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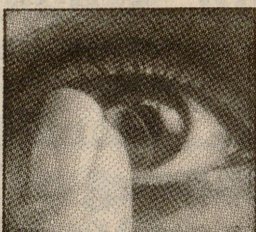
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## Showtime

The Aggie Players will present "Triple-A Plowed Under," a play that illustrates the problems of Depression-era farmers, on Friday and Saturday nights in Rudder Forum. In the foreground is Robbie Taylor,

who represents the voice of the people. In the background are Mabry, left, a city laborer, Troy Herbert and Carrie Utz, who

Photo by Tracy

## Athletic hostesses show recruits different side of A&M traditions

By Annette Primm  
Reporter

Most of the sports media agree that last year, Texas A&M Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill had the most successful recruiting year of any coach in the Southwest Conference, or even the nation.

The Aggie Hostess organization, a group of students who act as representatives of the A&M Athletic Department in the recruiting of prospective student athletes, is a part of A&M's recruiting success.

Sherrill says the hostesses project a positive and more accurate image of the University and the Athletic Department than the recruits might get from other sources.

The organization is the brainchild of Sherrill and was started in the fall of 1985, says Allison Hardy, president of the organization.

What stands out is not what the members are, but what they actually do, says Bubba Bean, recruiting coordinator for A&M football and adviser of the hostesses.

"They take a lot of pressure off our coaches," Bean says.

Hardy, a senior economics major, says, "We give them another perspective of what life is like here besides what they would get from the Athletic Department, the coaches and their high school friends. We want them to know what Aggies and the campus are like."

The 67 hostesses also inform the recruits' parents about the environment at A&M. During the football season, the hostesses take the pro-

Bean says, "We're just getting started. Their work will really be cut out for them when we start bringing the kids in on Friday afternoon and they don't leave until Sunday."

In the spring, recruits can take three official visits to recruiting campuses and spend 48 consecutive hours there, Hardy says. The Aggie Hostess members make sure the recruits get to their meetings on time and follow the agenda planned for

serve as hosts to the recruits.

Sherrill says, "When you go place for a visit, certainly the coaches and players will be biased. But have someone who is independent and part of the student body—it's not really that biased—information."

Members are chosen by a selection committee in the spring. Applicants must have attended Texas A&M semesters and have a 2.5 g.p.a. point ratio.

Applicants are interviewed by a panel consisting of faculty members, student leaders and older members. All the hostesses are women, and only football recruits are the beneficiaries of the service.

"One thing we pride ourselves on is that what we do for the Athletic Department is part of an overall board recruiting program," Bean says, explaining that they have guidelines to follow.

Sherrill says, "The recruits with a better understanding of A&M is really like. It serves as a class, needed touch to the (public relations)."

*"We give them another perspective of what life is like here besides what they would get from the Athletic Department. . . ."*

— Allison Hardy, president of Aggie Hostesses

spective students and their parents on a tour of Netum Steed Laboratory, the press box and the locker room area, Hardy says. A hostess then sits with a recruit during a game to explain Aggie traditions and what students are doing in the stands.

This allows the coaches to do other things and not worry about the recruits, Bean says. It also gives the recruits a break from the football aspect.

The organization is comprised of women because football players

## Gerontologist says independence, involvement give elderly satisfaction

By Anita Anderson  
Reporter

Being able to manage independently and feel good about what life has to offer is a key fact in finding contentment in old age, a gerontologist with Texas A&M's Agricultural Extension Service says.

Although contentment differs for each individual, getting involved is a common way of achieving a level of satisfaction in life, gerontologist Dr. Judith Warren says.

The elderly are confronted with more changes than any other stage in life, Warren says. They may experience widowhood and major illness as well as changes in living environment, friends and financial status, she says.

Warren says Vern Bengtson's report "Social Breakdown in Old Age" explains that in aging, people develop a point of vulnerability and start

to get messages that others feel sorry for them because they are old. This makes them feel like victims of vulnerability.

"Families can avoid this cycle by recognizing their elders as adults with competent thinking capacity," Warren says.

"Successful aging is individual," she says. "It is the ability to cope with change and manage it."

The elderly need latitude to be comfortable with aging so they can find the contentment they need, she says.

Some groups are designed to help the elderly achieve and maintain their level of contentment.

The Retired Seniors Volunteer Program has placed over 400 senior volunteers in non-profit organizations and proprietary health centers in the local area. RSVP director JoAnn Powell says, "The program helps seniors maintain contact in

the community as they grow older."

Walden on Memorial Retirement Center promotes social, cultural and community involvement through various activities, the center's director, Mike Escamilla, says.

"Everybody wants to have something to do," Escamilla says. Three or four activities are planned daily for residents to keep busy. Community awareness programs to help classes and parties, a day at Walden is active.

A retirement center provides an opportunity to socialize, meet new friends with similar interests and still maintain independence, he says.

A center also eliminates worries about maintenance, Escamilla says. Without concerns, more time can be spent enjoying life, he says.



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In the ruling, Sa despite the staff's ef money led to subst care, unsafe condit clients.

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Ferleger urged fi Fort Worth school fo tions of up to \$70,000 requirements are m encouraged further fi million per day if ove with the judge's achieved by the end

The attorney ea that another \$11 mi harm suffered over years.

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Ferleger's motions outlined proposed damages and other Sanders used to fo make major impro Fort Worth facility.

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