

GTE to begin 'Crime Watch' program in B-CS

by Cyndy Davis

Battalion Staff
In addition to installing telephones and fixing downed telephone poles, 145 area General Telephone Company employees will now be "on the lookout" for crime, a "world manager," says. GTE will launch a pilot "Crime Watch" program in the Bryan-College Station area on Monday. If the program is successful here, it may be expanded to other areas serviced by GTE and to other utility companies. Several oil companies have expressed interest in the program, Janet Perkins, public affairs representative of the company, said. Employees will be watching for suspicious activities in neighborhoods while working, she said. Participants will report any such activities to area police. "GTE's aim is to help provide a deterrent to increasing crime in the community," she said.

A system will be implemented to insure first priority on emergency calls. Priority I calls include rapes which are in progress or have just occurred, robberies, burglaries in progress, collisions with injuries, shootings and fights.

The B-CS area was chosen for the pilot program because of its rising crime rate, she said.

Perkins stressed that GTE employees will act only in a reporting capacity and are encouraged not to get involved in the police department's work.

Knowing that telephone company employees are looking out for crime might deter prospective criminals, Perkins said.

In addition, employees calling in from the field will shorten the response time of the police department because of the phone handsets all GTE employees carry with them. The handsets can be plugged directly into any line, she said.

Gas prices up nationwide; expected to rise even more

United Press International
HOUSTON — The American Automobile Association reports that gasoline prices nationwide have increased an average of 8.1 cents a gallon since Memorial Day, making it the biggest jump since President Reagan removed price controls.

In the Houston area, however,

the AAA said prices have gone up more than 10 cents a gallon this month and could rise even higher before the weekend.

Gasoline prices across the nation have gone to \$1.35 a gallon for regular, leaded gasoline and unleaded regular gasoline is selling for about \$1.42 a gallon.

Self-service prices are about \$1.19 for regular, leaded and \$1.26 a gallon for unleaded gasoline.

About 75 percent of service stations in Texas will be closed for the July 4 holiday. Almost all stations located on major highways will be open.

State high court to hear wrongful death case

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court agreed Wednesday to determine if parents are entitled to collect monetary damages for the wrongful death of a minor child.

Eugene and Angelica Sanchez, parents of Johnny Sanchez, 14, filed the suit against Charles J. and Jean Schindler and their minor son, Charles J. Schindler II, contending the Schindler youth caused the death of Johnny Sanchez in a

March 25, 1979, accident involving a pickup and a motorcycle in Key Allegro in Aransas County.

The Sanchez family also contended in the suit that the Schindlers were negligent in entrusting their son with the pickup truck.

A jury in the case ruled the Schindlers were negligent, and recommended the parents of the Sanchez boy be awarded \$50,000 for the youth's pain and suffering before his death, \$7,187 for his medical treat-

ment, \$4,000 for funeral expenses and \$450 for damage to his motorcycle. In addition, the jury recommended awarding \$102,500 to the boy's mother for her mental suffering, but declined to recommend damages to the parents concerning any

pecuniary loss they sustained as a result of his death.

The trial judge rejected the jury recommendations for damages for Mrs. Sanchez' mental suffering, however.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanchez

appealed that decision, saying in their appeal to the Supreme Court that the lower court decisions mean "that Texas law requires no recovery for the parents of a child who is negligently killed by an admitted tortfeasor."

What's Up

Thursday

TEXAS A&M ICE HOCKEY:An organizational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on the sixth floor of Evans Library.

Friday

EPISCOPAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION:The group will meet for Holy Eucharist and breakfast at 6:30 a.m. in the Canterbury House, 902 Jersey St.

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