

# KIND... OR CLEVER??

Easy credits, lots of fun, and a service to the community. What classes offer all of these things to students? Service learning classes, of course.

These classes, which include office practice, helping in the kitchen, helping in the library, cadet teaching, going to the nursing home, and going to the headstart, are a type of volunteerism. The students who take these classes use one of their school hours to help out people who can really use it. They spend time with the elderly who don't get a lot of visitors. They play with little kids. They do little things for teachers that the teachers are too busy to do themselves. They replace books on the shelves in the library,

giving the librarians a chance to do their other duties.

Of course, being kind and helpful aren't the only reason students take these classes. There's some selfish motives behind that type of scheduling, too.

These service learning classes are a fairly easy A, as long as the people show up and do what they're asked. Often times, at least in cadet teaching, there's not a lot the teacher wants them to do, and they have time to work on some other schoolwork.

These classes can also be

fun. Who wouldn't like to go up to the headstart and play with blocks and color? Who doesn't enjoy wandering the halls doing "stuff" for the teachers? And, even though they like to pretend that those old stories are boring, most really do enjoy hearing stories about when the elderly were younger.

On the surface, these classes may seem like they're blow-off classes, but are they, really, if everybody gets something out of them?

-Kari Deming



J. Diffin

**WHAT YA' WANT** James Polash gets a plate ready to serve the students' lunches as **Holly Stoneman** and **Brenda McElroy** move to help.



J. Diffin

**IS THIS WORK** Kari Bearden works on the laptop computer in **Mr. Mike Watson's** office. Watson, the school's

athletic director, had Kari as a cadet fifth hour, and she was often found doing work on the computer.