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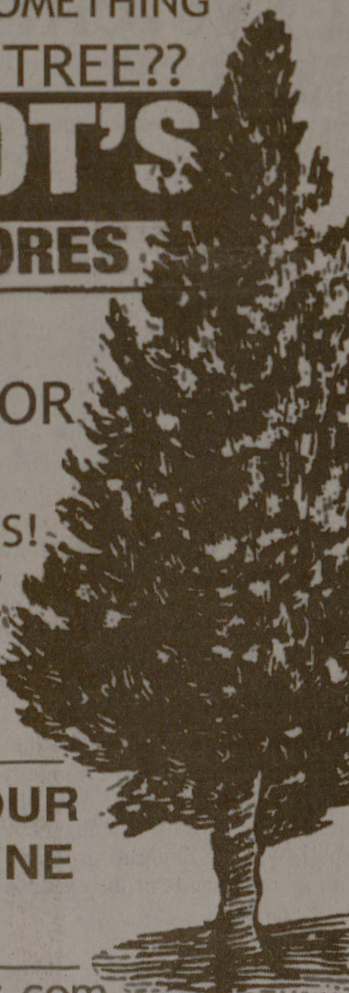
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**Christmas in Baghdad**



A foam padded Santa Claus suit draws the curious eye of passers by in Tahir Square in downtown Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, Dec. 1, 2003. The Santa suits are handmade in Baghdad and can be either worn as a costume or left out as a decoration.

**Design**  
Continued from page 1

The students split up the different aspects involved in the project, said junior environmental design major Shaun Tarpley.

"This was an opportunity for our class to have real life experience," he said. "There was a real client and developer which made the project very tangible and real."

Junior environmental design major Lindsay Gavos said this was her first professional architecture experience.

"We were having to work with people who change their minds. It was a great experience that was like the real world. We really learned about working in a team," Gavos said.

HKS visited and critiqued the students' projects mid semester, said junior environmental design major Melissa Marusak. The developers originally wanted a one story building, but then decided that, for visibility reasons, they wanted the designs changed to multi-story facilities. The students in turn had to revise their

entire designs, Marusak said.

"We had to be really flexible," said junior environmental design major Michelle Moore. "The developers were very honest about the changes that could be made."

Senior environmental design major Sharon Wells said this project let her see what is expected in the business world with clients and companies.

"HKS and the developers actually gave us a list of what was needed for the facility and what sizes. These were things we've never dealt with before. In the end we learned a lot about functionality," Wells said.

Mann said he treated this project like it was an actual office project.

"It's always satisfying and challenging to work with students — they are truly the future of our profession," said Ronald L. Skaggs, FAIA chairman of HKS Architects and adjunct professor of architecture at A&M, in a press release.

The students will travel to Dallas Wednesday to present their designs. Mann said they may use some of the students' designs in the project.

**Evans**  
Continued from page 1

schools now exist for girls as well as boys. Previously, the country only supported education for boys. The president has also brought democracy to Saddam Hussein's former region in Iraq, Evans said.

"I spoke with children in Baghdad and they have dreams of going to college," Evans said. "The president has defined a mission for freedom around the world."

Evans said he wants people to wake up to a sense of hope, not fear. He said his support, along with the rest of the Cabinet, is fully with President Bush.

"Truth, trust and loyalty are essential qualifications defining Bush as a man and a leader," Evans said. "If we do our job we will lead this country to a place your children and grandchildren want to call home."

Evans was this year's feature speaker in The Conoco Phillips White House Lecture Series held in the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center at the George Bush Presidential Library Center. The lecture series began in 1999 and takes place annually to provide a more comprehensive picture of

the presidency by featuring people who work closely with the president.

"Watch out if you meet him," will probably sell you something," said former President George Bush of Evans.

Evans detailed the beginning of the U.S. Department of Commerce, saying Theodor Roosevelt started the department during his presidency because he was concerned about big businesses abusing their power.

The Departments of Commerce and Labor were created with the intention of overseeing and regulating big businesses, Evans said. They now have 40,000 employees and are managed by 130 political appointees serving the president.

"The Cabinet should reflect the president's character," he said. "The matter of the capacity of the president, he can't do it all. The cabinet should define the president as what he stands for."

The job of the Cabinet is to lead the president not just what he wants to hear, but what he needs to hear. The Cabinet is the eyes and ears of the president across the country and the world, Evans said.

"The tone of the environment comes from the top," he said.

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