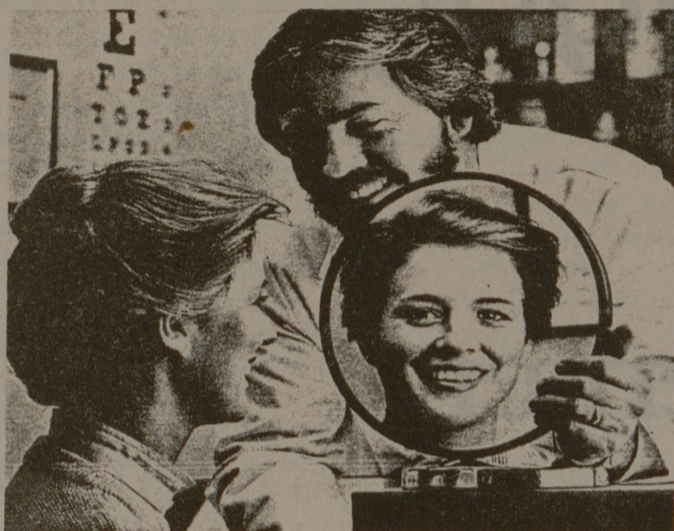


Rhodes Scholarship 1985

Are you a senior with a 3.50 + average? If so, you may be eligible for a Rhodes Scholarship. You could spend the next 2 years at Oxford University honing your career skills, widening your educational base.

Contact Professor J. F. Reading
Room 211, Physics
845-5073 or 696-9190
Deadline: September 30, 1985

TSO for contact lenses.
Fifty years of experience is reflected in every pair we fit.



After just one visit, it's easy to see why a comfortable fit is synonymous with contact lenses from Texas State Optical. It starts with a wide selection. TSO offers one of the widest choices of hard and soft lenses available, so you not only get your prescription filled to the doctor's exact specifications, you also get the kind of fit and comfort 50 years of experience can offer.



TEXAS STATE OPTICAL
216 N. Main Post Oak Mall
Bryan - 779-2786 College Station-764-0010

RAMADA®

DAILY LUNCH BUFFET

Bring a friend and enjoy a variety of delicious salads, entrees, vegetables, and desserts.

Located at Texas and University Dr. across from TAMU

Locally owned and operated

FRIDAY - Ramada Special
CATFISH

SATURDAY NIGHT-D.A.

Plays & Spins Music of the 20's, 30's, and 40's

Dance to the music of Glen Miller, Tommy Dorsey and Harry Jones

8 p.m.-12 p.m.

Rooms available for football games
409-696-4242

We can CUT it...

- We can perm it...
- We can frost or bleach it...
- We can shampoo and set it...
- We can blow dry it...
- We can curl it...

We also do manicures and pedicures.
All at prices that won't cut into your budget.

\$4.75 Haircuts

Charles & Sue's
School of Hair Design
822-7579
1711 Briarcrest Drive, Bryan
Hours: Monday 12:45-5:30
Tuesday-Thursday 9:30-5:30 Friday 8:45-5:30

State and Local

Aircraft kept at Easterwood

A&M uses state-owned planes

By TRENT LEOPOLD
Senior Staff Writer

Aggies sometimes opt to fly to get where they're going. And when they do, they might choose to fly on one of three "Aggie" planes based at Easterwood Airport.

The state owns five airplanes, three of which are based here. Texas A&M's three planes and the one at the University of Texas are Beechcraft King Airs. The other plane, based at Texas Tech, is a Piper Navajo.

Robert McCreight, chief pilot for the Texas A&M University System, says he flies two Beechcraft C-90s and one A-100 model. The older C-90s can carry the pilot and seven passengers while the newer A-100 holds nine passengers.

All three planes are kept in a hangar at Easterwood Airport.

McCreight says the planes are available on a priority basis for all A&M employees.

Many times the planes are used to travel to places where commercial service is limited or nonexistent.

"I've flown to places where you literally had to look for the runway in the middle of some field somewhere," he says.

An A&M plane flies one hour each way on an average trip, McCreight says. The average cruising speed is 370 mph at a height of about 12,000 feet. And, while the trips are paid for out of the A&M travel budget, a flat fee of \$2.15 per statute mile is charged on each trip.

"It really amounts to how much the people's (those who fly in the planes) time is worth," he says. "If several departments can get together and split the cost of a flight by sending more than one person on a trip, they can actually use the planes cheaper than flying commercially."



One of three state-owned planes kept at Easterwood Airport prepares for takeoff. The planes

are available on a priority basis for A&M employees.

The aircraft probably spend more time in the air than they do on the ground, McCreight says.

"We take the president to Austin... and carry department heads to various places across the state," he says. "The regents have first priority (for use of the planes) followed by the chancellor, president and officers of various schools."

