

'85 Texas Teacher of the Year instructs computer literacy

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students, Morgan said she aims to inspire her teenagers to work hard and develop a sense of responsibility. Those adolescent years before high school are tough, she said, and her students need to understand she's both their teacher and their friend.

"I feel like I'm constantly being watched," Morgan said. "Everyday I'm a big influence in their lives. I'm a big role model."

She establishes standards in the classroom right away, she said, and that usually prevents discipline problems from ever arising.

"A lot of it comes from rapport

with students," Morgan said. "They can tell that I like them."

Consequently, students are willing to work for her, she said.

Arithmetic isn't as popular with her pupils as computer literacy, she said, so Morgan tries to relate math skills to everyday life. When students ask her why they must learn to solve these math problems, she refers them to a chart on the back wall entitled "When Will We Ever Use This Stuff." If the student wants to be a waitress, Morgan said her chart points out how math can be used in a waitress's future.

Morgan also dares to reach out in the community, she said, and this role has expanded in the past year to

speaking at universities, conferences, business groups, parent-teacher associations, and serving as a representative of the district on several occasions. When speaking to teacher groups, Morgan said she emphasizes the importance of being professional. But if her audience is businessmen, Morgan simply tries to teach them what teaching is all about.

Morgan said she also makes sure her students are aware of another important fact: she is a 1978 graduate of A&M. While working with computer graphics, one student recently made a large A&M symbol with hearts on it, Morgan said, add-

ing that the girl probably wanted an "A" in the class.

After two years as an accounting major at A&M, Morgan said she switched to education. The prompting of a former teacher in her hometown of Madisonville coupled with her love for math, motivated Morgan to designate math and science as

her two teaching fields, she said.

Morgan said A&M gave her a head start.

"The education department is superb," she said. "I had to student teach one semester. No other college required that. It prepared me so well."

Report: NutraSweet may trigger epilepsy

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food additive prior to its approval in history."

Wurtman, a physician at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been a frequent critic of aspartame since it was introduced in 1981 as the tabletop sweetener Equal. Now it is used in dozens of products, including pudding, chewing gum and diet soft drinks.

Wurtman agreed that the apparent association he reported could have been coincidental. But he said

doctors should question patients with unexplained seizures about their use of aspartame.

"It may turn out that when enough doctors ask enough questions, there'll be no correlation," he said in an interview.

Heybach speculated that the seizures of the three noted cases might have been triggered by drinking such large amounts of fluids. He said there have been reports of people suffering seizures after consuming large quantities of water.

"I imagine it's possible that there

may be individuals who are sensitive to aspartame," he said, "although there is no documented evidence of even a single individual having a clear-cut adverse reaction associated with aspartame to date, despite the fact that hundreds of millions of people use the product on a regular basis worldwide."

One of the main ingredients of aspartame is the amino acid phenylalanine. Wurtman suggests that consuming lots of aspartame can raise levels of phenylalanine in the brain.

Clinic counsels students

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anxiety, came to the clinic for help.

"He considered all his options and the best one (at the time) was just to kill himself," she says. "So we saw him on an intensive basis."

She says the student is still undergoing therapy.

"With every symptom you have, you have to explore many different possible causes," Hughes says. "It's really very complex and time consuming."

She says patients with severe problems often receive therapy for months.

Currently, the clinic is working with a group of adults that have been convicted of sexually molesting a child and are on probation, Hughes says.

"Part of the terms of their probation include that they participate in psychotherapy," she says.

Hughes says the clinic also has a computerized vocational guidance program that she says "college students should be very interested in."

The clinic serves about 60 patients, about 40 percent of which are A&M students, Hughes says.

The clinic, a non-profit organization, is subsidized by the University and also uses the money received from patients.

She says she believes the services are successful, but it is difficult to tell in some cases.

"You have a family problem and perhaps you've resolved some of their issues and maybe there's somewhat less conflict in the home," Hughes says. "But is that a cure?"



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Romanian asylum jumping

Associa

HOUSTON — Romanian seaman asked for political freedom is res Wednesday.

Paul Firica was man vessel Zala when the ship Port of Houston day morning to tion and Natura lice.

The seaman s with the Hous dream for yea the United States

The ship, load left the port for day night.

Firica said he his voyage — wh in Cuba — of M 25-year-old Sovie to defect in Lon only to be return

"He was worri interpreter Begg himself a Roma thought they wer back on the ship been caught, th would have been

Firica said he family was ab support. "With they'll manage," eyes.

Memet said friend at the H downtown Hous when he heard Romanian. Frica knowing where and unable to sp English words.

Paul O'Neill, in Houston, con tian seaman ha applied for asylu a U.S. State Dep man said federa don't reveal de fear their relativ

In a intervie the Houston Po married and has 17 and 23. He wanting to leave religious freedom.

Instead of b practice his Ro Church faith, h voluntary work party."

"He wants to and to work and honest citizen fo Memet said. "He

God after

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AUSTIN — was held aloft since February the arms of the star.

The remain damaged Godd is scheduled to Capitol Arc said Wednesda the star have b paration for th

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SAN ANTO unsuccessfully heavy metal ro the City Coun prohibiting ch attending rock lence and illicit

Mayor Hen posed ordinar in the nation sive," but o guided and ought to decid ment."