

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

Page 3 • Tuesday, December 10, 2002

Not so Dead Week

The break before finals provides time for studying and relaxing

By Nishat Fatima
THE BATTALION

There may not be any exams, but this week is anything but dead.

Many students like Suzanne Hill plan to utilize dead week as a time to kick back and take their minds off classes, with some studying in between. Hill, a senior meteorology major, said she usually creates a schedule to allot time to study and to relax. During her breaks, Hill said, she enjoys spending time alone by engaging in simple activities such as coloring or getting a pedicure.

"After sitting in the library for hours on end with your eyes glued to a text book, you really have to find a way to refresh your mind and body," she said. "If you don't take time out from studying, then you definitely run the risk of burning yourself out."

Although she likes her personal time, Hill said dead week is ideal for getting together with friends because nobody has conflicting class schedules.

"Since everybody is so stressed out all at once, it is a good idea to get together with

your friends and unwind," she said. "It can be a lot of fun to go to the quad and use the barbecue pits there and have a book burning party. Just witnessing your friends antics while they unwind can be hilarious."

Hill said she and her friends save money on going to dinner by eating on campus.

"(My friends and I) get together and randomly go to Rumours or the Commons and try to spend our meal plans before the semester is up," she said. "We give them away to our other friends. Ultimately, we have too much food in the end."

Victor Ysaguirre, a sophomore political science major, also takes advantage of the numerous break time activities around campus.

"I love to play indoor sports like ping pong ball and pool because they can be played on campus and you don't lose a lot of time com-

muting back and forth," he said.

Although campus provides many activities, Ysaguirre said he does enjoy venturing into the Bryan-College Station community.

"My friends and I like to go dancing or to a concert just to get as far away from studying as possible," he said.

Stephanie Hines, a senior chemistry major, said during dead week she attended the late night activities provided by community venues.

"I love going to Cinemark after midnight and watching discounted movies during dead week because I don't have to worry about getting up and going to class the next morning," she said.

In addition to area entertainment, Hines said dead week is a great time to look beyond

Aggieland's borders.

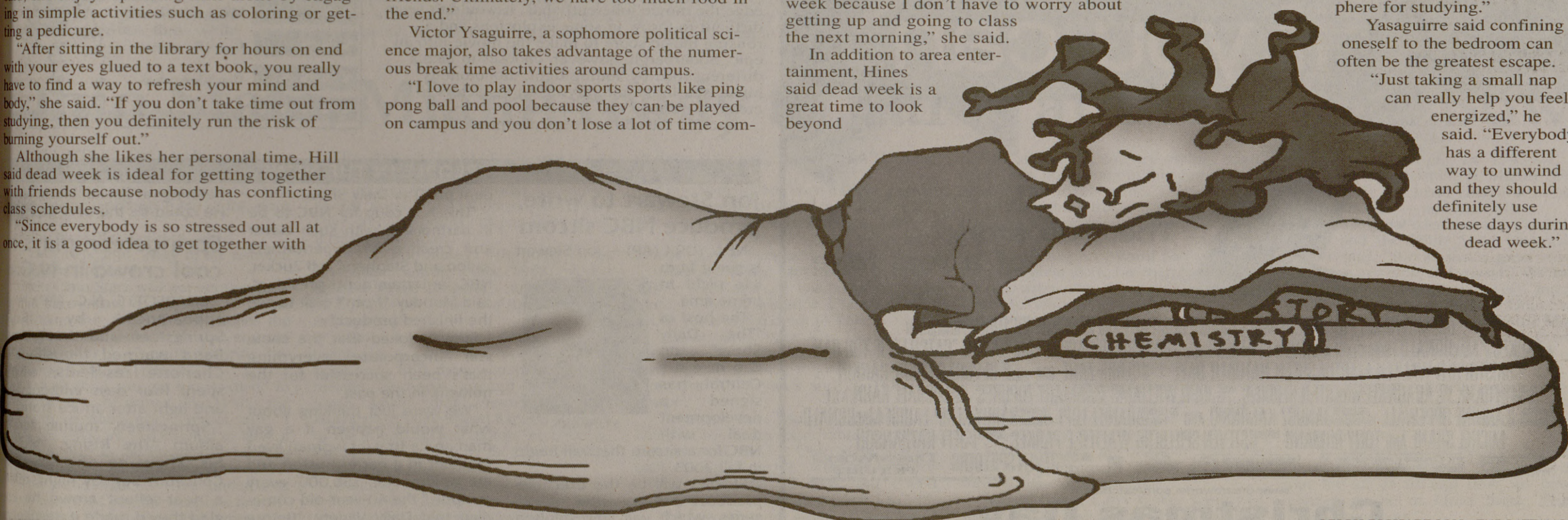
"Between going to class and getting assignments done, it can be really hard to keep in touch with people since the time is so limited," she said. "I like the extra time because I can make a trip home or go on a road trip with friends."

Although leaving town relieves stress, Hines said staying at home can too.

"I love to decorate or rearrange the furniture in my room," she said. "Its great stress relief and the new feel of the room creates a good atmosphere for studying."

Ysaguirre said confining oneself to the bedroom can often be the greatest escape.

"Just taking a small nap can really help you feel energized," he said. "Everybody has a different way to unwind and they should definitely use these days during dead week."



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