McCreight says he stays especially busy when the legislature is in session.

When the planes aren't in the air, they constantly are being checked and maintained to ensure that they are in tip-top shape.

"About every 100 hours of flight time we have to change the turbine wheel inside the jet," McCreight says. "We also do such things as greasing and checking lights every 40-50 hours."

The planes were painted Aggie maroon and white about two summers ago.

Photo by TRENT LEOPOLD

Southland Corp. beset with problems

Associated Press

DALLAS — These are not easy times for Southland Corp., the parent company of 7-Eleven, inventor of the Slurpee and the 30-second checkout.

The world's largest operator of convenience stores has been beset with legal, economic and image problems, but company chairman John P. Thompson says calmly it isn't "the end of the world."

A five-year federal bribery probe in New York led to a tax fraud conviction for Southland, a proxy fraud conviction for one of its top officers and a guilty plea to bribe conspiracy by another Southland official who resigned.

Then Southland's 2-year-old gas refining business, Citgo Petroleum Corp., suffered large losses, forcing big layoffs last year. More Citgo losses in the first quarter this year threatened the parent company's financial picture.

The volatile refinery business made a turnaround and Citgo turned profitable in the second quarter, boosting Southland earnings to a record \$88.7 million.

But at the same time, the 7-Eleven retail division was hard hit by increasingly tough competition and a continued attack from right-wing religious groups who picket the stores for selling adult magazines.

Thompson, however, remains optimistic even as the company continues to pursue new merchandizing techniques.

He says Southland previously has had "tough years economically going way back."

"Obviously, the last two to three years have been difficult ones," he said.

Of the tax fraud and bribery case, Thompson said he was personally hurt to learn that former Southland official Eugene DeFalco had arranged a bribe scheme involving state tax officials in New York.

But he continues to argue the innocence of Clark J. Matthews II, the company's chief financial officer who is appealing his conviction on proxy fraud.

The Southland chairman said that even if Matthews does serve his two-month prison sentence, "I look forward to him returning to Southland as quickly as he can."

Thompson doesn't brood about the past. "We've got a fine company, and certainly over the years have been involved in outside activities — charitable activities, the Olympics, which offset the negative with the positive," he said.

For year's the company has sponsored the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Association Telethon and the March of Dimes' March Against Birth Defects. It also sponsored the 1984 Summer Olympics.

However, the company came under attack earlier this month by the Rev. Jerry Falwell and several thousand anti-pornography protesters who gathered across the street from Southland headquarters.

The groups have launched campaigns targeting Southland for selling three adult magazines.

"I think it's a free country, and they're free to believe whatever they want," Thompson said.

Marketing vice president Frank McKeown said research indicates "the vast majority (of customers) agree with our policy," which has the magazines displayed behind the counter with false fronts.

But 7-Eleven sales are being hurt this year by other factors, Thompson said, including tougher competition and many price promotions of 7-Eleven merchandise.

"7-Eleven is not going to have a great year," he said.

Company profits this year will probably come from the cyclical gas refining segment, which Thompson joked can't accurately be predicted for more than six weeks at a time.

Despite such trials, Southland seems regarded by most analysts as the leader in the industry. They do not project failure.

"They're so far ahead of everyone else and probably the best run company in that business," said Fred Winter of Alex Brown & Sons in Baltimore.

"I think there's no limit to what can go into those stores," Winter said.

The range of food offerings mushroomed from the slicedologna and bread that Thompson calls workers buying for their lunch at the early day stores.

"What we're really becoming more and more as years go by is source of near-premise and premise consumables," said McKeown.

Armed with a new food service staff, Southland is testing salad in four markets along with sandwiches; the company's finely-tuned marketing data shows its customers are getting older and more health-conscious.

Such items as hot dogs and sandwiches are sold in 3,000, but while sales of most standard grocery items have dropped about 15 percent over the past decade.

But food is not the only segment to reach for variety.

Videotape cassettes are rented in 1,500 stores, and automated machines offer cash in nearly 200 stores. Gasoline debit cards, hot ticket sales and the direct order merchandise by computer are all being tested around the country, McKeown said.

TAMU Summer Study Abroad



College of Liberal Arts

Come and find out about all opportunities offered
Summer 1986

October 1, 7:30 p.m.
MSC RM. 228

Study Abroad Office
101 Academic Bldg.
845-0544

College of Liberal Arts
Ms. Ann Todd Baum
Rm. 802 Harrington
845-5143

Do it for the First Time. Free!

Now through December 1, you receive your first visit absolutely free. So Come In Today!

NOW OPEN—
Sunday 1 to 6 pm
Monday-Saturday 9 am to 9 pm The Original.

Perfect Tan
764-2771 • POST OAK SQUARE HARVEY ROAD