

# Firemen's school helps local merchants, hotels

by **Tim Widdison**  
Battalion Reporter

Bright red has replaced maroon as the predominant color in College Station, at least temporarily.

Several local merchants have painted the town red to welcome industrial firefighters who are in town this week for classroom and field training through the Texas A&M Fire Protection School.

The Fire Protection Training Division at Texas A&M sponsors three firefighting programs: municipal firefighting last week, industrial firefighting this week and a program for Spanish-speaking firefighters next week.

When not in class or out training, the firefighters often

are out driving around or shopping for souvenirs. Several retail stores cater to their needs.

For instance, a large banner hanging in the window of University Bookstore reads "Welcome firemen."

Red and white shirts piled in stacks cover long wooden shelves previously reserved for sale books. Red patches and caps lie next to bumper stickers with slogans relating to firemen's work.

A large box contains black, pink and green underwear with firetruck silhouettes stitched across them.

Martha Camp, owner of University Bookstores, Inc., said the stores prepare for the firemen every year. They bring a lot of

business each summer, she said.

The firefighting school is one of several events bringing money into the community through tourism.

Figures provided by the United States Travel Data Center in Washington, D.C., show an increase in the total economic impact of tourism on Brazos County of 15.36 percent over \$45.2 million in 1980.

Anne Bell, manager of the College Station Branch of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, said the amount of hotel/motel room taxes collected each year is an indicator of the total economic impact.

More than \$318,000 in room taxes were collected in College Station in 1982.



photo by Scott Minton

## Gig 'em, Ags

Maura Phelan, a junior Animal Science major from Houston, and her three helpers admire their contribution to a sand sculpture contest sponsored by a Houston

radio station Saturday at Surfside Beach near Freeport. The sculpture, which took the girls about 2½ hours to build, did not win the \$500 prize.

# Presnal calls Mideast solution 'economic'

by **Gwyneth M. Vaughn**  
Battalion Reporter

The solution to the situation in Israel will be economic, State Rep. Bill Presnal—D, who just returned from a fact-finding trip there, said here Tuesday.

The 10-day trip was sponsored by the American Legislative Exchange Council and the World Zionist Organization. Nine state legislators from different states participated.

Presnal said in a press conference that Israel is making good use of land and water resources. He said that Israel is developing all of the area it occupies, including the disputed West Bank area, and the countries around Israel will come to depend on it because of this.

As an example, he said, Jordan is buying electricity from an

Israeli power plant north of the Dead Sea even though there are still hostilities between Jordan and Israel. Presnal pointed out that the Jordanians would be unlikely to attack a plant upon which they depend.

Presnal said one of the highlights of the trip was a 40-minute meeting with Prime Minister Menechem Begin. He said it appeared that Begin would like to step aside, but that there would be a problem with transition.

The group met with several military and political dignitaries. Presnal said the group met with more members of the opposition party of Israel than with members of the ruling party. However, he said he still came away feeling pro-Israel.

He said, "Begin is not in-

terested in seeing more young Israeli men and women killed."

The group traveled to various places in Israel including the Dead Sea region and the Golan Heights area, which is now controlled by the United Nations.

"We were able to understand why Israel had to move into the area," he said.

Presnal said many of the Arab groups he spoke with feel the United States could straighten out the situation if it wanted to. However, Presnal said he disagrees.

Presnal compared the 34-year old Israeli nation to the United States at the same age, when James Madison was president. Israel today is facing the same problems that the young United States faced, he said, except that Israel also has a religion problem.

## Correction

An article in Thursday's Battalion incorrectly reported the prices charged by the Data Processing Center. All rates are per second of usage. The current rate for zero priority usage is 5.5 cents per second. The new rate for zero priority non-University usage is 4.5 cents per second.

The Battalion regrets the error.

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# Trial date set for Texan, others on smuggling counts

United Press International  
MUSKOGEE, Okla. — Federal prosecutors say six cocaine smuggling suspects — including one from Texas — indicted by a federal grand jury are scheduled to go to trial Sept. 6.

The men, arrested after federal authorities confiscated more than 500 pounds of cocaine at a Tahihina airport, were to be arraigned in U.S. District Court in Muskogee Tuesday.

Jailed were Roger David Ariza, 24, and Eduardo Sanabria, 44, both of Miami, Fla., charged with conspiracy to travel interstate to promote unlawful activity; and Mitchell Skiff Engelhart, 26, also of Miami, charged with importing cocaine.

Also arrested were William Andrew Sebolt Jr., 26, of Miami accused of engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise; Charles Leroy Timberlake, of Orange, Texas, and Cecil Debbs Ford, 42, of Idabel, Okla., both charged with conspiracy to possess cocaine with intent to distribute.

Another suspect, Luis Anthony Rivera, 27, of Miami, has been charged with conspiracy to import cocaine but was not found when the other suspects were arrested.

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