

# State and Local

## Contact team plans to talk to new Aggies

By Juliette Rizzo  
Staff Writer

The First-Time Aggie Contact Team (FACT), an outreach program conducted by the Department of Student Services and the Aggie Peer Orientation Leaders, will begin Sunday to contact as many first-time Aggies as possible to find out how they are doing.

Jan Winniford, assistant director of student affairs, said orientation leaders, "celebrity" callers, and members of Alpha Phi Omega will begin calling students at 5 p.m. Sunday.

"Since the University is growing at such a fast rate, our growing concern is that A&M is getting away from its friendly, personal nature," Winniford said. "The program is geared to give individual contact to as many new students as possible and to give them the opportunity to talk to somebody."

"Celebrity" callers such as the University president, the vice president of student services, yell leaders or the RHA president will publicize the event by calling students to notify them about the program and to tell them that an orientation leader or APO member will be calling them.

Through the program, the office of student affairs hopes to identify problems students may be having. The callers will assist the students in solving the problems through referrals to appropriate departments on campus, she said.

At the end of the program, callers will mail follow-up cards to each student to remind them that if they have further problems they can contact Student Affairs, APO members or the orientation leaders.

The program will be conducted over a 10-day period continuing through October 6. Calls will be made from 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

"We're going to make an effort to personally contact as many new students as possible," Winniford said. "We're going to attempt to reach as many new Aggies as we can."

# President wishes shuttle crew best

Houston (AP)—President Reagan returned Thursday to Johnson Space Center in one of his most emotional moments in his 7 years in office —praising the seven astronauts who died in the Challenger explosion and wishing good will to the five men who next week are slated to mark the nation's return to outer space.

"Soon the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth," Reagan said in an address to several thousand space center employees gathered outside the building that houses a mockup of the shuttle.

"America is going to space again — and we are going there to stay," he said as the crowd, waving small American flags, cheered.

As Reagan spoke, the huge shuttle mockup was to his left, a space station model was overhead and a model of the shuttle attached to its booster rocket was to his right.

Behind the scene was a giant American flag. The president's last visit to the space center was much more somber, coming three days after the disastrous explosion of the Challenger space shuttle on Jan. 28, 1986.

The seven-member crew of Challenger perished when their space-

craft exploded only 73 seconds after liftoff.

At the time, Reagan mourned the loss of "our seven star voyagers" and pledged that America would forge ahead with an effective and safe space program.

Next Thursday, Discovery is slated to launch from Florida on a four-day mission.

"May the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth," the president said.

Reagan used his address to call for construction of an aerospace plane capable of taking off from a runway, going into orbit and returning in a few hours.

He also put in a pitch for his Strategic Defense Initiative —the so-called "Star Wars" space defense system, and manning of a space station within 10 years.

The president shared the stage with NASA Administrator James Fletcher; Adm. Richard Truly, associate NASA administrator for space flight; Johnson Space Center Director Aaron Cohen; and the five Discovery astronauts, who were dressed in their blue flightsuits.

Mission Commander Rick Hauck gave Reagan a flight jacket with the crew patch and said he would take it into space next week and then re-

## Reagan: Texas Republicans strong

WACO (AP)—President Reagan told an enthusiastic crowd at Baylor University Thursday that Texas Republicans are a strong unit defending American values. "Texas has a team that it can depend on to defend our basic values and keep America strong," Reagan told a rally at the university's new Ferrell Special Events Center.

More than 11,500 people attended the event, center director Scott Yarbrough said.

"Once upon a time, being a Republican in this area of the state felt a little bit like being Gary Cooper in 'High Noon' — outnumbered in a big way," Reagan said.

"Well that, as they say, is history," said the president, who was introduced by Gov. Bill Clements.

Reagan participated in the dedication of the Ferrell center and later was the honored guest at a midday fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Beau Bolter, R-Amarillo, who

is challenging Lloyd Bentsen for a seat in the U.S. Senate.

