



Battalion File Photo

**Who's winning?**

Construction on campus was so widespread last year that students seemed to meet barriers everywhere they turned.

On-campus students thought the above scene looked war-torn enough to erect this sign.

# Meteorology Ph.D. likes to sing

Dennis Driscoll would sing in the rain, if it would rain. A Ph.D. on Texas A&M University's meteorology faculty, Driscoll likes to get together with three other vocalists and harmonize. He's been "barbershopping" 28 years. While the meteorology professor is not currently part of an active quartet, he stays busy as one of 37,000 members of the American Barbershop Quartet Society. Driscoll also sings with the Community Singers, a local group of which he was interim director last spring. They performed at the July 4 bicentennial celebration in College Station. The group will join forces with the Houston Symphony and Singing Cadets to perform Berlioz's "Requiem." Performances are slated here Nov. 4 and in Houston Nov. 8 and 9, if the orchestra settles its strike.

"I've been fortunate to have some work published," the former Maestros quartet member observed. A number Driscoll arranged was part of the Singing Cadets' spring concert. Mrs. Margaret Rudder wrote the lyrics for "Aggie Muster Day," and with a melodic theme and some chords provided, asked Cadets Director Bob Boone to work up a song. Boone turned to Driscoll, who arranged it for the Cadets. Driscoll also works with the "Aggie-nizers," a quartet made up of Singing Cadets. "He's super good," commented Lynda Harp, secretary to the Memorial Student Center vocal music director. "He works with our guys and has done some arranging for them." "I've been fortunate this year to be associated with the society's champion, the Insiders," he said. "They were chosen No. 1 at San Francisco in July." Driscoll has arranged for the Insiders three years. The Warren, Pa., native says there is frequent talk of forming a society chapter here. There may be other barbershoppers who would join him and other known quartet singers in the effort. Don Pittman, one of Driscoll's students this summer, sang with the "Right Four." Graduate students

Charles Hill and Larry Jones are active members of the society. "Singing is fun whether with a group or quartet," commented Driscoll. "But barbershopping is more flexible and the personal appeal is greater." "It also presents the opportunity," he assessed, "to manifest ham in all of us."

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## Art displays shown locally

Studio arts and crafts have a prominent place in the Texas A&M community. There are three locations in the area where artists exhibit their work, the Memorial Student Center Gallery, the Brazos Valley Art Gallery and the Rudder Exhibition Hall. Twice in the fall, artists sell their work in the open market concept, the Art Market held November 6 in Vanor East Mall and the Craft Fairs held at Christmas and on Parent's Day. The MSC Gallery will feature a different exhibit each month. Each exhibit is displayed the entire month. The fall semester schedule is: Peaceable Kingdom arts and crafts in September; Margaret and Pauline Van Bavel, silver jewelry and pottery respectively, in Oc-

tober, and Brad Foster, A&M student and illustrator in November. The MSC Gallery is located in the northeast corner of the building, and admission is free. The Brazos Valley Art Gallery will feature three fall shows. These are: Priano and Lisa Thomas, September 1-6; Lienite Dominguez, October 17-30; and a joint showing by Don Durrant and Benita Williams October 3-16. The Brazos Valley Gallery is located at 3211 Texas Ave. The Rudder Exhibition Hall will house two displays this fall, "African Art: Cultural and Contemporary" and the Mondale Rogers exhibit. The Mondale Rogers display is hanging in the exhibition hall now. The display will be up until September 15 and can be viewed from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Rogers is a 1971 graduate of Texas Tech with a degree in architecture. His show is entitled "Old Ranches of the Texas Plains" and contains 80 paintings. The show was opened in conjunction with the release of a book containing 56 prints of these paintings by the Texas A&M University Press, August 23. The African Art display is being lent to the University by a former student, Rex Grey. The show can be viewed from September 21 to October 9. The pieces in the display were collected by Grey during visits to Africa and are original African art. A major A&M art event of the upcoming year will be the unveiling of faculty member Rodney Hill's Centennial Carvings at 2 p.m. October 4 near the student lounge in the MSC.

## Tips given on what to do if trapped in burning building

If your life depended on it, could you get out of your house, crawling, eyes stinging because of smoke, lungs burning as you breathe hot air, doors and passageways blocked off by heat and flame? Many Texans find out the answer to this question each year. For far too many, the answer is "no." For these people the end result can be serious injury or death, says the Texas Insurance Information Center. The office of the state fire marshal reports that last year approximately 400 persons were killed and about 900 injured in home fires in Texas. Although panic can overcome anyone, children who don't know how to get out of the house and older persons too weak to escape in time, are in particular peril if a fire breaks out in their home. Although good fire prevention measures provide the best protection against home fires, even the most cautious can suddenly become a fire victim. Killer fires are often those that ignite in the evening after everyone has gone to bed. Undetected, these fires can rage out of control in minutes, overcoming occupants with smoke. Fires spread so quickly that experts say there is only about a four minute safety margin between the outbreak of the fire and safe escape. This is where a family fire escape plan comes in. Every year there are needless deaths and injuries in Texas that could have been prevented by an effective escape plan. There isn't a better time for families to work out such a plan than during the summer when children are home from school. Draw a floor plan of your house and plan at least two means of escape from each bedroom — the normal exit and an emergency exit, in case the usual

route is blocked by flames or toxic fumes. Agree ahead of time what warning device or signal will be used to alert the family. Establish a meeting place outside so that a head count of family members can be accomplished quickly. Rehearse your plan. This is especially important for children who will often panic and, tragically, hide in closets or under beds rather than escape. In developing your plan keep in mind the abilities and disabilities of family members. An agile teenager might be able to go through a window or climb down a ladder, but a young child or grandparent may not. Your local fire marshal's office or fire department can give you valuable advice on planning a home escape route. Since early warning is vital, fire prevention experts suggest that home smoke detection equipment be installed. Such equipment is widely available in electric supply, hardware and large department stores, usually for under \$50. Purchase only those detectors that have been approved by an independent testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory, Inc. Most homes require more than one such device to give adequate protection. Moderate income families sometimes prefer to buy one or two such devices and place them first where they offer protection to bedrooms, adding additional detectors as the budget permits. Whether or not you have such a device, it is advisable to sleep with your bedroom door closed. The door may block off enough smoke to give you those extra, precious seconds needed to escape. If you suspect there is a fire on the other side of a closed door, test it with the palm of your hand before opening. Never open a door if it feels hot to the touch. The heat necessary to warm a door is enough to kill you with the first breath.

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