

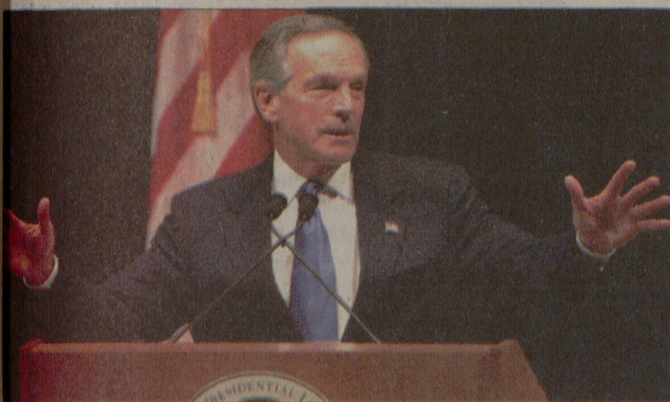
THE BATTALION

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JOSHUA L. HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Secretary of Commerce **Donald Evans** spoke at the George Bush Presidential Library Complex Monday.

Evans: Cabinet must be loyal

By Lindsay Broomes
THE BATTALION

The president's character and leadership can be best defined by loyalty and trust, Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans said Monday at Texas A&M.

During 9-11, Evans said, President George W. Bush provided the country with what it needed.

"He provided them with discipline, pas-

sion, a steady hand, confidence and faith," he said.

He said that only as a team was the Cabinet able to win a series of tax cuts and trade promotion authority, legislation designed to increase trade.

"The economy is definitely picking up steam," Evans said. "The president knew that we as Americans could lead the world by expanding peace, prosperity and security."

The president's goals were set to rally the country, Evans said. Former President George

Bush said he began the idea of ushering in freedom, and his son is continuing that plan.

"Other countries love America," the senior Bush said. "Freedom, free enterprise and the goodness of the American people is why America has been so successful in the last 200 years."

Evans' travels to other countries have shown him that the United States has helped to affect change in the world. Afghanistan

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Rother's changes name to Traditions

By Lindsay Broomes
THE BATTALION

Rother's Bookstore hopes to unveil a fresh attitude with the release of its new name, Traditions.

Rother's recently changed the name of its stores in the Bryan-College Station area to more closely identify with Texas A&M and its students, said Paul Patti, general manager for Rother's stores in the Bryan-College Station area.

"A name change reflects a new attitude," said Karen Brooks, general merchandise manager-buyer for Rother's stores.

The stores are replacing their blue Rother's memorabilia and items including banners, bags and T-shirts, with the maroon Traditions line.

"This is a gradual process that should be done about February," said Patti.

Patti said Rush and buy-back would still use the Rother's title to ease students into the change.

Rother's is also planning a two-to-three-year project to remodel all the stores to promote Aggie traditions. Paintings will be hung along the walls in addition to memorabilia. Although there are no formal plans for this project yet, work will begin on the stores in the summer of 2004.

Brooks, who has been working with Rother's for 25 years, said this is a positive change.

"It just seems appropriate after this long," she said.

Despite the face lift, the stores have not changed ownership.

"Selection, service and pricing will be the same quality and standard they always have. This is a competitive market, and this is a positive way to stay on top," Brooks said. "We never want to take our stance for granted." "We are putting in a lot of effort to continue success."

Suanne Pledger, the projects director for Loupots, said she is not concerned about Rother's changes affecting its business.

"Nebraska Publishing still owns Rother's," Pledger said. "Rother's founder Dennis Rother actually began at Loupots and received all of his training here."

Holly Scott, general manager of the Memorial Student Center Bookstore, said she does not think her store's sales will be affected by Rother's.

Pledger said she thinks that a golf store, book store and an off-campus residential dormitory all having the same name — Traditions — could present a problem.

The transition from the Rother's name to Traditions has cost the store about \$5,000. The estimated price of the remodeling could be anywhere from \$10,000 to \$100,000 over the course of the two-year time frame allotted to complete the renovations, Patti said.

Some students are not expressing the

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Fa la la la la



JOSHUA L. HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Jessica Juergens, a junior biomedical sciences major, hangs Christmas lights on her College Station home Monday afternoon. According to The Associated Press, Christmas lights and other decorations make up a \$1.9 billion retail market.

A&M students help design hospital

By Carrie Pierce
THE BATTALION

Nineteen Texas A&M environmental design students have been working alongside the architecture firm HKS Architects Inc. in the design of a short-stay hospital and medical office building in Garland, Texas.

