



Golden Key National Honor Society

will be having an information table in the MSC from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm on Tuesday - Thursday 9/30 - 10/2  
New & perspective members come and see us!

# Nailing it down

## Nail salon offers Aggie logos to spirited customers

BY RHONDA REINHART  
Staff writer

Armed with a brush and a bottle of enamel, Tracey Capehart, a nail technician at Exclusively Nails, is bringing Aggie spirit to another level.

Capehart is one of the few professionals making nail art in Bryan-College Station. About four weeks ago, she became the only person licensed to paint Texas A&M logos on fingernails. She paints everything from Reveille to the Gig 'em thumb and also takes customer requests.

Capehart said the Aggie nail art has been well received by students, and since she received the license, she has put A&M logos on the fingernails of 25 different customers.

"The first client who saw my nails got four done," she said. "It was really popular when the seniors got their rings."

Capehart said she always gets compliments when she wears the A&M logos. Sanders Letbetter, collegiate licensing director, said he has never had a request for Aggie nail art before.

"I've never heard of anything like this at any other school," he said. "Texas A&M has 27 registered trademarks, and Tracey plans to use our most popular ones. She does a good job reproducing our trademarks."

Letbetter said the collegiate licensing office averages about 150-200 license agreements per year, but for every product that is licensed, there is one that does not get a license.

"We do have guidelines," he said. "We want the product to be a positive representation of the University."

Letbetter said some other unusual products the office has licensed besides the Aggie nail art include refrigerator magnets that play the Aggie War Hymn and Aggie bird feeders.

Capehart originally is from New Jersey and moved to Col-

lege Station in February, but she calls herself an "adopted Aggie."

"I'm new to all this Aggie stuff," she said. "I don't have a ring, but I have my nails done. It makes me feel like I'm part of it in some way. I know the fight song, and that's pretty good for a Yankee."

Capehart hand paints all of the trademarks except for Reveille, for which she uses a decal. The process takes less than five minutes per nail, and each nail costs \$3. Capehart said her Aggie nail art is not a get-rich-quick scheme.

"It's just for fun," she said. "It won't make me a millionaire." Capehart said her Aggie nail art gives people spirit and gives their nails character.

"It adds something you don't usually see," she said. "I put nothing past Aggies when it comes to school spirit. It would not shock me if one of these crazy Aggie guys came in and wanted one of their nails done, and I would do it."

Heather Braren, a senior

chemical engineering major, said she thinks the Aggie nail art is an interesting idea.

"Since there is so much demand for A & M merchandise, if someone wants to express their school spirit that way, why not?" she said. "It's a novel idea."

Capehart said it is nice to hear from other people who appreciate her work.

"It has made it more fun when everybody is so excited about it," she said. "When guys comment on your nails, you know they're really cool."

Capehart said she thought the Aggie nail art would only be popular for football games, but even during the week when there was no game, she had customers requesting A&M logos.

"Now that people know I do the nail art, clients come in just to tell me new ideas," she said. "Maybe it will be a new tradition."



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVE HOUSE



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- |                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| First Choice:    | A   |
| Second Choice:   | B   |
| Third Choice:    | C   |
| Fourth Choice:   | D   |
| Fifth Choice:    | E   |
| Sixth Choice:    | AB  |
| Seventh Choice:  | A C |
| Eighth Choice:   | A D |
| Ninth Choice:    | A E |
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