AggieLife

High and low

Students search for their study niche

By Gabe Patterson
THE BATTALION

Students who want to make good grades must study effectively and minimize distractions, and few students are blessed with the power of selective attention.

Ben Keller, a sophomore chemistry major, said he uses the Sterling C. Evans Library when he wants to study.

"I go to the third and fourth floor because they have areas where there are no windows or anything to distract me," Keller said.

Keller has continued using the facility despite a recent incident involving a reptilian visitor.

"A lizard fell on my head the other day while I was studying, so I flicked it off and it fell on the ground," Keller said.

Keller said lizards have no place among students pursuing degrees. "I felt no remorse about grinding that animal into the carpet," Keller said.

Similar encounters with strange creatures in Evans have turned off other students. Last year's bat swarms were more than Brett Lang, a sophomore general studies major, could handle.

"I thought it was a library, but apparently it is now the Bryan zoological garden," Lang said.

Finding an appealing study location is not always enough. Some students must go further to create a custom-fitted environment for their personality and body.

"I have to take off my shoes to study," said Gail Kutac, a freshman general studies major. "It enhances my comfort level and allows me to relax and concentrate."

Matt Stellbauer, a freshman political science major, said he needs silence while studying.

"I need an open space to study," Stellbauer said. "I feel too cooped up at a desk, so I usually use tables where I can spread out a little more."

Aggies like Derek Free, a sophomore wildlife and fishery sciences major, have discovered ways to make their study time more efficient.

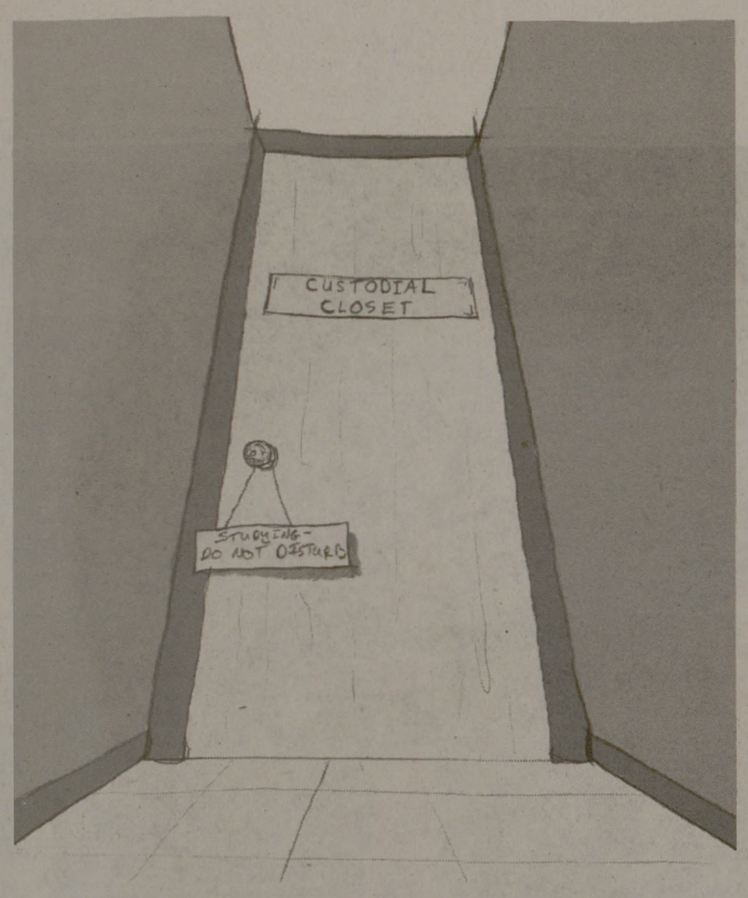
"I've found that outlining the chapters on my own before class instead of just highlighting them helps me remember the information better," Free said.

Tim White, a freshman general studies major, said he has no problem focusing on books, despite distractions.

"I can study with the TV, radio or whatever," White said.

However, other students say the sweet forms of college-life entertainment easily distract them.

"My study habits really suck, mainly due to my TV and computer," said Nick McIntyre, a junior environmental design major. "The free cable and Internet my apartment complex provides are nice, but they can be negative influences."



FRANK CHANCE • THE BATTALION

Problems like these cause some Aggies to leave the comforting confines of their dwellings for more conducive study areas.

"I can't concentrate when I'm in my dorm," said Andrew Magness, a freshman computer science major. "I go to [Sterling C. Evans Library] to study, and I make sure to go to my (supplemental instructions)."

VOLUME CONTROL

Kylie Minogue
Fever
Capitol Records

America has been missing out, but not for long. The U.S. release of Kylie Minogue's hit album, *Fever*, which already has sold 2 million copies worldwide, is guaranteed to change disco dance floors forever.

The album begins with "More, More, More," which introduces the fun, new disco beats that will embrace listeners for the next hour. It also introduces listeners to Minogue's sexy vocals.

The third track, which has received heavy rotation in clubs on the East and West Coast, "Can't Get You Out of My Head," has a catchy tune and gives the picture of obsessive love. "Fragile" is a bit slower but keeps the tempo up. One of the best tracks on the album, "In Your Eyes," is a seductive dance song that makes girls want to get gutsy and get their groove on with a smoldering hot stranger.

"Dancefloor" lets listeners imagine themselves with the third season cast of "Sex and the City" at a swank club. "Your Love" may send listeners to the bar for a dance break, however the next track, "Burning Up" gets the club grinding again. The bonus tracks "Butterfly" and "Boy" announce that just because the CD is coming to an end, the party is not and inspire listeners to hit repeat. This album is filled with hot dance hits that thankfully leave no room for slow ballads or party-poopers. (Grade: A)

—Lizette Resendez

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