



SERGEANT CITED

Sgt. Donald V. Mahnke received the Air Force Commendation Medal Tuesday while wife Jean and children Sandra, 8, Patty, 5, and Norbert, 9, looked on. Mahnke, in the record section of the Department of Aerospace Studies, received the medal for service in the special actions branch of the 86th Air Division headquarters in Ramstein, Germany.

Student Teaching Provides Training

By ED SMITH
Battalion Special Writer

"Experience is the best teacher" is a common cliché. It's also true that the best teachers are experienced. The problem is how does one become an experienced teacher in the shortest period of time?

A partial solution is student teaching.

Here the future teacher is exposed to the problems of teaching, his abilities are increased and if problems pile up there is an experienced teacher available to come to the rescue.

Jordan Brooks, a senior education major from Bryan, has spent the last 16 weeks on the job as a student teacher.

Brooks has spent about 15 hours a week on his job of teaching English to tenth grade Stephen F. Austin High School students.

A&M's Department of Education and Psychology offers two possible ways for a student to handle his student teaching.

He can take all the required education and student teaching courses in a block. That is, all the education requirements for a teaching certificate can be completed in one semester.

The other alternative is to spread the courses out over several semesters and then student teach after completion of all the course work.

Brooks chose the latter and will complete all the requirements for a teacher's certificate this semester.

Teaching seems to require a good bit of time.

"I teach two hours a day and spend the other time in preparation for the next day's classes," Brooks said. "I also spend some time at night in preparing lessons and grading papers."

"A the high school I work with Mae Goodlett; she's been there a long time and knows the job very well," Brooks added.

"She advises me on how to do things and evaluates my work."

Student teaching is a course which offers six hours of college credit.

"The grade is determined by the college professor but the teacher's evaluation helps him to make up his mind."

Brooks taught two classes. One was a low ability class with students only a few years younger than he.

Did he have trouble controlling the students?

"There were a couple of instances where I was faced with conduct problems but on the whole the classes were pretty good," he said.

"I did learn that you have to treat the cause and not just the symptoms in conduct problems."

Department Of Journalism Reaccredited

The Department of Journalism has been reaccredited by the American Council on Education for Journalism, department head Delbert McGuire announced this week.

The accreditation team visited the campus March 20-22 to review the departmental program. "Accreditation assures the department, the university and the state that the program meets acceptable standards," McGuire said. "It's the most important thing the department could receive."

A letter from ACEJ secretary-treasurer John E. Stempel states: "A&M is among 47 colleges and universities in the country owning an accredited Department of Journalism."

A branch of the American Association of Universities and Secondary Schools, the ACEJ granted accreditation this year to Texas Tech and the University of Houston as well as reaccredita-

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