

Local

Aggies keep on getting the last laugh



Staff photo by Greg Watermann

Ginger Lanehart, an employee at University Book Store enjoys a typical Aggie joke book. Lanehart is from Bryan and has been working at the book store for 16 years.

By JOHNA JO MAURER
Battalion Reporter

If you'd like a little break in the monotony of studying for tests and are dying to know what Aggies consider a "No. 10 girl," then you're in luck.

Gigem Press takes its ninth lighthearted poke at the Texas Aggies in its latest edition of "101 Aggie Jokes," available in local bookstores.

"Q: Do you know how an Aggie rates a No. 10 gal?"

"A: A No. 4 and a six-pack. Then there was the Aggie who backed off the crowded bus, because he heard someone say that when he got up they were going to grab his seat."

The Dallas Gigem Press, publisher of the Aggie joke book series, offers a free copy of the next book to anyone who contributes a good, not-too-raunchy, previously unpublished Aggie joke.

One of the best sources for Aggie jokes is Aggies themselves, and the best market for the books is Bryan-College Station, the publishers said.

John Raney, manager of the Texas Aggie Book Store, said if the ninth book in the series follows the trend set by the first eight books, it will sell very well.

Raney said people buy the Aggie joke books for fun and enjoyment. More Aggies tell Aggie jokes than anyone else, he added.

Martha Camp, owner of University Book Store, said the latest book, like the rest of the series, sells well because Aggie jokes are popular.

"Q: What do you call an Aggie with half a brain?"

"A: Gifted. Did you hear about the Aggie who was so dumb he thought pointsettias placed pins in bowling alleys?"

The dumb Aggie image conveyed by the jokes began in Texas A&M University's early years.

"A historian with a Ph.D. was spending a few days doing some research in a small rural town in Texas. The postmaster, who was an Aggie, was curious about the man's background and asked what kind of doctor he was."

"I'm a doctor of philosophy," replied the historian.

"Scratching his head, the Aggie remarked, 'I don't recall that we ever had a case of that in these parts.'"

Each book in the series includes a statement that the publishers do not intend to ridicule any institution or individual.

"The purpose is to chronicle an important chapter in American humor," it states.

Gigem Press has published a book of 101 Aggie jokes every other year since 1965. A collection of "The Best of 606 Aggie Jokes" is also available.

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Symphonic band to present fall concert

The Texas A&M Symphonic Band, sponsored by the Bryan Rotary Club, will present its fourth annual fall concert at 8 p.m. Friday in Rudder Auditorium.

The band, composed of 70 musicians from the faculty, staff and student body, will offer a variety of music ranging from the classics to Broadway musicals under the direction of Maj. Joe McMullen.

Lt. Col. Joe T. Haney, director of the Texas Aggie Band, will conduct the Christmas music during the performance.

Other special performances will include a flute solo, a trumpet trio and a trombone quartet. The finale will include two brass choirs from the Texas Aggie Band in the right and left balconies of the auditorium, accompanied by the symphonic band.

Friday's performance will be the first this year for the symphonic band. Spring performances will include trips to Alvin, Hous-

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