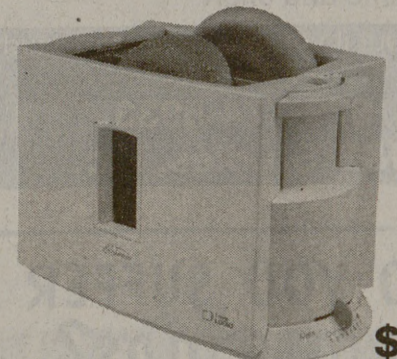
**\$1.21**  
**8" X 8" X 16" Concrete Block**  
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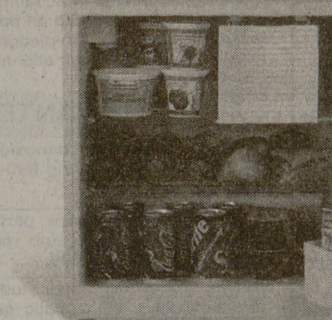
**Toast Logic Toaster**  
• 2 slice/extra-wide slots • Cool touch exterior • Removable dishwasher-safe crumb tray • Stop button cancels toasting cycle #92361



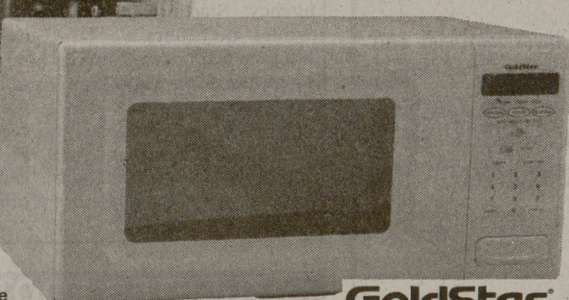
**14" x 50" White Door Mirror**  
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**\$7.96**



**Black and Decker Can Opener**  
• Opens big and extra-tall cans #30529  
**\$12.92**

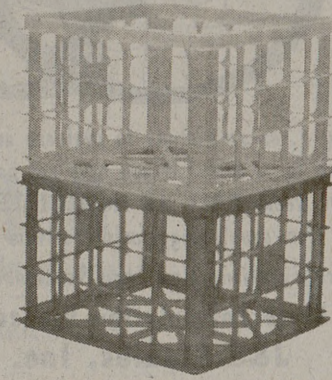


**2.5 Cu. Ft. Haier Compact Refrigerator**  
#114519  
**\$109 Refrigerator - \$10 Mail-In rebate + \$69.98 Microwave - \$10 Mail-In rebate = \$158.98 for both after mail-in rebate**



**0.7 Cu. Ft. Compact Microwave Oven (MA-780M) #105687**

**Combo Price after mail-in rebate**  
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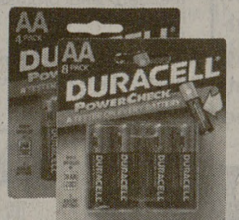
**Deluxe Storage/File Crate**  
#69881  
**\$2.97**



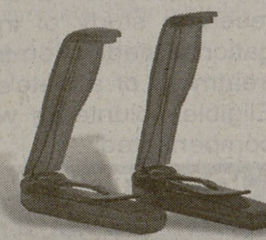
**900 MHz Analog Cordless with Call Waiting Caller ID**  
• Back-lit display • Headset compatible (VT9122) #123226  
**\$44.97**



**Your Choice**  
**\$3.37**  
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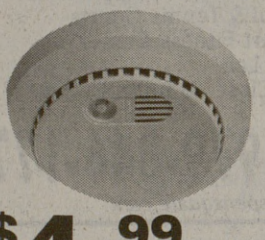
**Your Choice**  
**\$5.97**  
AA #33313; 98797



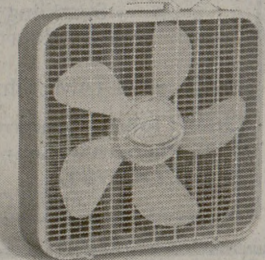
**\$9.99**  
**Translucent BookMate Personal Reading Lamp**  
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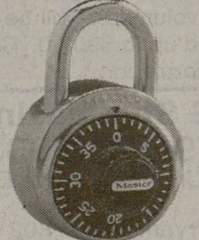
**\$18.42**  
**Desk Chair**  
• Adjustable, swivel seat  
• Durable polyester fabric #65905



**9 Volt Smoke Detector**  
• Includes 9 volt battery • Beep signals when battery is low • Test button #73074  
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**\$49.99 After Mail In Rebate**



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### BOOKS

Continued from Page 2B

The never-ending plague of buying textbooks for the year is sure to be a chronic occurrence for everyone during those four, five, or six years that one spends at A&M. Whether it is buying them online, from other students or from the bookstore, students will be spending countless numbers of dollars for textbooks that used to be handed to them in high school. For many, the only exciting part about buying books is knowing that selling them back at the end of the semester will get them some much-needed cash.

## Lowes

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quantities for homeowner and one-house order quantities for cash and carry contractors. Current in-store price, if lower, overrides Lowe's advertised price. Price guarantee honored at all Lowe's retail locations. Labor charges for product installation are excluded from our price guarantee offer in our stores with an installed Sales Program. Visit store for complete details. Prices may vary after August 14, 2001, if there are market variations. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

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