Cambridge Holdings and the Presbyterian Healthcare System commissioned HKS to undertake the design for the Presbyterian Garland Center for Diagnostics and Surgery.

HKS Architects Inc. then invited a third-year undergraduate architecture class taught

by George J. Mann, a design studio professor and project director for A&M, to work alongside the corporation for a real-life experience. HKS has been an advisory teaching firm to the College of Architecture since 1973 and employs more Aggies in the architecture field than any other firm, said Mann, the Ronald L. Skaggs endowed professor of Health Facilities Design.

Junior environmental design major Jennifer Parlett said students were introduced to the project by HKS in October when they visited HKS Architects Inc. The students traveled to Garland to view the 70,000 square foot

property being used for the hospital and medical office building.

The class then split into teams to come up with different designs for the health care facility, Mann said.

Junior environmental design major Dominic Savoie said that since then, the students have spent countless hours in the Langford Architecture building perfecting their designs.

"Every free waking moment I've had has been spent with the design," she said.

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JOSHUA L. HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Environmental design majors, senior **Melissa Marusak**, left, and junior **Lacey Mackey**, put the finishing touches on their hospital in Langford Architecture building Monday afternoon that will be displayed in Dallas.

WHO begins program for AIDS patients

By Chris Tomlinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAIROBI, Kenya — Tens of thousands of activists and health workers rallied worldwide Monday to mark World AIDS Day, and officials hailed new initiatives, new funding and a new pill to fight the disease that has infected 40 million people and kills more than 8,000 every day.

The World Health Organization and UNAIDS promised cheaper drugs, simpler treatment regi-

mens and more money as part of a campaign launched in Nairobi to provide 3 million HIV-infected people with the latest drugs available by the end of 2005 in a \$5.5 billion effort.

WHO also certified an innovative, generic drug for treating HIV that combines three essential anti-retroviral drugs into one pill to be taken twice a day. WHO and UNAIDS promised to promote international agreements to streamline treatment programs.

"In two short decades, HIV/AIDS has become the premier disease of mass destruction," said Dr. Jack Chow, the assistant director-general of WHO.

"The death odometer is spinning at 8,000 lives a day and accelerating."

Medecins Sans Frontieres, an aid agency that has led efforts to simplify HIV treatment, welcomed the announcement but said funding will be critical.

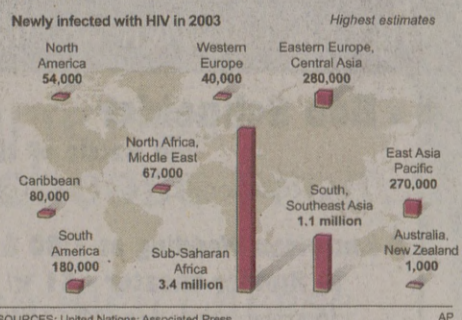
"The treatment has to be free; if the treatment is not free, they will not meet their goals," said Dr. Morten Rostrup, president of group's international council.

Thousands of activists marched and rallied in

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Worldwide control of AIDS failing

International efforts to control the spread of HIV/AIDS are failing, according to a U.N. report. There are more deaths and infections this year than ever before and as many as 46 million people live with the virus.



SILVER TAPS

Cheng-Hsien Chiang
Civil Engineering

10:30 p.m.
Academic Plaza

Researcher found guilty on 47 of 69 charges

By Betsy Blaney
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUBBOCK, Texas — A world-renowned plague researcher was convicted Monday of 47 charges but was acquitted on 22 others, including the most serious allegations related to a bioterrorism scare that was prompted when he reported that plague samples had possibly been stolen from his Texas Tech University lab.

Dr. Thomas Butler, 62, was acquitted on the most

serious charges of smuggling and illegally transporting the potentially deadly germ, as well as lying to federal agents.

He appeared stunned as the verdicts were read after two days of deliberations. He closed his eyes, shook his head and fought back tears. After the jury left the courtroom, Butler's wife and son hugged him tightly for several seconds.

The charges stemmed from an investigation following his report to police Jan. 14 that 30 vials of the potentially deadly plague bacteria were missing from his Texas Tech lab.

The report sparked a bioterrorism scare in this West Texas city in January and President Bush was informed of the incident.

In a statement written later, Butler said he accidentally destroyed the samples. However, during his trial he testified that he had no clear memory of destroying the vials but that they could have been destroyed during his cleanup of an accident he had Jan. 3 or 4.

His attorney, Chuck Meadows, said: "We are disappointed that the jury did not acquit Tom of all the charges. We're going to analyze the jury's verdict."