

Help Nelly Campaign gets response

Nearly \$550 has been collected to date in the Southern Utah State College student-initiated campaign to "Help Nelly's Children." Students busy with final

examinations prior to leaving campus for the Christmas holiday responded generously to the call for assistance in behalf of Nelly Ekpenyong, Nigerian student attending S USC. In order to finish her education Nelly was forced to leave her sons in Nigeria last July when she traveled to the United States to enroll at S USC. Since that time she has learned that the children are in a state of suffering and neglect. She has already lost an infant daughter as a result of the civil war in southeastern Nigeria.

Nelly has deprived herself to save money to bring the boys, Okon, 6, and Bassey, 3, to this country. However, she has become increasingly anxious as the fund has slowly grown. Friends who have been associated with her in sociology studies have noted her depression, and upon learning the reason resolved to help her.

Paul White, senior in social welfare studies, initiated a campaign to bolster Nelly's fund, and with other volunteers has worked tirelessly to reach the goal of \$600.

"We were sorry we could not reach more students before the quarter ended," Mr. White said, "But the response we have had in a few short days has been most heartening."

He said that many individuals and businesses in the area have given the campaign a big boost. "The news media have really come to our aid and we feel now that the situation is pretty well known throughout the state."

In addition to assistance from numerous S USC students and faculty members, many campus organizations have pooled resources to help Nelly. More than \$100 was collected the first day from students attending LDS Institute classes. Another \$40 was donated by members of Sigma Gamma Chi, LDS affiliated fraternity. Nelly and her entire family are members of the LDS Church.