Boulter spokesman Joe Fleming emphasized the importance of Reagan's support.

"This gives our campaign a tremendous boost," he said. "The president doesn't campaign for every candidate. We're real honored to have him here on our behalf."

About 100 supporters paid \$1,000 each to attend the fund-raiser at the Waco Convention Center, Fleming said.

Boulter flew to Texas with Reagan on Air Force One, which arrived at the Texas State Technical Institute airport about 11:30 a.m.

Bentsen is campaigning both for the Senate and as running mate to Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis.

## Center aids city's homeless

GALVESTON (AP) — Like many other 1-year-olds, Erica Kelley wants a warm meal and to snuggle close to her mother; unlike other 1-year-olds Erica is homeless and has a mother who is pregnant.

A free meal at the Daily Bread is her main source of food.

The Daily Bread reaches out to Erica and nearly 2,000 other homeless people in Galveston, said Ted Hanley, associate director of the center. Daily Bread does more than give a free meal to the homeless, it also helps bring them back into society, he said.

As Erica looks about the immaculately clean shelter she may not notice the hard work of many volunteers who donate food, materials and their time to help Galveston's downtrodden. As she plays patty cake with the men in the shelter she may not know the tales of woe that brought them to skid row.

Unlike most homeless people it wasn't mental illness,

drug abuse or alcoholism that threw little Erica onto the streets. The children of the homeless are often secondary victims of their parent's misfortunes, Hanley explained.

Erica's mother, Tina Kelley, said she takes her daughter to the Daily Bread to shield her from the hot sun.

Grocery stores and restaurants have donated a great deal of food to help the destitute, so there is usually more than enough food at the center. But there is a great need for donations of clothing and of cleaning supplies, he said.

The center also needs about 15,000 to renovate their garage so they can store and collect more food. Volunteers are also needed to help with food preparation, transportation, office work, cleaning and many other tasks, Hanley said.

### Local Briefs

#### Students raise money for flood victims

The Bangladesh Student Association is accepting donations to help the victims of flooding in Bangladesh.

The Associated Press has reported that more than 21 million people have been left homeless from the floods that have left three-fourths of Bangladesh submerged.

The Association has raised \$1,223 so far, and Chowdhury says they hope to raise about \$800 more before the fundraising drive ends Sept. 30. Most of the donations have come from individuals, he says, but organizations also have made sizeable contributions.

Donations can be sent to the Bangladesh Student Association, MSC Student Finance Center, P.O. Box 5688, Aggieland Station, College Station, Tx. 77844.

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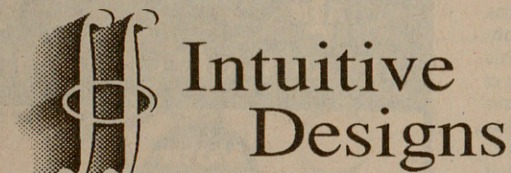
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## Your Vote is Your Voice

### REGISTER TO VOTE:

- if you are 18 years old, or will be by November 8, and a U.S. citizen, then you are eligible to vote Nov. 8;
- if you do not have a WHITE registration certificate with your current address, you are not registered to vote;
- when filling out your voter registration application, put your LOCAL RESIDENCE ADDRESS (your dorm room or street address) in order to vote locally on Nov. 8;
- the voter registration application must be postmarked no later than October 9.

### THEN VOTE REPUBLICAN:

- under the Republicans more people are working today than ever before; 16.8 million new jobs have been created since November 1982;
- under the Republicans interest rates are down from 21.5 percent to 8.22 percent (in 1987), and inflation is down from 13.5 percent to 3.7 percent (in 1987);
- under the Republicans strong defense policies have kept America at peace and brought the Soviets back to the bargaining table.

**For More Information On Registering To Vote & Voting Republican Contact:**

## Texas A&M Victory '88 Committee

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