

Parent fear limits interest

# Ags befriend special kids

By JUDY DUNN

Every other Saturday, the 15 members of an organization called "Aggies Aid To Special Kids" volunteer their time to get together with special education students from elementary schools in College Station and Bryan.

"We try to be friends for a special kid," said Cari Thurston, president of the organization at Texas A&M

University.

"I started the organization last spring," she said, "but we've had problems getting enough children to join in our activities."

Some parents of special education students have fears about their children getting involved, she said.

"Until the parents get over these fears, there is nothing we can do," Thurston said.

There are probably similar organizations on other college campuses, Thurston said, but the group does not belong to any state or national organization.

"We send out letters to the special education departments of elementary schools in College Station and Bryan inviting kids to join in our activities," she said. "We also get names of children from other people."

However, they still need more special education students and more volunteers, said Dawn Campbell, vice president of the organization.

"Out of 60 members at the first of last fall, only 15 members are left," she said.

Dues are \$2, and the only requirement is time.

Activities range from cook-outs to trips to the Wild Animals International Park near Bryan, Campbell said.

"The activities usually last about two hours, but we are finished by noon," she said.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, call Cari Thurston at 846-6032 or Dawn Campbell at 845-6165.



Battalion photo by Jim...

## Lining up for love

It's Valentine time, and Jim Slater orders College Station flower shop. Several flowers and a card for someone special in a Aggies apparently had the same idea.

## Real estate endowed at A&M, UT

Texas A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin are being given \$100,000 each by the Texas Real Estate Research Center to establish real estate professorships.

"TRERC believes an excellent real estate program begins with excellence in teaching, research, program development and Wooten, director of the A&M-based TRERC. The goal of these professorships is to attract, develop and retain a standing lead teacher and program developer."

Both professorships will support real estate activity in the leges of business administration. TRERC Advisory Committee members screened both universities carefully. Criteria developed center for such awards was to determine whether the universities were eligible.

The universities will receive \$25,000 for four years, beginning with the current academic year. TRERC will monitor use of funds during that period, and continued funding will depend on ability of funds.

After the universities have received all of the \$100,000, they select someone to fill the professorship. Until then, investment from the endowment will be used for realty programs.

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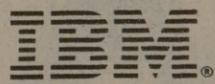
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