

Tree sale ends today

my Bayer, member of Lambda Sigma, a the southside of campus. Lambda Sigma will ophomore honor society, straightens up sell the trees from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. today in the commons on front of the Commons. Battalion photo by John Littman

bM researcher to gather info

Program to study drownings

Texas A&M University researer in Galveston has begun a tworstudy of the thousands of waterted deaths in Texas since 1971 to pdesign a safety program catered eventing more tragedies.

The search, said Dr. James deCloy of Texas A&M University at veston, will examine when, how lwhy drownings and other waterociated deaths occurred on Texas lakes and bays from 1971 to 78. First phase of the project will entrated on the coastal zone.

With 367 air miles of marine coastand 2.8 million acres of inland er, Texas has the nation's second highest death toll from aquatic acci-

An average of 608 people died nually from 1970 to 197 in waterlated accidents, he said.

from the Moody Foundation, he

cation programs, he said, safety meadangerous water activities occur activity was involved.

Data for the eight-year period is ment, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and from coroners in the coastal counties of Harris, Galveston and Nueces where Houston, Galveston and Corpus Christi are located. About 32 percent oo all water fatalities occur on the coast.

McCloy said drownings are the specific geographical areas. number 2 killer of persons under age 45, second only to automobile The study is being supported by accidents. California, with its 840 9,000 from the Texas A&M Sea miles of coast, is the leading state for

Grant College Program and \$9,968 drownings while Texas is second. The search, said McCloy, will examine a number of circumstances, Through Sea Grant's public eduincluding whether drugs or alcohol were involved, what kinds of clothes sures can be implemented at hazar- were worn, where and when the dous locations during seasons when accident happened and what kind of

Information correlated by the computer should tell Sea Grant spebeing gathered on a confidential cialists and other safety officials basis from the Texas Health Depart-where to concentrate efforts in drawing up procedures and management techniques, he explained.

The information might also point to whether environmental changes such as a new lake or beachfront development tend to increase or decrease water-related death rates in

Program helps infants

By PHYLLIS J. POWELL

Special to the Battalion At first glance, the class of 3-yearolds playing and running around the wooden floored classroom was like any other day school class of their

Two boys threw bean bags through the clown while a girl rode a tiny tricycle around the room. Another girl was rocking in a wooden structure whose flip side formed a iny set of stairs; three steps up, hree steps down. A third girl rushed rom one toy to the next.

But after a few moments it became obvious that this class was different. Several of the children laughed as hey played, but none of them alked.

This class is one of the two classes he Bryan Mental Health and Men-Retardation Center (MH-MR) offers in its Infant Stimulation-

Parent Training program.
"The program is available to any shild 3-years-old or under that is dentified as delayed in developnent," said Sue Leysath-McBeth,

he program's director. The program is divided into two

parts. The First Steps Forward section is designed for infants up to 2-years old who show some sign of developmental delay

The second part of the program is a day school program for 2- and 3year-olds who show some problems in their development. But these children must be able to walk to attend the day classes.

The classes, Leysath-Mcbeth said, are available to children of all income levels. There is no charge.

The Texas Educational Agency provides some of the funding for the developmental skills program for the 2- and 3-year olds. The rest of the funds are provided by Grant-in-Aid and local donations. The First Steps Forward program for the infants receives all of its money from private donations and the Grant-in-Aid

The children are referred to the First Steps Forward program by physicians, friends, the Health Department or by their parents. Leysath-McBeth said they use the Koontz Developmental Program as a guideline for determining what levels the children are functioning.

Four skill areas are tested: gross motor, fine motor, social and language. The Koontz guideline gives th staff an idea of what the child should be able to do at certain ages. The results of the evaluation determine what children are admitted to

the program. The infants are seen in their homes three times each week for one hour sessions with the parents and the teachers.

There are two home teachers in the First Steps Forward program. They are trained to exercise or stimulate the babies in the areas they need help in. While they are exercising the babies they also show the parents how to perform the exer-

There are 36 children in the First Steps program and 14 others still in

the application stage. The day school program for the 2classes. One meets on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings

and the other is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The classes are held in the classroom annex of the First Free Will

Baptist Church in Bryan. The special education teacher for developmental skills is Linda Led-better. She has four teaching assistants who are students at Texas A&M University and are interning for the MM-MR Center

We emphasize the behavioral approach," Leysath-McBeth said. "We encourage good behavior by re-

Only three of the students in the day care program are classified as mentally retarded and only three of the 36 infants are classified as retarded, although the majority do have significant delays.

But we try not to label these kids," Leysath-McBeth said. "We and 3-year-olds is divided into two try to give them all th help we can without burdening them with

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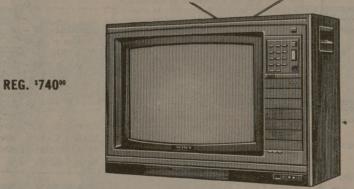
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